

[View this email in your browser](#)



March 25, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

The Greg Taylor Building!



Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

This afternoon we honoured the fifth Headmaster of Mount Albert Grammar School with a ceremony to formally rename E Block as the Greg Taylor Building.

We were delighted to have former Prime Minister the Right Honourable Helen Clark oversee the ceremony and, together with Greg Taylor, reveal the new plaque which will adorn the building.

Greg Taylor has a stellar association with MAGS. He arrived as a student in 1960 and excelled academically, being named as School Dux for 1964.

Upon graduating with a Masters degree with Honours in History from the University of Auckland, Greg trained and took up a career in secondary education. After teaching in a number of schools, he was drawn back to his alma mater and, in 1988, became the first

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Friday, April 1 and

Friday, April 8

Albertian Games (see schedule below)

Monday, April 4 to Thursday, April 7

Level 1 Drama Production 'Rosie'

Thursday, April 14

Anzac Service/Albertians Luncheon



Sport

Photo Essays



Albertian to be appointed to the role of Headmaster.

Greg oversaw the momentous decision to welcome girls into Mount Albert Grammar in the year 2000. The construction of E Block was to coincide with this decision and the building was initially designed to exclusively accommodate the new 'MAGS School for Girls'!

Today, our MAGS girls inhabit every corner of our school, thriving and enjoying unparalleled success – something that can be traced back to the leadership of Greg Taylor and those first courageous girls in 2000.

The MAGS community is grateful to Greg for lending his name to the Greg Taylor Building.

The Greg Taylor Building – honouring a special Albertian in the story of MAGS.

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Water Polo Senior Girls v
Baradene

Click [here](#)



Water Polo Senior Boys v
Sacred Heart

Click [here](#)

Trials and Registrations

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)

Greg Taylor honoured



MAGS' fifth headmaster Greg Taylor and former Prime Minister Helen Clark unveil the plaque rededicating E Block as the Greg Taylor Building.

At a ceremony this afternoon, E Block was rededicated as the Greg Taylor Building, with former Prime Minister Helen Clark as guest speaker.

Mr Taylor was MAGS' fifth Headmaster and the first Albertian to be appointed Headmaster

in 1988 and held the position until 2006. He presided over the introduction of girls to MAGS in 2000, and they were largely based in E Block before being slowly integrated into the wider school. Ms Clark, whose father was an Albertian before she became MP for Mt Albert, visited the school in 2000 as PM and presented a foundation badge to each girl in that foundation year. At the ceremony, one of our many Centenary events this year, Ms Clark spoke about Mr Taylor's impressive vision for the school and how he saw it as an integral part of the community, welcoming girls and accommodating the aquatic centre being among the major achievements during his tenure. Mr Taylor said it was fortuitous that plans were underway for E Block before the decision to admit girls was made, and that it was ready in time for their arrival.



He said being recognised in such a way was an emotional moment for him, and he thanked Ms Clark for her kind words and for being his "greatest supporter" in his time as headmaster. He said he would never forget Ms Clark referring to MAGS as "my school" during a royal visit.

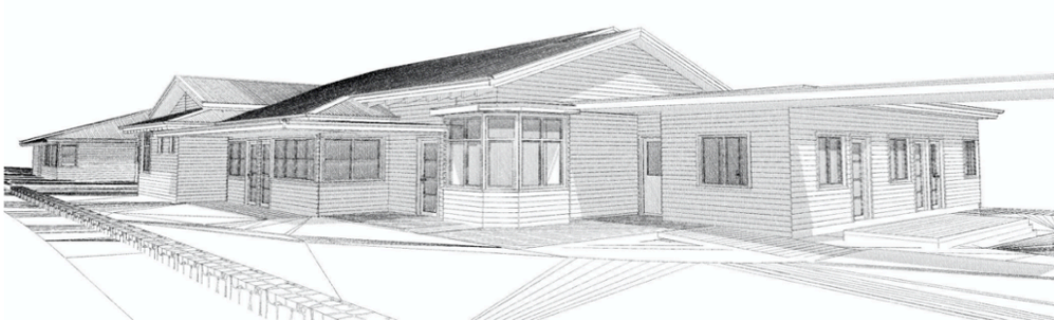
He also thanked all the invited guests – family, friends and former colleagues – for coming along in such trying times.

Before the the unveiling of the plaque, the girls choir Gloriana performed, and students performed a haka in honour of Mr Taylor following the unveiling.

You can see more photos from the event [here](#)



New Girls Boarding Manager



MAGS is pleased to announce the appointment of Karen Kidd as our new manager of Centennial House, which will be hosting female boarders from Term 2 this year. The newly refurbished property can accommodate up to 28 female students and is located in a safe and beautiful residential street – six minutes' walk from school. Here is a message from Mrs Kidd:

Kia ora,

I'm Karen Kidd, Hostel Manager for the girls at the new Centennial House boarding facility.

I have worked in boarding for the last 14 years and love working with teenage girls. Previous to joining the boarding environment, I worked as a Teacher Aide in both the UK and New Zealand.

I'm originally from Wales, and married Dean, who is a Kiwi, back in 1992.

We have two sons, Daniel and Ben, and a beautiful grand-daughter, Amelia.

I'm really looking forward to this unique opportunity where I will be caring for your daughter(s), watching them grow into independent young women ready for the big wide world.



I look forward to meeting you all in Term 2.

Ngā mihi nui,

Karen Kidd, Hostel Manager for Centennial House

Mission Statement

'Centennial House prides itself on providing a strong and supportive foundation, which pushes girls to achieve academic, sporting and cultural success. Built off the school's four pillars, Centennial House provides girls with the tools and skills to prepare them for later life. Catering to individual experiences is at the heart of the house,

allowing them to express their true passions in a safe and nurturing environment.'

If your daughter would like the opportunity to join the MAGS boarding experience, please contact Mrs Kidd – karen.kidd@mags.school.nz

You can download the application forms for Centennial House [here](#) and see the fee schedule [here](#)

Kapa Haka at Polyfest



Te Puna Owairaka Kapa Haka began their preparations in the FW Gamble Hall at 3am today for their performance at Polyfest, where they were first up onstage just before 9am. There was excitement in the hall as students were adorned with tā moko and moko kauae, and their piu and rakau laid out.



Despite being an online event, with a minimal audience, our Kapa Haka delivered a rousing performance and were still buzzing when they arrived back at school later in the morning to a haka delivered by Te Puna juniors.

You can watch their full performance from this morning [here](#)

Get your Centenary apparel now!



MAGS Official Centenary apparel is now available to order, with more Centenary merchandise to be added over the coming months.

Available now are stylish hoodies, rugby jerseys, basketball singlets, caps, beanies, ties, scarves and face masks – all in MAGS colours and most of them boasting the Centenary logo.

You can order the MAGS Centenary apparel [here](#)



Summer Tournament Week



Covid restrictions have laid waste to Summer Tournament Week but MAGS will be taking part at two events, beginning on Monday.

A selected MAGSROW squad of 39 rowers will compete at the national Maadi Cup regatta being held in Twizel on Lake Ruataniwha.

Only competitors, coaches and key support staff are allowed to attend the Maadi regatta this year, due to Covid restrictions, but anyone keen to follow the action – and cheer on the MAGSROW squad virtually – can watch via livestream [here](#) and see a full event schedule, entries and live results [here](#)

Our Cricket Girls 1st XI will be playing at Keith Hay Park in the Auckland regional round of

the Premier National Qualifier Tournament. The competition will feature about 10 teams and be a Twenty20 format.

Tickets on sale for Rosie now!



The first drama production of the year is coming up with the Level 1 Drama presentation of *Rosie*.

The Ryans are a family of five living in Dunedin during the peak of World War II. The youngest, Rosie, navigates her fourteenth year alive as her family is rocked by the circumstances of wartime. With themes of acceptance, loss, and childhood naivety, this is a heartfelt story that combines humour and tragedy.

When: April 4-7 (two casts alternate each night), 6pm

Price: \$5 for MAGS staff and students, \$10 for all others

Where: Dance and Drama Rooms

Tickets: Email

chughes@mags.school.nz

Mask-wearing at schools

The latest advice received from the Ministry of Education, 23 March, regarding mask-wearing at school is as follows:

RED

- There is no change to masks in education settings from the existing Red setting.
- Medical-grade masks remain a requirement for staff
- For all New Zealanders, including school settings, masks will not be required outdoors.

While masks will not be required outdoors, both students and staff are welcome to continue to wear a mask. This can now be a personal choice and the expectation is, as always, that we respect each other's choices.

MAGS hosting Trinity music exams

Trinity College London is delighted to be able to hold their Theory examinations at Mount Albert Grammar School.

Trinity holds written examinations in Music Theory twice yearly, in May and November.

These exams are held under strict written exam conditions and have been held, along with performance exams in Music and Drama, in New Zealand since the late 1880s.

Exams will be held on Saturday, 7 May in MH Block and will be managed by Trinity's Auckland Centre staff.

Ms Cesan, Director Arts Co-Curricular, is delighted Trinity has chosen MAGS and is looking forward to developing this relationship over the coming months.

Trinity's second written exam session is on Saturday, 5 November 2022.



TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

TRINITY MUSIC
Your performance. Your choice.

Classical & Jazz | Rock & Pop | Theory of Music
Grades | Certificates | Diplomas
Face-to-face | Digital

► **Build authentic skills**

Students develop the skills that are specific to their instrument and authentic to the performer they want to be.

► **Extensive and diverse repertoire**

Discover wide-ranging repertoire lists, which now feature more female and international composers and contemporary works.

► **Flexible syllabuses**

Personalise the exam – students can choose to perform their own, original composition, a duet at Initial to Grade 3 and a selection of supporting tests.

► **Face-to-face and Digital**

With face-to-face and digital options available, students can take their exam in the format that works best for them.

Find out more: trinitycollege.com/music

Trinity Music Books

Explore the huge range of print and ebooks by Trinity College London Press.

trinitycollege.com/buy-music-books



[f/TrinityCollegeLondon](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityCollegeLondon)

[y/TrinityVideoChannel](https://www.youtube.com/TrinityVideoChannel)

[t/TrinityC_L](https://twitter.com/TrinityC_L)

First Kiwifruit harvest



One of Mr Hinds' Year 11 Agriculture classes has helped harvest our first ever Gold Kiwifruit crop in the 90-year history of the ASB MAGS Farm.

Farm Manager Peter Brice said, "This was a small crop, and we can anticipate 10 times the amount of fruit in the future once the orchard is fully functioning. "The Centennial Year's crop is by no means export quality but gives the students a small look into what happens on a commercial orchard and what management practices would be happening during a season. Year 13s study Zespri for an internal assessment, with the orchard tying in nicely to this subject."

Mr Brice added, "We have monitored our Brix (sugar) level to indicate when the crop should come off. It has risen from 6-8 a couple of weeks ago to 10 or 12 now. This is plenty enough sugar to allow the fruit to ripen off the vine and develop their beautiful golden colour. The fruit will be distributed among students and staff as they ripen."



Ninety one years ago today



This image shows WH Kedgley entering the School gates and winning the 1931 Steeplechase.

Our Archivist, Mr Murphy, notes: "The inner pillars have been removed. A modern truck could have not otherwise got in. The unsealed road and rank growth does not daunt the cyclists. Old-style electric poles had more wires than modern ones. The house on the corner remains."

Until 1958, this race was run on the roads around the mountain but, to keep runners safe from increasing traffic, was then switched to a course based mostly around the ASB MAGS Farm, as is the case these days.

These and other milestones will be acknowledged at our Centenary Celebrations. Find out more about them [here](#)



Early finish on April 8



ALBERTIAN GAMES



PAST PREMIER PLAYERS

V

2022 PREMIER PLAYERS

GIRLS & BOYS IN EVERY CODE



DRAW

1st April

CRICKET 10:30AM @MAGS

HOCKEY 4:30PM GIRLS 6PM BOYS @AGS

1st April aftermatch 7pm The Goodhome

8th April

BASKETBALL 2PM GIRLS 3PM BOYS

FOOTBALL 1.30PM GIRLS 2.30PM BOYS

NETBALL 1:30PM

2.30PM RUGBY UNION/RUGBY

LEAGUE TOUCH GAME

8th April aftermatch 5pm The Kingslander

1ST & 8TH OF APRIL @ MAGS

Register at <https://forms.gle/f4voBFpL1pu2o8uf9>

A reminder that school will be finishing lessons at 1.30pm on Friday, 8 April.

Belltimes have been adjusted to ensure we can maintain our five timetabled subject periods while still enabling the day to finish at 1.30pm.

This is to accommodate the Albertian Games – Celebrating 100 Years of Sport at MAGS – and featuring games across a number of codes.

Students will be dismissed for the day from 1.30pm and it is hoped that many will remain across the afternoon, and enjoy watching the Albertian Games competition with ex-MAGS students playing current MAGS students across a number of sporting codes.

Please note that normal school bus services will continue to run at the usual times, and any students who may need to remain at school are able to study or complete their work in the library or school hall.

Staff Vacancies

Outdoor Education Assistant

We are seeking an organised, passionate and responsible person to join the Outdoor Education department on a casual basis to help with supervision on trips involving Year 10–13 students.

This role involves transporting students to and from venues, as well as supervision of the students whilst participating in and, at times, leading activities. In some instances, there may be a need for overnight supervision.

You can find out more about the role and the application process [here](#)

Pianist required for choirs

Gloriana and the Centennial Choir are seeking a pianist to accompany them for school-based rehearsals and performances.

Skill-wise, we need someone Grade 8 (ABRSM or Trinity) or higher, with an interest in learning this skill set.

All inquiries to Director of Arts Jacqui Cesan jcesan@mags.school.nz

Naming of the Maurice Hall Building



As we saw today, MAGS has a tradition of naming buildings after former headmasters.

This image shows the Hon Nikki Kaye and the fourth MAGS Headmaster (1970-1988), Maurice Hall, at the renaming of D Block as the Maurice Hall Building in 2016.

Mr Hall had also been Head of Mathematics and taught in D Block.

The new parallel building was joined to the refurbished original 1970 building by an atrium.

The new building, commonly known as the MH Block, is the HQ of the Mathematics Faculty. The plaque has a permanent home at the new entrance.

This image is part of Set 70, recently added to our website's [Historical Images](#), compiled and annotated by our Archivist Brian Murphy.

Sports Update

Great showing at AKSS Athletics



The Auckland Athletics Championships finished on Tuesday after three days of competition to ensure the full meet was able to take place under the current Covid-19 rules.

Thirty four students took part, winning 15 medals.

MAGS Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "It was pleasing to see the Year 9 students perform to a high standard in their first time representing the school at an athletics event."

In track events, Kendra Scally-Tui (Year 9) impressed in the Junior Girls 100m and 200m, finishing 3rd and 2nd respectively. Ty Gonzales (Year 9) had a successful day on Tuesday, winning the Junior Boys 80m Hurdles and finishing 2nd in the Junior Boys Triple Jump.

Elliot Kitchener continues to show why he is one of the most promising sprinters in Auckland with a third in the Senior Boys 200m and a first in the Senior Boys 100m. His 100m time was an impressive 11.67.

A special mention goes to Nina Chalmers (Year 10). After surpassing the Junior Girls 3000m record at our school athletics, she beat the school records in the 800m and 1500m. She topped off the meet with a 3rd place in the Junior Girls Long Jump.

In field events, Tommee Paeu (Year 11), in her first year competing in the Intermediate age group, finished 2nd in a competitive Intermediate Girls Long Jump.

Milly Clegg (Year 12) continued her good form from school athletics and finished 2nd in the Senior Girls High Jump. Taya Lewis (Year 12) finished 2nd in the Senior Girls Discus



with a personal best throw of 33.15m. Kingston Pupuke-Robati (Year 10) finished 2nd in the Junior Boys Discus. Ben Skelton (Year 13) showed great consistency with his throwing events, finishing 4th and 3rd in the Senior Boys Shotput and Discus respectively.

Top Three Placings: Kendra Scally-Tui: 2nd Junior Girls 200m and 3rd Junior Girls 100m, Nina Chalmers: 3rd Junior Girls Long Jump, Milly Clegg: 2nd Senior Girls High Jump, Le Oxeayn Maiu'u: 2nd Senior Girls 300m Hurdles, Elliot Kitchener: 3rd Senior Boys 200m and 1st Senior Boys 100m, Maddie Earley: 2nd Junior Girls Triple Jump, Tommee Paeu: 2nd Intermediate Girls Long Jump, Taya Lewis: 2nd Senior Girls Discus, Kingston Pupuke-Robati: 2nd Junior Boys Shotput,

Ben Skelton: 3rd Senior Boys Discus, Ty Gonzales: 1st Junior Boys 80m Hurdles and 2nd Junior Boys Triple Jump, Peggy Taylor: 3rd Junior Girls 300m.

Rowers blow records out of water



Results from this year's North Island Secondary School Championships (NISSC) at Lake Karapiro show the MAGSROW squad put in their best performance since the rowing programme was re-established at MAGS in 2008.

MAGSROW achieved eight podium placings across the boys and girls NISSC events, vying

against 1440 competitors from North Island secondary schools.

The squad won five golds, finishing first in the Boys U18 Coxed Four, Boys U18 Coxless Pair Oars, Girls U17 Coxless Pair Oars, Boys U17 Coxless Pair Oars and the Boys U16 Coxed Four.

MAGSROW also won silver in the Boys U18 Coxed Eight and bronze in the Girls U18 Coxed Eight and Boys U18 Coxless Pair Oars.

Tallying the MAGSROW medal haul for this year's NISSC regatta, MAGS was fourth overall (for boys and girls events) on the medal table and earned 30 points. At the last NISS event – held in 2020 – MAGS was 25th overall and earned six points.

MAGSROW also put in an impressive performance at the Head of Harbour regatta held at Lake Pupuke last weekend (March 19), earning seven gold, four silver and five bronze medals.



It was almost a clean sweep in the coxed eight events, with the U18 Boys, U16 Girls and U16 Boys all winning gold, and the U18 Girls winning silver.

The squad also took out gold in the Boys U18 Coxless Pair, Boys U16 Coxed Four and the Girls U15 Double Sculls.

Silver medal finishes were awarded to MAGSROW in the Boys U18 Coxless Pair, and the Girls U18 and U17 Coxed Four events.

The squad secured bronze medals in the Girls U18 Coxless Pair, Boys U17 Double Sculls, Girls U17 Coxed Quadruple Sculls and the Boys U16 Double Sculls.

MAGSROW Head Coach Alice Denyer says the squad's achievements this year have made her incredibly proud.

"Our squad have committed to their training and their team-mates, and that is showing up in their performances on the water.

"MAGS has a strong rowing history and this squad is helping to grow that legacy."



Archers right on target



In this photo, there are 24 arrows packed into the centre gold rings of the archery target.

Half of these were shot by Lily Brislen and Nick Lees. On Wednesday last week, the MAGS A team (Lily, Nick, Sylvie Morrison and with Samuel Holmes standing in for a sick Orion Elward) competed against a talented Kings A team across two targets. It was a high-scoring match, which was eventually won by MAGS 1078 to 1064.

Coach Jan Lees said, "No arrows were harmed in the winning of this match (well, maybe one or two Kings arrows took a little damage)."

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland
09 846 2044 www.mags.school.nz

A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022

Copyright © 2022 Mount Albert Grammar School. All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)