









A Tradition of Excellence 9th-14th May 2022



March 26, 2021 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Legacy!



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

Our Softball Boys Premiers returned to MAGS this morning, triumphant after another successful national campaign.

Yesterday afternoon, under the leadership of Ryan Earley, they defeated Rosehill College in the national final to claim their **eighth**



successive New Zealand title!
It was a privilege to be present at Prince
Edward Park in Papakura to witness the
continuation of a legacy that began in 2013
– a run of victories that was only broken by
the forced cancellation of last year's
tournament due to Covid-19.

There are many factors that point to the extraordinary success of this sporting code

at MAGS. The long-term investment of parents (and grandparents) in creating a winning culture has been invaluable.

As I watched the team yesterday, it was obvious to see the focus on succession and planning for the future. While winning the final was the immediate goal, our MAGS softball community has always had

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click here for the Calendar

Saturday, March 27, 6pm to Sunday, March 28, 8am Relay For Life, Lovelock Track, Mt Roskill

Monday, March 29 Year 9 Parents' Evening, 6.30pm, FW Gamble Hall

Friday, April 2 to Tuesday, April 6 School closed for Easter holidays

Thursday, April 8Summer Sports Photos
Click here for schedule

Thursday, April 15ANZAC Service Assembly and Albertians Luncheon



Sport

Photo Essays

an eye on the years that lie ahead.

Many of our current squad have been part of the premier team for a number of years, and again this year's team has several junior students who are destined to continue our success into the future.

Congratulations and thank you to our coaches, managers, supporters and to the boys themselves. Mount Albert Grammar School is very proud of you all!

Have a great weekend.

Patrick Drumm Headmaster



Basketball 3x3 Tournament Click here

Fixtures and results Click <u>here</u>

Softball Boys win eight straight!



Congratulations to our Softball Boys Premiers, who won their eighth straight NZ title yesterday with an 11-4 win over Rosehill College at Papakura's Prince Edward Park. After winning all their games during the four-day NZSS tournament, Captain Ryan Earley and the boys came out for the final with one mission on their mind: to win nationals. Rosehill College had a great game and managed to score two automatic home runs, however our boys were relentless and took the win in the bottom of the 5th innings by 11-4 and took home the national title for the eighth consecutive time.

The following players were named in the Tournament Team: Brendan Kopu-Lowerson (Tournament MVP, Top Catcher, co-Top Batter), Cole Joyce (co-Top Batter), Luke Roberts (Top Pitcher), Maclain Roberts, Ford Henare, Caden Cloete, Gabreyl Tahi Tahi and Kinah George-Koteka.

And a big thanks and congratulations to MAGS' Coach Kelvin Roberts and Manager Megan Earley, who not only steered MAGS to another national title but were also named to oversee the Tournament Team.

You can see a photo essay of the Premier Boys' win <u>here</u>

The Softball Girls Premiers also played out at Prince Edward Park and had some mixed results to finish fourth. They lost both games on the Wednesday, which had them playing off for 3rd/4th v Westlake Girls' High School, who took the win.

Well done to Gabby Murare (Top

Catcher), Lizzy Robins, Waimarie Tawera and Aaliyah Henare, who were named in the Tournament Team.



Relay for Life hits all-time total of \$500,000



Yesterday, MAGS passed \$67,000 raised for this year's Relay for Life and with that hit \$500,000 raised for the Cancer Society since MAGS began taking part in the event in 2014. The previous years' totals are: 2020 - \$65,392,2019 - 114,880,2018 - \$100,300,2017 - \$76,000,2016 - \$47,000,2015 - \$28,000,2014 - \$1400.

Tomorrow, about 300 MAGS students will gather for Relay for Life from 4pm at Mt Roskill's Lovelock Track before the ceremonial lap at 5.45pm kicks off the 14-hour event. Students will walk or run laps around the track through the night with a baton symbolising the

difficulty of a cancer journey.

Money raised for the Cancer Society goes towards such things as helping cancer patients get to appointments, cancer research and funds for Domain Lodge, which is the accommodation next to the hospital where people can stay while undergoing cancer treatment.

Anyone is welcome to attend if they want to see what the event is all about.

To donate to MAGS' Relay for Life effort, click here and you can scroll to the bottom, click donate and then search for the name of a student.

Albertian Games next Wednesday



I PREMIER PLAYERS

V

2021 PREMIER PLAYERS

GIRLS & BOYS IN EVERY CODE



31ST OF MARCH 2021 @ MAGS

Albertian Register @ https://forms.gle/gRKBPnX3VxhkeqAT7

Excitement is building as we prepare for the Albertian Games next Wednesday. Join us as we celebrate the Sports Lions of the past and present, with spectators welcome. This is one of the many events leading up to our Centenary Celebrations (May 9-14, 2022).

Past Premier players – intending to play or not – and spectators should register <u>here</u> for the event and the after-match in the FW Gamble Hall at 5pm, which will feature a cash bar and savouries supplied by Westie Pies.



Full information about the event is <u>here</u> and you can pre-order T-shirts (pictured) for \$40 <u>here</u>

'A Day in the Life' Arts Challenge

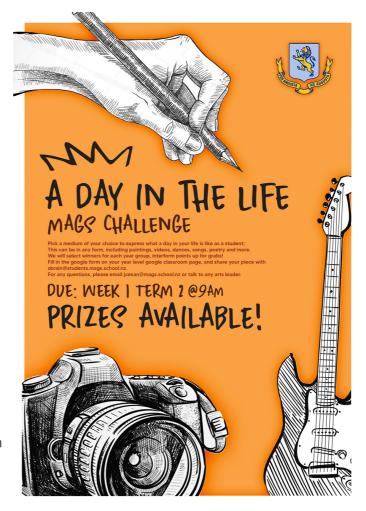
The latest Arts Challenge is up and running with students asked to get creative using performing arts or visual arts to give an insight into their lives and hobbies outside school.

There are great prizes for winners at all year levels and form class points for juniors.

You can see a video promo about the Arts Challenge here

UPCOMING IN THE ARTS:

Sheilah Winn Shakespeare
Group – Saturday, 10th April,
Diocesan School.
Dance Concert – Tuesday,
13th and Wednesday, 14th April,
Centennial Theatre.
Megaschools dance competition
– Friday, 23rd April, Vodafone
Events Centre.



Arts Leaders recognised at Assembly



Back row left to right: Sam Mandeno Clay (Jazz Band), Max Cumberpatch (Theatresports), Lucy Taylor (Musical Theatre), Jacob Solomon (Concert Orchestra), Jorja Stevens (Musical Theatre). Front row left to right: Heeju Shim (Music Technology), Tabea Leonhardt (Theatresports), Lara Grosev (Girls Choir), Molly Cavanagh (Sheilah Winn), Vinnie Wu (Chinese Group). Absent: Helen Wen (Symphony Orchestra/Chinese Group)

Year 12 Arts leaders (pictured above) were presented with their badges at formal assembly on Tuesday, and Year 13 Arts Leaders were recognised later in the week.

Generally, Year 13s form the leadership group, leading a very broad and increasing number of co-curricular and extra-curricular Arts groups.

Director or Arts Co-curricular Jacqui Cesan said of the Year 12s, "It is a testament to the contribution these students have already made to the Arts and Service that they are being recognised in Year 12. This group will have the opportunity for additional leadership and mentor training for their role."

Duke of Ed tackles gorge

Last weekend saw 17 students head to the Karangahake Gorge to complete their Bronze journey with Mr Belson and Miss Mackinnon.

The weather was extremely warm and sunny; perfect for tramping up and down the gorge and enjoying the view from Karangahake Mountain.

Mr Belson said that the campsite at Dickey's Flat is a great place to learn about living in the outdoors and cooking with limited facilities, although some of the meals were almost gourmet cuisine!

The students learned how to navigate, pack their packs, manage their team, themselves and be safe in the outdoors as well as realising the importance of pitching their tents

correctly!

"All students were enthusiastic and tackled their respective journeys in an energetic and enthusiastic manner," Mr Belson said.

"They were a great bunch of students who were a credit to both themselves and the school. Hopefully this is the final part of their Bronze award and they will now continue onto Silver. My thanks to Miss Mackinnon for giving her time to help on this trip."



Anzac Service and Albertians Luncheon



On Thursday, 15 April, MAGS will be holding its ANZAC Service Assembly followed by the Albertians Association Luncheon.

Those attending the ANZAC Service should assemble in the foyer of the main school building by Reception at 11am and from there you will be shown into the FW Gamble Hall. Following the service, please make your way down to School House for the luncheon. The cost of the lunch is \$35 per person.

Payment can be prepaid online (to MAGS Albertians Association, account number 12 3029 0376398 00, using your name as a reference) or by cash, cheque, or EFTPOS at School House on the day.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, 6 April 2021 to Emma John, Events Manager, either by email to events@mags.school.nz or by phone: (09) 846 2044 extn 8198 and leave a message.

A reminder that car parking is unavailable on school grounds, however drop-off at the front of the school is fine.

Traffic management at MAGS

As members of our wider school community, you will be very aware of the challenges posed by the daily volume of traffic on Alberton Avenue.

You will also appreciate the real concerns held by the school regarding the road safety of our students when the 3.10pm bell goes and the majority of our 3100 students leave via the front of our school.

You will also be aware that, in the interests of the safety of our students, we have closed the school gate to traffic at the end of the school day, nominally from 3.05pm-3.25pm, to stop traffic flow within our school grounds as our students depart.

Increasing morning traffic is now creating further challenges, and **from Monday, 29 March**, the front gate will also be closed and monitored on Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri from 8.15am – 8.45am and Thu 8.45am – 9.15am, allowing access for MAGS staff and pool patrons only.

Scuba diving at Goat Island

Over two days last week, the two 120E classes took part in a diving trip to Goat Island.

This was the culmination of six hours work in the pool, learning some of the necessary scuba skills required to dive safely.

They were instructed by Epic Scuba, who have been working with the school for the past six years. Pool sessions included mask removal and empty, regulator recovery, safe use of equipment and emergency practices. Students were being assessed for AS 2.4 but can now carry on to complete their full dive ticket if they choose.



Outdoor Education Teacher Mr Belson said, "The days provided good conditions for diving and all the students did very well and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They all showed good levels of personal and social responsibility around all aspects of the activity day."

Year 9 Girls' haka lessons





This morning, Year 9 Girls took their turn at learning our new school haka: Takatū. HOF Te Puna o Wairaka Ms Paul and teacher Mr Walters, along with Albertian Niua Pomare-Khanna, have devised a haka for our all of our students ahead of our Centenary.

Whaea Miri and Matua Peter shared their expertise in, and enthusiasm for, kapa haka with the girls in the Lower Gym over two periods.

Takatū roughly translates to 'stand at attention' and the haka has been written to prepare our students for challenges and to rally us together.

The plan is to have the whole school learn this haka through 2021.

Perfect paddling conditions



Last week, the Year 13 Outdoor Education class travelled south to canoe the Whanganui River.

Highlights included the stunning scenery and fine weather, visiting the Bridge to Nowhere, unexpected capsizes and developing friendships.

This trip provided students with a real life event to focus on safety management. Within this unit, each student was required to complete a Risk Assessment and Management Strategies (RAMS) form from which they could monitor their identified risks while on the trip and implement the strategies that they had devised.

With very little rainfall, the river was low but clear.

The students enjoyed organising everything, including the timings, their equipment and their menu.





As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, with events planned for May 9-14, we warmly invite all Albertians to sign up to the database <u>here</u> to keep up to date with information and events leading up to the Centenary celebration.

Please encourage your friends and peers who were with you at MAGS to attend with you, and to also register at the link.

Last chance to steak your claim



This is the last chance to be part of this Mount Albert Grammar School Sport fundraiser and get your hands on some tasty steak.

With \$20 of every fillet sold going towards the Sports program at MAGS, this is a great way to support our school.

Of the \$20, \$15 goes to your nominated team or sport and \$5 to sport equity to help MAGS families that struggle with the costs associated with sport.

To find out more and place your order, click here

Sports Update

Summer Tournament Week winding up



Summer Tournament Week winds up this weekend with a big day today and tomorrow for our rowing team competing in the <u>Maadi Cup</u> at Lake Karapiro. Live-streaming of races can be seen <u>here</u>

MAGSRow has made an incredible 17 finals – 8 A Finals and 9 B Finals in the following categories:

A finals:

BU17 4+, BU17 4x+, BU17 2-, GU17 2-, GU16 1x, GU16 4+, BU15 8+, BU154+ B finals:

GU18 8+, GU18 1x, GU16 8+, GU16 2x, BU15 4x+, BNov 4+, GU15 8x+, GNov 4+, GU15 2x

Cricket Girls' best tournament finish



This week the Cricket Girls 1st XI has been at the Auckland regional round of the Venus Cup, with the winner going on to represent the region at the national final later in the year. MAGS started the week well with wins against Mt Roskill (MRGS 108/8, MAGS 109/5 after 15 overs) and Takapuna (MAGS 125/5, Takapuna 101/7).

On Tuesday there was a hiccup with a last-ball loss to St Kents (MAGS 154/2, St Kents 156) before returning to winning ways against Westlake on Wednesday morning in another



closely fought game (MAGS 125/6, WGHS 115/8).

MAGS faced EGGS (perennial favourites and eventual champions) in the semi-final. MAGS posted 116/5, the biggest run chase EGGS had faced all tournament. The challenge was on. It took EGGS until the 15th over to eventually get there but the performance by all the MAGS players in that game was probably the best of the whole

season.

On Thursday it was the third/fourth playoff – against Westlake again. MAGS batting first scored 114/8. Westlake again gave MAGS a great game that was settled only in the final over when they fell five runs short with 110/8.

MAGS finish 3rd - the highest ever placing in this tournament for the Cricket Girls 1st XI.

Orienteering team dominates podium



In the first event of the Auckland Sprint Series, MAGS Orienteers won five of the six races and took 15 of the 18 podium places.

There were wins for Tom Aish, Eva Wadsworth, Justin Brendolise, James Milne and Ami McGowan.

In the first of four events of the series we took a team of 51 Orienteers out to Rutherford College.

Justin Brendolise won his race by 2 minutes and Ami McGowan by 4 minutes. We introduced 16 Year 9s to the Orienteering team, the boys taking out the top seven places and the girls taking five of the top nine places.

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