



March 27, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Weekly Notices

We've Been Here Before



Key Dates



Tena koutou

As we navigate our way through these early stages of 'lockdown' as a school and a country, the word 'unprecedented' is being used by many.

But a chat with former staff members and now MAGS Archivists – Mr Brian Murphy and Mr Greg Cave – confirms that previous generations of MAGS

students have experienced similar disruptions.

Indeed, the planned opening of MAGS in 1922 was delayed a number of weeks due to a localised typhoid outbreak. There were several other disruptions in the years that followed including in 1947-48 when MAGS was closed for several months due to a significant polio outbreak. And this at a time when our nation was getting back on its feet post-World War II.

William Caradus was the Headmaster at the time. It is no small irony that the new Science Building that was to be opened by our Prime Minister on Tuesday (now deferred) will carry the name of William Caradus – former Head of Science and the second Headmaster of our school!

The message here must be that while we are experiencing unsettling times, generations of MAGS students have weathered not dissimilar storms – and gone on to enjoy immensely successful futures.

We can take great strength from earlier generations of our school as we settle into these temporary disruptions ... and, rest assured, we will get to formally open the William Caradus Block in the future!

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Friday, March 27

End of Term 1

Friday, April 10

Good Friday

Monday, April 13

Easter Monday

Wednesday, April 15

Term 2 starts



Saturday, April 25

Anzac Day



Sport

A reminder that all students should have accessed lessons online over the past two days as per the earlier communications. We now 'break' for the two-week holiday period before recommencing online learning on Wednesday, April 15.

Per Angusta Ad Augusta

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



The Foundation Prefects of 1922 had to wait to start school because of a typhoid outbreak.



Winter Sport registrations
Click [here](#)

Dress rehearsal makes the cut



Last weekend, before the nation prepared to go into lockdown, Level 2 Drama students performed a full dress rehearsal of *The Election*, a satirical political comedy about the state of democracy set during an American high school student election.

Two different casts performed and were filmed for assessment.

You can see more photos from both productions [here](#)

Photos / Ruby Twist and Chloe Innes



Online learning during nationwide lockdown



Mount Albert Grammar School will remain a virtual school, working online until we are advised otherwise.

The school holidays have been brought forward and today is the last day of Term 1. The official holiday period runs through until after Easter to Tuesday, April 14 inclusive. Term 2 will start Wednesday, April 15, with students working online. This will allow students to continue their studies and stay connected with their classmates via their Google Classrooms, which will be significant and helpful for them.

You can read the information for parents about online learning [here](#) and the information for students [here](#)

Contact with Marist students with COVID-19

Yesterday the school was notified that a group of our MAGS students who travel by bus from South Auckland may have been in contact with Marist students who are currently infected with COVID-19.

Please note our MAGS students are considered low risk (casual contacts).

Here is the communication from Auckland Regional Public Health Service:

You will be aware that Marist College has a number of staff and students with COVID-19. A handful of students from Marist, Mount Albert Grammar and Lynfield College have caught school buses with two Marist students while infectious.

Students on some Kiwi Coach buses last week are now considered low risk contacts (called casual contacts):

- The Manurewa bus shared with Mount Albert Grammar in the morning and the afternoon on Wednesday 18 March, Thursday 19 March and Friday 20 March.*
- The Mangere Bridge bus with Lynfield College students on Monday 16 March in the afternoon, and Wednesday 11th March, morning and afternoon.*

While this will be concerning for you, Auckland Regional Public Health Service considers most of the students on the buses to be at low risk of catching COVID-19. Between four and six students who sat near the infected student on each bus are at slightly higher risk, but it is impossible to identify who these students are.

As part of the Alert Level 4 national shutdown, the students who caught the buses will now be staying at home, away from others. We ask that they take this seriously and remain inside, with no visitors. They should not be socialising with others even at a distance, and they should not go out for essential supplies to the supermarket or pharmacy for 14 days.

Here is an [information sheet](#) for people considered contacts of someone with COVID. There is a small possibility that your child may develop symptoms of COVID -19, such as a cough, fever and difficulty breathing. In this case, please ring Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and tell them that your child is a contact of a COVID case. They will advise you what to do. Do not take your child to the GP without phoning first. There is information on COVID-19 on the [ARPHS website](#)

Please ask students in your home to respect the privacy of the Marist students and not to speculate about or confirm who they are on social media or through text.

For updates on the fight against COVID-19, you can go to the [Ministry of Health website](#)

Facebook group to boost studies



MAGS' Academic Council has started a collaborative Facebook page called [MAGS Student Studies](#). This is a new platform for students to join together as a community and lift each other up into academic success. Its purpose is to replicate the sort of help from peers and tutors that students would get in a classroom environment.

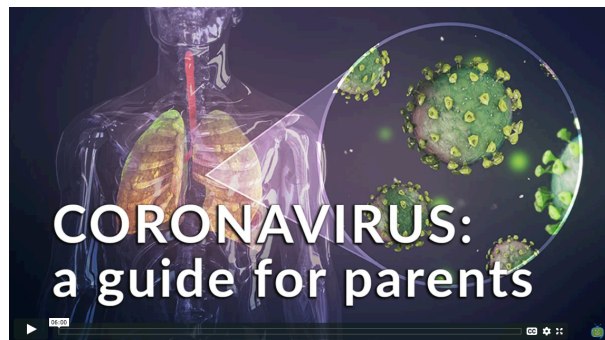
Resources for coping in these times

In these times of disruption to normal routines and anxiety about COVID-19, there are many helpful resources created by health and mental health experts that the public can access.

For parents, [here](#) is a video that can help you to talk to your children and reduce their anxiety about COVID-19.

The Mental Health Foundation provides extensive information about mental wellbeing [here](#) as well as contacts for advice or counselling.

And [here](#) are some resilience strategies for coping in these challenging times.



More historical photos on website



Throughout the year, more historical images will be added to the website [here](#). This is an ongoing collection of images sourced and annotated by our archivist Brian Murphy.

In the image above, we see a table set for the 2005 Sports Dinner, which was held in the FW Gamble Hall. At each table there was gold-painted sports equipment. The dinner, and the sports equipment, was organised by Chris Metcalfe.

Sign up to the Centenary database



As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, we warmly invite all Albertians to sign up to the database [here](#) to keep up to date with information, communications 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.

Sports update

Trials and registrations

While trials are on hold, the Sports Department is asking students to still register for sports in Term 2. Trials and registrations are posted on the website [here](#) and will also appear in the Daily Notices, accessed via the website or the MAGS App.



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