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March 3, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

The End of the Beginning



As we complete Week 5 of the school year we are now moving into the second half of the first term.

Disruptions across the first few weeks have left us feeling like we have barely begun the academic year, yet the reality is that the Easter Holiday break is fast approaching.

It's time to say goodbye to those early weeks and shift our focus to being fully engaged in the core business of MAGS. Routines are now embedded and expectations have been communicated. There can be no excuses for students not being settled into good work habits – both inside and outside the classroom.

Attendance, punctuality, uniform and grooming – these must be a given. Being well organised ahead of each lesson – and then completing the follow-up homework – these are the strategies employed by our best students.

As we head into Autumn ... it is good to put the beginning of the year behind us. Students have laid a strong foundation for the time ahead. Their resilience has been impressive. It now remains to build on this as we move into the next phase of the academic year.

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Wednesday, March 8
ASB Polyfest starts, Manukau Sports Bowl

Tuesday, March 21
Summer Sports Photos

Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31
Unity Concert, Dorothy Winstone Centre

Sport

Photo Essays



Touch Senior Mixed
Click [here](#)

Trials and Registrations
Click [here](#)

Our Lion Fund programme aims to provide financial support to allow every MAGS student to access the breadth of opportunities we offer at our school.

Donate to the Lion Fund now



Records tumble at Athletics



The majority of our School Athletics Championships has been completed with distance events taking place in the mornings prior to the main day that was held on Wednesday, February 22 at Lovelock Track.

Lovelock Track is being used while Mount Smart Stadium is being refurbished.

There were close to 300 students competing in various track and field events throughout the day in a busy schedule. The 100m finals (pictured above) were held at school during Monday lunchtime in front of a large crowd.

Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "The main day was held in warm conditions, and students conducted themselves well over a long, tiring day in the heat. A pleasing sign was seeing many Year 9 and 10 students getting involved at the various events.

"We are still aiming to complete the Girls (all grades) and Senior Boys High Jump due to having two bars broken during the meet. This will depend on when we can get a new bar from our suppliers. Students who have entered will be notified when this will take place." Several school records were broken during the meet. Jirah Esekia (Year 11) broke the



school record he equaled last year at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Nationals in the Intermediate Boys Shot Put with an impressive throw of 14.91m.

Peggy Taylor (Year 10) ran an impressive 400m time to set a new school record of 1:00.87 in the junior girls section. Nina Chalmers (Year 11) broke the Intermediate Girls 1500m record

by 16 seconds with a time of 4:51.38, continuing the high standards she set last year.

Other highlights included a competitive Intermediate Boys High Jump where Hawaiiki Goodwin (Year 10) won with a jump of 1.75m. Hokioramai Dunn (Year 13) impressed, winning both the shotput and discus in the senior boys category.

Taya Lewis (Year 13, pictured above left)) also won the shotput and discus in the senior girls category. Elliot Kitchener (Year 13) won the 100m, 200m and 400m senior boys category.

Other students who performed well were Sienna Todd (Year 9), Maddie Earley (Year 10), Peggy Taylor (Year 10) and Benjie Fairclough (Year 11), who all had good showings in various events.

Students who have qualified for the Central/West/East Zone meet on March 21 have been notified by their student email. They need to confirm if they will enter by this Monday, March 6.

Mr Crossan added, "Thanks to Kate Doherty and Tim Morrison of the Owairaka Athletics Club for allowing use of their equipment and clubhouse. Thanks to Auckland Athletics for providing three officials to help on the day. Thanks to all the staff who assisted on the day, running the various events."

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



First female leader of our Board of Trustees

Congratulations to Catherine Murphy, who has been elected the Presiding Member (aka Chairperson) of our Board of Trustees and is the first woman to occupy that position in the history of MAGS.

Ms Murphy, who was elected to the board in 2019, takes over the leadership from Greg Moyle, who has been on the board for 24 years.

She says, "I am the proud parent of three past and one current MAGS students (as well as being the daughter of a MAGS old boy) and have spent the last three years contributing in every way I possibly can to the school while on the board.

"I have previously been the Finance Committee Chair as well as a member of the Property and Discipline committees.

"I have had the privilege, along with the rest of the current Board, of supporting Patrick Drumm and his Senior Leadership Team over the past three years – probably the hardest years in the school's history in navigating COVID to ensure the students' education and wellbeing were at the heart of all decisions made.

"Some of the key achievements during this time that I am proud of include being involved in welcoming our first female boarders with the opening of Centennial House in Lloyd Ave, the building and opening of the new science block, the ongoing annual increase in improvements in NCEA results across all groups within the school, and reviewing the school's strategic plan in our Centennial Year.

"I am looking forward to being more involved in helping bring to life some of the planned projects and ongoing improvements that have been proposed with the passion I have brought to the school over the past three years.

"When I am not involved in the school's activities, I am being busy with my family and immersing myself in my passion for cooking,

"I work full-time as a senior manager in the corporate sector."



Meet our new Arts Executive



Arts Leaders for the many and varied groups in the Arts received their leadership badges at assembly today, and next week will undertake leadership training to assist them in their new roles.

Pictured above is the Arts Executive, who will work with the Director of Arts Ms Cesan, HODs and TICs, and their group of leaders to promote and support Arts activities and events in 2023.

Front row, left to right: Keera Ieriko (Culture), India O'Neil (Visual Arts), Kaloni Tovo (Arts Promotion) Bella Houghton (Head Arts Prefect), Mehak Sehgal (Media), Lucia Jack (Creative English Initiatives).

Second row: Celestine Howard (Music), Violani Afoa (Gloriana choir), Daniel Lees (Music), Jacob Cameron (Dance), Ashleigh Muir (Visual Arts Photography).

Third row: Hokioramai Dunn (Culture), Nikau Hopwood (Drama), Kairo Ah Kuoi-Simich (Centennial choir), Jude Wilson (Visual Arts Design).

Absent: Eve Thompson (Drama Co-leader).

Colourful celebration of Science



Artist Zoe Nash and a small group of top Visual Art students in Year 13 have been working on a major mural to tie together and brighten up prefab classrooms in N Block.

The project, overseen by Visual Arts teacher Ainsley Leonard, was finished today and can be seen on the classroom walls around the roofed area.

Zoe (pictured left) said the mural was "a celebration of Science" using a playful repetition of linear motifs to form a vibrant pattern overlaid with mark-making to give the mural an organic feel. The colours were keyed off the existing prints on the classroom doors, with geometric shapes, which were masked up and painted over a pale blue base coat, forming the bulk of the mural and mark-making being used to fill in the detail.



Book drive on now

BOOK DRIVE

The English Club is having a Book Drive! Due to the recent floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, many schools and their libraries have been greatly affected, with many books getting damaged or ruined. It is now your chance to help out, do a good deed, and provide some much needed reading material!

The Yr 9 and Yr 10 Form Classes with the most books collected will win Interform Points

The Senior Form Class with the most books collected will win a prize (TBC)



WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- *Young Adult Fiction*
- *Middle Grade Fiction (8 - 12yrs)*
- *Picture Books or Children's Books*

**BOOKS MUST BE IN
GOOD CONDITION**

Bring your books into your form class starting Week 6

Week 6 - Week 9

*Books will be collected
during AMP time Week 10*

TURKEY - SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

fundraiser

Interact is holding a fundraiser for the people who have been affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Interact members will be raising awareness in assemblies and form time as well as collecting gold coin donations. We would love your support!

Bake Sale

We are also having a bake sale on Tuesday 28 March, Albertian Quad.
Cash and eftpos available!



Interact is partnering with the Red Cross to help those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

Buy something at the bake sale or bring coins or notes to donate.

Careers Department's new website

Finding a career
should be an

Adventure



Career
Wise



Explore the latest career
news, jobs & events on
the Mount Albert Grammar
School CareerWise website!

<https://mags.careerwise.school/>

Our Careers Department now has its own website.

MAGS Careerwise is a central source of up-to-date information about exploring future pathways.

There is loads of great information on career options, university applications and even CV writing.

Careerwise is where the Careers Department posts all of its upcoming events such as university info sessions (these start next week!) as well as job opportunities and general career news. Students can use the site to book an appointment, or come see Careers staff in the Red Room (in the Library) any time.

Click on this [link](#) to check out the website and be sure to subscribe to the regular updates.

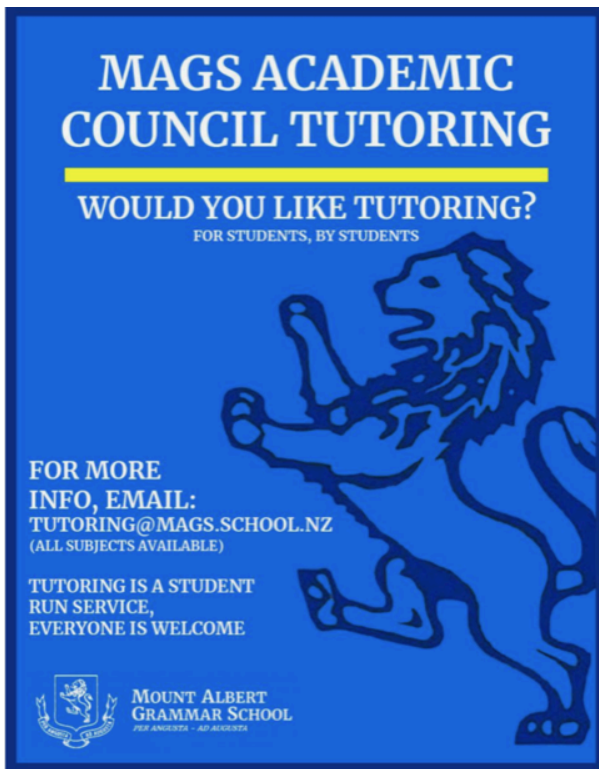
Tutoring for all year levels

The Academic Council provides tutoring for any year levels (9-13) in various subjects.

If there any keen students who would like to tutor others, please email

academiccouncil@mags.school.nz to express your interest.

Likewise, if there any students who would like to be tutored, feel free to email tutoring@mags.school.nz



Arts awards winners in 2008



The image above is part of the recently added Set 83 of Historical Images on our website and shows two long-time friends: Byron Gibbons, Most Conscientious Drama Student, and Rebecca Reilly, Best Sheilah Winn Performer.

Byron Gibbons did a BA in Sign Language at AUT (there are deaf people in his family) and

Rebecca K Reilly is the first alumna to write a published novel.

Last year, this book, *Greta & Valdin*, won the Hubert Church Prize for fiction and the Aotearoa Booksellers' Choice Award.

You can see more Historical Images, compiled by Archivist Brian Murphy, [here](#)

Sports Update

Medals at rowing regatta



More than 1270 rowers took part in the AON Junior Regatta at Lake Karapiro last weekend, and the MAGSROW squad continued its strong season by qualifying for 23 A Finals and securing medals in several events. Our senior girls rowing crews took first place in the G U17 2- event (Lily Curnow, Olivia Tattersfield) and second place in the G U17 4+ (Lily Curnow, Nicole Nagaratnam, Ruby Schmulian, Olivia Tattersfield, cox Guy Pinfold), G U16 1x (Olivia Tattersfield), and G U17 8+ (Bella Boersen, Amanda Chen, Lily Curnow, Lilah Martin, Nicole Nagaratnam, Jaime Reader, Ruby Schmulian, Olivia Tattersfield, cox Guy Pinfold).



Our senior boys crews (pictured above) took first (Luke Sanders, Fraser MacGillivray) and second place (Max Jarvie, Ethan Green) in the B U17 2- event.

You can see more photos [here](#)

Triathlon Boys take AKSS Gold

The Mount Albert Grammar Triathlon team recently competed in a thrilling AKSS race at Maraetai Beach, showcasing their impressive skills and determination.

Five individuals and one team of three took part, with the day being kicked off by Pranay Lankapati leading the charge in the U14 category.

The rest of the MAGS contingent were in the U16 field where Palepua Afoa set a strong pace for the swim, followed closely by Theo Bray, Nathan Sides, and Ben Wright. Then Theo demonstrated his impressive biking skills, passing Palepua and moving into third place off the bike and then he was able to further extend the gap with a speedy 4km run to secure MAGs first medal of the day. Palepua completed his first triathlon with an

impressive swim and bike, but couldn't maintain that on the run. The same can also be said for Nathan and Ben Wright.

The team of Hiro Tau, Finn McDrury and Ben Hori-Elliott were strong in each discipline, crossing the finish line in first place for the Boys U16 team.

TIC Sean Martin said, "In general, the Mount Albert Grammar Triathlon team demonstrated incredible teamwork and athleticism, making them a force to be reckoned with in the triathlon world."



Tag Girls qualify for AKSS

Our Senior Boys and Girls teams competed at the Central/West Zone Tag Tournament on Monday at Moire Park in Massey.

Both teams played six games throughout the day in variable conditions.

The boys team finished top of their pool after a 2-2 all draw against Rutherford College and two strong wins against Waitakere College and Marcellin College.

In their quarter final they faced a Westlake Boys team that proved too strong. Against Orewa College in their plate semi-final the scores were tied at fulltime. This forced a drop-

off with Orewa scoring a long range try to win 5-4. Their last game was the 7th/8th playoff against Avondale College which saw a good win despite the tired legs.

The girls team went through pool play undefeated, beating St Mary's College 4-2 and Orewa College 8-0. In the quarterfinals, they faced a young Mahurangi College in a close game, coming away with a 1-0 win.

In the semi-final against Auckland Girls Grammar, which always guarantees a good battle no matter what sport, Auckland Girls took an early lead 2-0 but MAGS showed good composure to get back into the game. MAGS had a long-range try disallowed and that allowed Auckland Girls to narrowly win 4-3.

The 3rd/4th playoff against Rangitoto College was a high-scoring, close game. Rangitoto managed to win with a late try, 7-6. With the girls finishing 4th, they have qualified for the Auckland Championships, which will take place on March 22.

Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "Thanks to all the students who played at short notice. Thanks to Tutu Tairea, who coached the girls team, and Mr Folomu for coaching the boys team."



Upcoming Premier Sport



The Volleyball Premier Boys play two games today at Long Bay College, the first at 4pm against Long Bay and the second at 6pm against Aorere College.

Tomorrow, the Cricket Boys 1st XI play away to St Kentigern College, starting at 10.30am.

On Monday, the Softball Premier Boys play Auckland Grammar at May Road at 4.15pm, and the Touch Premier Mixed side play at Cornwall Park against Waitakere College (4.15pm) and One Tree Hill College (6pm).

On Wednesday, the Cricket Girls 1st XI are at home to Takapuna Grammar at 4.15pm, and it has yet to be confirmed if the Softball Premier Girls have a game.

You can see more fixtures and results [here](#)

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A Tradition of Excellence

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