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Week 6, Term 1, March 9, 2018 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

### The road map to our Centenary



The new Mount Albert Grammar School Strategic Plan (2018-2022) was ratified by the Board of Trustees at their first meeting of the year (see the link below). This document is the culmination of wide consultation across the MAGS community – a process that began towards the end of last year.

The Plan provides a clear road map to guide the school over the next five years up to our centennial celebrations in 2022.

As a school, our core business will always revolve around the learning and achievement of our students. But through the consultation process parents also clearly emphasised the value of well-being for their sons and daughters during their time at MAGS. You will see this theme emerge throughout the plan alongside a focus on personal excellence for each student.

The pace of change in education is simply a reflection of the rate at which society is evolving – particularly for our young people. MAGS will certainly be a different place in five years' time! Our Strategic Plan allows us to move forward with real certainty and confidence in the time ahead – and to continue to make our school an even better place into the future.

Thank you to all who contributed throughout the review and planning process.

Have a good weekend.

**Patrick Drumm**

[Click here](#) for MAGS' Strategic Plan

## Weekly Notices



### Key Dates

[Click here for the 2018 Calendar](#)

**Saturday, March 10 & Sunday, March 11**

Relay for Life

**Friday, March 16 & Saturday, March 17**

MAGS groups at Polyfest (see story below)



### Sport

**Registration and trials for summer and winter sports**

[Click here](#)



**Photo essay**

Auckland Aquathon

[Click here](#)

Fixtures and results

[Click here](#)

## Mufti Day making a difference



The school grounds were a sea of blue, yellow, pink and/or purple today as students got behind the Mufti Day fundraiser for the Cancer Society.

The colours are part of the Cancer Society's awareness programmes for various cancers they are fighting.

As part of the day, donations of gold coins (or better) were encouraged to go towards MAGS' total in our 2018 Relay for Life campaign, with money raised going to support cancer charities.

So far, MAGS has raised more than \$71,000, with 145 students having met the \$200 goal.

The top five fundraisers who all have over \$900 are Eva Williams, Elias Tuitama, Sharnia Dahya, Jaime Spencer and Hana Hilson.

Relay for Life starts tomorrow at AUT Millennium Institute on the North Shore, and supporters are welcome any time between 3pm and 10pm tomorrow, and on Sunday from 7am to 10am.

Participants will carry a baton and run laps around a 400m track at the Millennium Institute for 18 hours and camp overnight.

[Click here](#) to donate

For more photos from Mufti Day, [click here](#)



## PolyFest schedule announced



their performances for Polyfest next week.

Their tutors and mentors, including a number of Albertians, have been helping to polish their performances so they can be the best representatives for their cultures and their school. The groups have been working every day after school and on weekends.

Next Friday will be a big day for five of MAGS' seven groups taking part in PolyFest at the Manukau Sports Bowl. The school will be represented by 276 students in Kapa Haka and in Cook Island, Tongan, Samoan and Niuean groups, with Indian and Chinese groups on the Diversity Stage.

### Performance times

#### Friday, March 16:

**Indian, 9.50am; Cook Island 10.00am; Niuean 11.00am; Chinese 12.05pm, Samoan 2.00pm.**

#### Saturday, March 17:

**Tongan 8.50am – Performance One, 12pm – Performance Two, Kapa Haka, 2.40pm.**

Only students competing at PolyFest are allowed time off school on the day of their events. All other students are welcome to attend on Saturday.

## Pasifika Pathways evening



Last night's Pasifika Pathways Evening for Year 11s was a huge success with lots of positive feedback from parents.

Headmaster Patrick Drumm addressed attendees, and MAGS' Pasifika Liaison Api Taulapiu says parents were impressed by the support the school offers to Pasifika students, and the ease with which they could monitor students' attendance and academic progress as well as email teachers using the Kamar portal.

Mr Taulapiu says parents were encouraged to engage with the school and given key contacts for any areas of concern.

Pasifika Initiatives Co-ordinator Va Anisi also informed parents about the homework centre and tutorials the school offers.

Members of the Pasifika Council spoke about their journeys at MAGS to give parents an idea of the choices their children could make and how they could excel at school.

## Like your style

Kubi Witten-Hannah, the Head of Careers (pictured right), is doing his bit to win a travel scholarship for a lucky MAGS student.

The Scholarship is worth \$500 to students who enrol for 2019 at Unitec for a minimum programme of two years.

They must be enrolled in Sports, Business, Architecture, Engineering or Construction programmes, and participate in the exchange programme to the USA or Canada in their second year of study (2020).

The two careers advisors who get the most "likes" on their photos on Facebook and Instagram will win the scholarship.

There are only a few days left in the competition so back Kubi and help out a MAGS student by clicking [here](#) to like his photo.

The winner will be announced and emailed next Friday.



## Peer Mediation training



Over the past four Wednesday afternoons, the 2018 Peer Mediation team has been training with a focus on skills in conflict resolution following on the back of the all-day training in December 2017 with the NZ Peace Foundation. Guidance Counsellor Marianne Wilson said the Wednesday afternoon sessions have been an opportunity to work in small groups and hone their skills so that they are ready to begin their first mediations by next week.

"This year we have trained 43 Year 13 students and five Year 12 students," she said.

Leadership through Peer Mediation (LtPM) is a peaceful conflict resolution programme which empowers students

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may need.

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## Thai delegation scopes out school operations



A Thai delegation of educators and officials has visited MAGS to learn about how schools operate in New Zealand. The group of 20 led by Dr Benja, Head of Special Education in the Thai Ministry of Education, was particularly interested in how schools prepare students for higher education and how they develop parent and community support for their students.

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## Arts update

### ARTS EVENTS IN TERM 1

**March 28-29:** Year 13 Drama production *The Visit* in N Block at MAGS

**April 5-7:** Sheilah Winn Shakespeare – Venue TBC

**April 10-11:** Annual Dance Concert – Centennial Theatre

For any inquiries regarding Arts co curricular events or groups, please contact Jacqui Cesan (Director Arts Co Curricular) [jcesan@mags.school.nz](mailto:jcesan@mags.school.nz) 09 846 2044 x 8226



## Bloggers get behind the scenes



**Bloggers Nicholas Shillito, in Year 13, and, from left, Year 10s Harriet Neraat, Elka Aitchison and Ella Vuetilovoni interview Deputy Principal John Stradwick.**

School life provides fertile ground for the MAGS Blog Club, who this week were interviewing new Deputy Principal John Stradwick about his hopes and dreams.

They will also be interviewing our other new Deputy Principal, Tom Murdoch – so keep an eye on their blog for some revealing insights into the Senior Leadership Team.

[Click here to follow the MAGS Blog](#)

If you would like to join the club, contact Ms Carissa Calvert at [ccalvert@mags.school.nz](mailto:ccalvert@mags.school.nz)

## Download the MAGS app



If you haven't already, make sure you download the Mount Albert Grammar School app for notices, events and other important school messages. Use the app to notify us of your child's absence, contact a teacher, access the parent portal and link to maps and key websites. Receive alert messages instantly for your chosen groups. To download the app for free on iPhone or Android click this link.

<http://mountalbertgrammarschool.apps.school.nz/share/>

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## Sports update

### **Sporting excellence recognised**

A Sports Assembly this week recognised MAGS' high achievers across swimming, athletics and rowing, with trophies and certificates awarded.

For a full list of students and their outstanding sporting achievements, [click here](#)





MAGS Athletics Champions for 2018 are (back row, from left to right): Junior Boys Champion Luke Clements, Senior Boys Champion Dylan Moon, Intermediate Boys Champion Sila Esekielu, (front row) Junior Girls Champion Malia Seko, Intermediate Girls Champion Latonya Lole, Senior Girls Champion Janelle Kara.

### Zoning in on Auckland Champs

At the Central/West Zone Athletics Championships on Monday, MAGS students put in 39 qualifying performances for the Auckland Championships to be held on Wednesday, March 28 at Mt Smart Stadium.

More MAGS students may make the Auckland Championships once all the Zone Championships have been held by next Wednesday.

Among MAGS' strongest performers on Monday were Malia Seko (1st in Junior Girls 100m, 200m and Long Jump), Teiere Manuel-Nathan (1st in Junior Girls Shotput, Discus and Javelin), Latonya Lole (1st in Intermediate Girls 100m and Long Jump, 2nd in 200m and 80m Hurdles), Amelia Caltaux (1st in Intermediate Girls 400m and 800m), Hannah Houghton (1st in Intermediate Girls 1500m and 3000m), Janelle Kara (1st in Senior Girls 100m and Long Jump), Raniera Newport (1st in Junior Boys Long Jump and qualified in 100m and 200m), Luke Clements (1st Junior Boys 1500 and 3000m, 2nd in Triple Jump), and Max Brooke-Cowden, pictured right, (1st in Senior Boys 100m and 200m).



### Champions swim strongly at zone champs



MAGS Swimming Champions are (back row, from left to right): Senior Boys Champion Bede Aitu, 100m Backstroke record-breaker Tony Tua-Tagaloa, Junior Boys Champion Michael Chapman, Intermediate Boys Champion Justin Hemara. Front row: Junior Girls Champion Edie Ancell, Intermediate Girls Champion Brearna Crawford, Senior Girls Champion Vasilina Shipilova.

The school's swimming champions continued their strong form at the Central East Zone competition, with Brearna Crawford dominating the Intermediate Girls division with wins in the 50m Butterfly, 50m Backstroke, 50m Breaststroke, and 50m Freestyle. There were more good wins by other MAGS students with Tony Tua-Tagaloa taking out the Junior Boys 50m Backstroke, and relay team wins in the Open Girls 200m Butterfly, Open Girls 200m Backstroke, Junior Girls 200m Freestyle, Intermediate Girls 200m Freestyle, and Junior Girls 200m Medley. For a summary of MAGS' results, [click here](#)

### Medallists at North Island rowing champs



MAGS' medal-winning rowers from the North Island Secondary School Rowing Championships are (back row, from left): Blake Jowsey, Ethan Welch, Callum Nicholson, Anthony Peters, Max Conder. Front row: Holly Chaafe, Hannah

Mt Albert Grammar School is now one of the top 10 rowing schools in the North Island following the secondary schools championship at Lake Karapiro last weekend.

MAGS rowers brought home two gold medals, one silver and one bronze from the 2018 North Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships to finish ninth-equal.

Holly Chaafe won the Under 16 Girls Single Sculls, came second in the Under 17 Girls Single Sculls, and joined Hannah Zwalue to win the Under 17 Girls Double Sculls.

The Under 15 Boys Coxed Quad Sculls crew (pictured above) of Anthony Peters, Callum Nicholson, Ethan Welch, Blake Jowsey and Max Conder, earned a bronze medal.

MAGSRow qualified into 13 A finals and seven B finals.

At the championship there were 1852 students from 93 schools entered in 5091 seats in 1391 crews, with 301 races required to complete the regatta and find the winners of all 50 events.

The rowing season is nearing its end, and rowers are peaking

their fitness and perfecting their technique towards the final competition –The Maadi Cup – being held at Lake Ruataniwha on March 19-24.

[Click here](#) for full results of MAGS crews



### Three team wins at Aquathon



MAGS won three team titles at yesterday's Auckland Secondary Schools Aquathon Championships at St Kentigern College.

Coming in first were the Senior Boys team of James Dennett and Liam Thompson, Senior Girls Ella Speight and Hannah Houghton, and the Intermediate Mixed team of Jess Wanden-Hannay (pictured) and Adian Price.

MAGS also won a silver medal in the Senior Boys with Oliver Ng and Harry Thurman.

MAGS entered 10 teams and three individual athletes, making it the biggest team.

The Aquathon involved a swim in the Tamaki River and a run through the streets around St Kentigern College.

For full results, [click here](#)

For a photo essay, [click here](#)

## Academy teams get tactical



Last week the Mt Albert Grammar School Football Academies attended the Oceania Champions League Pool games at Trusts Stadium in Waitakere.

Almost all members of MAGS' nine football Academies, as well as the two First XI Teams travelled to the stadium to watch Auckland City in a top of the table clash against Fijian Champions Lautoka, with Auckland City squeezing through to the quarter-final stage with a 1-0 win.

The purpose of attending the games was to allow the MAGS Academy teams to observe the highest level of competition to help with their game understanding. All of the students were given tactical topics to observe in the games – and these were discussed and reviewed.

Director of Football Peter Smith said, "This was a fantastic opportunity for the football students [at MAGS] to increase their understanding of the game by observing a team like Auckland City. Our playing philosophy here at MAGS is looking to replicate the style that Auckland City play and the students were given tactical material that they worked on in groups and fed back to their fellow students and coaching staff."

## Albertian cricketer back at the crease



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New Zealand O19 shirt from his 2014 World Cup tournament in Dubai.

He presented the shirts to members of the Year 9 Cricket Academy.

Brett left Mags at the end of 2012 and was contracted to the Aces in 2016 and 2017. He has since moved to Northern Districts and is contracted to them.

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## Sports trials and registrations



Students are encouraged to register for sports teams and trials taking place in Term 1. Sports seeking registrations include Hockey, Basketball, Squash, Football, Badminton and Netball.

[Click here for the registration forms](#)

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## General notices

### World Challenge fundraiser

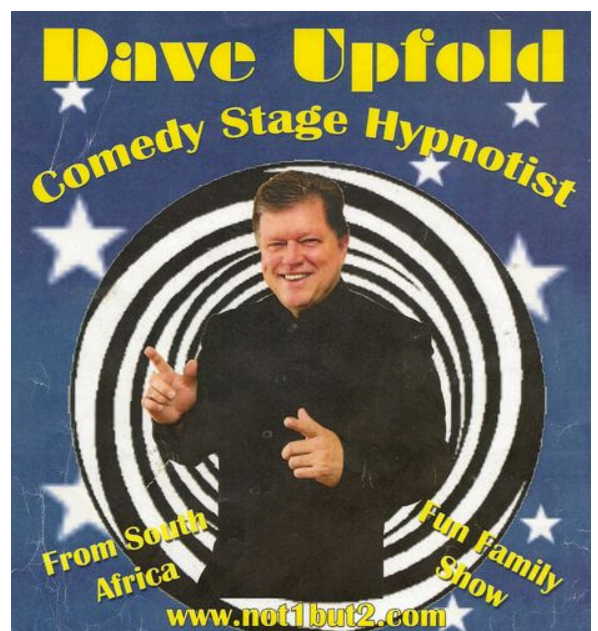
Hypnotist Dave Upfold will probably have you feeling very generous towards students going on the MAGS World Challenge trip to Cambodia in July.

He will be doing two shows in the school hall next week as part of a fundraiser for the 11 students.

His comedic hypnotist show is suitable for families and will be on Tuesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 15 from 7-9pm.

There will also be food, drinks and raffles sold on the night.

Tickets are \$20 and go towards financing the World Challenge trip to Cambodia where students will be taking part in activities such as volunteering at villages and going on treks.



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## Alberton Market Day



gardening guru Lynda Hallinan (pictured) as special guest.

She will have copies of her books and produce from her garden, and will give a talk at 11.30am on the best crops for small gardens – what, when and where to plant.

As always, there will be food stalls, specialty produce and handmade crafts.

For more info and updates [click here](#)

**Alberton Market Day, Sunday 11 March, 10am-2pm. Free Entry. 100 Mt Albert Rd.**



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