



From the Headmaster

Academic Mentoring



Navigating NCEA can be challenging for both parents and students, particularly those who are entering the qualification for the first time.

The flexibility of NCEA allows students to tailor courses to meet their own needs and aspirations – an undoubted strength of the qualification. However,

this breadth of choice can lead to uncertainty when academic pathways are being planned across the senior school. Factor in pre-requisite courses, literacy and numeracy requirements and the varying credit values of each standard – and the complexity of our national qualification becomes more than apparent.

In 2017, the school introduced an 'Academic Mentoring' initiative across all Year 11 students that has now been expanded to involve all Year 11 and 12 students this year.

The goal of the mentoring programme is to provide academic guidance for our senior students in their first years of NCEA. The mentors will also become a primary point of contact for parents for any queries or concerns regarding the learning of their sons and daughters.

A key component of Academic Mentoring will be the Academic Conferences planned for June 11. These 15-minute meetings by appointment will allow for a greater depth of discussion around academic progress and the next steps required for students to achieve their academic goals.

While this initiative is in its early days, the school is confident of the value it will add to the MAGS experience for our students.

Thank you to parents of Year 11 and 12 students for supporting this initiative and we look forward to expanding the programme across other year levels in the time ahead.

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

[Click here for the 2018 Calendar](#)

Tuesday, May 22

Maori Whanau Hui, 7pm (see details below)

Thursday, May 24

Performing Arts Parents Group meeting, 5.45pm, Staffroom



Sport



Photo Essay

Football First XI v Avondale College

[Click here](#)

Registration and trials for summer and winter sports

[Click here](#)

Fixtures and results

[Click here](#)

Colour of compassion



Selected students and some staff wore pink clothing today to help spread messages about celebrating diversity and encouraging positive relationships.

Students were also handing out pink ribbons on Pink Shirt Day, which aims to stop bullying and spread kindness.

Celebrated around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying, mobilising their whole school to wear pink, after a peer was hassled for wearing a pink shirt.

In New Zealand, Pink Shirt Day has been celebrated since 2009 and is led by the Mental Health Foundation with support from organisations such as The Peace Foundation, RainbowYOUTH, New Zealand Post Primary Teachers' Association (PPTA) and Youthline.

Strong message for Pasifika

This morning's Pasifika Assembly was treated to an inspirational spoken word performance by Dr Michelle Johansson, a teacher, scholar and member of The Black Friars theatre company.

Dr Johansson encouraged Pasifika students to be their own storytellers, by standing proud and carving out their own destiny while keeping in mind their culture, their history and the sacrifices of their parents.

She followed that up with a speech about her Tongan background, her family, and how she was "a high school drop-out" from South Auckland who became a doctoral scholar.

And she conducted a quiz with the students that highlighted how Pasifika rank poorly when it comes to health, financial and educational outcomes.

Dr Johansson left the assembly with plenty of food for thought.



Market Day goes down a treat

Year 10 Business students were met with a keen and hungry clientele when they opened their food stalls at lunchtime yesterday and today.

Students flocked to the stalls selling drinks and food such as quesadillas, toasted sandwiches, candy floss, sushi, waffles, nachos, chop suey, doughnuts and muffins. As part of Market Day, the Year 10 Business students formulate, carry out and review a business activity that

involves selling selling sweet or savoury treats.

There were 12 market stalls operating during lunchtime in the Albertian Quad, with groups funding their own start-up costs and sharing profits among business owners.

Business Studies teacher Stuart Halstead said that once the frantic activity of Market Day was over, students were encouraged to reflect on where their businesses had succeeded or failed.

Market Day is a taster for business activities to follow in years 11, 12 and 13 when



business students build on earlier skills to develop more sophisticated products and services.

For more photos from the day, click [here](#)

Whānau Hui focuses on achievement

Next Tuesday evening, MAGS' Rūnanga will be hosting a Whānau Hui that will include a presentation on Māori student achievement for 2017.

Whānau will have the opportunity to meet the members of the Rūnanga and at the conclusion of the evening have an opportunity to discuss the upcoming Ngā Manu Kōrero ki te Waitematā (Regional Speech Competition).

MAGS has four entrants in the competition taking place in early June: Junior English – Charlotte Mann (Y10), with her theme being 'Mana – is it innate or earned?'; Junior Māori – Isaiah Nin (Y9) – 'Tōku ao Māori ka tata ngaro nei' ('My Maori world is dying'); Senior English – Richard Mann (Y12) – 'Mana – is it innate or earned?'; Senior Māori – Kaharau Mendes (Y13) – 'Tōku ao Māori ka tata ngaro nei'.

This evening will be held in the Maurice Hall Block at 7pm. Please confirm your attendance by emailing Whāea Natalie Absolum Nabsolum@mags.school.nz

School House boys' haka for Sir Bryan



School House boys were invited to perform a haka for Albertian and All Blacks legend Sir Bryan Williams when his knighthood was celebrated at a special function at Eden Park last week.

Rugby greats, coaches, administrators, friends and family gathered for the luncheon to recognise Sir Bryan's contribution to the game of rugby and the wider community.

Arts update

ARTS EVENTS COMING UP IN TERM 2:

Thursday, 24th May
Performing Arts Parents Group meeting – interested parents welcome, Staffroom, 5.45pm- 7.30pm.

Tuesday, 29th May
Youdance Dance Festival – MAGS represented with three items. Raye Freedman Theatre, Epsom, 7.30pm. Tickets from www.iticket.co.nz



Sunday, 3rd June

MAGS Megacrew compete in Projekt Dance competition in Open group section, Bay Events Centre Tauranga, 1pm.

Tuesday, 5th June

Moonstars Chamber group compete with original song by Emma Moon at the Chamber Music Contest, Raye Freedman Theatre, Epsom, 7.30pm

Friday 8th June

Year 11 Drama students devised performance, Alberton historic homestead, 11.45am.

Saturday, 9th June

The Wondercats compete at Rockquest Auckland Central regionals, Auckland Girls Grammar School.

Thursday, 14th June

Visual Arts Board show, MAGS, 4.30-6.30pm.

Tuesday & Wednesday, 26th & 27th June

Year 12 Drama Production, MAGS, 7pm

Tuesday, 3rd July

Annual Music Concert, Raye Freedman Theatre, Epsom, 7.30pm.

Figuring on the world stage

Mathematicians from MAGS have cracked the big time and will represent New Zealand on the world stage.

The team of, from left, Year 12s James You and Logan Allomes and Year 13s Richard Li and Patrick Wong took part in the four-day



International Math Modelling Competition and were picked as one of two teams to represent the country.

Their challenge was to come up with a mathematical solution to the problem of how to find the best local hospital. They brainstormed what sort of variables might come into play, worked out a code for ranking and quantifying them, then tested their solution with real world data

In the next phase of the competition, their solution is submitted to the international judges and they go up against other countries to determine the overall winners.

The purpose of the competition is to promote the teaching of mathematical modelling and its applications for all students.

Taste test proves popular



The smell of steak being cooked wafted through E Block at lunchtime today and brought meat lovers out in their droves.

Staff were invited to a taste test of three different unidentified varieties of beef as part of Year 13 Agriculture students' investigations into what sort of meat consumers like.

The meat – cooked by the expert hand of Food Technology teacher Ryan Thom – was sampled and rated according to qualities such as flavour and texture. The varieties were

later revealed as Wagyu, Angus and crossbred Hereford – with the latter proving the most popular despite Wagyu being twice as expensive.

Staff were also surveyed during the week as to what sort of cuts they liked and how they liked them cooked.

Head of Agriculture and Horticulture Esther Hancock said the student exercise was aimed at collating

information so that farmers could better cater for consumer tastes.



Year 13s take a hike



Last week, the Year 13 Outdoor Education class tramped the Around the Mountain Circuit in Taranaki/Egmont National Park.

For this trip, students had to plan their routes, find out about the significance of the location, create a gear list, consider the environment they were entering and how they could care for it, plan their menu and identify the likely risks and how to combat them.

As the class was split into small groups and were walking from dawn to dusk carrying 15-20kg packs, they could practise their leadership skills under very testing conditions.

The Circuit goes through a landscape of forest, rivers and spectacular alpine scenery.

Thanks go to Mr Andy Belson and former MAGS students Mr Simon Stevens and Mr Jake Douglas for helping on the trip.

Traffic safety around school

Parents are reminded that vehicles are not permitted into the school grounds to drop off or pick up students.

These rules are in place for the safety of students, staff and the general public.

Recently there have been reports of parents and siblings of students using the main car park for hasty drop-offs, cars exceeding the posted speed limit and driving the wrong way around the car park.

Vehicles parking in bus stops have also become an issue as they impede the free and safe flow of traffic along Alberton Avenue, which can become a bottleneck at both ends of the school day. A drop-off or pick-up location that is a sensible distance from the school gates should be arranged with your child(ren).

Riding the Whanganui River



In the last week of term one, the Year 13 Outdoor Education class finally got to canoe the Whanganui River.

Unfortunately, the original trip needed to be postponed due to severe storm damage only days before the class were meant to go. Heavy rain caused slips across the access road and river bank, and saw the river rise up to 10 metres.

A focus of this trip was for students to manage safety issues through implementing suitable strategies. Although the unexpected weather caused frustration, it provided a perfect scenario to help students understand that it is best to reschedule trips than risk people or equipment being harmed.

Once underway, the students enjoyed the extra responsibility of organising the timings,

their equipment and their menu. Coming from a large city, we also appreciated the beauty and solitude of remote New Zealand.

Sports update

Albertian Rocky Khan gives back to the school

Albertian Rocky Khan (2003-2008) returned to MAGS to present to the school his jersey from his debut with the All Black Sevens in 2013 at the Wellington Sevens.

Mr Khan, who made MAGS' Rugby First XV in Year 11, was twice named Boys Victor Ludorum (best all round sportsman) at MAGS and captained First XI Cricket.

According to the New Zealand Rugby Union, Mr Khan was the first player of Asian descent to pull on the black jersey. At a special assembly this week, Mr Khan – pictured with Headmaster Patrick Drumm – spoke of his time at MAGS, sitting in assembly and staring at



the Honours Boards, dreaming of the day his name would be up there in gold lettering. He also spoke of the challenges of playing rugby at the school, coming up against much bigger opponents.

Mr Khan related how he had to work hard for his breakthrough with the All Black Sevens to achieve that dream of getting his name up on the Honours Boards.

Cross Country champions



Luke Clements won the Junior Boys division and Hannah Houghton the Senior Girls at the Central/West Zone Cross Country Championships on Tuesday at Moire Park, Massey. Luke, pictured above right, and Hannah, above left, both won their respective Cross Country divisions at MAGS last week.

Premier results this week

Chantel Young scored a hat-trick as the Hockey Girls 1st XI steamrolled Botany Downs 5-1 yesterday.



MAGS was up 2-0 at halftime courtesy of a penalty corner and a field goal. Maisy Simpson and Lulu Grimes were the other scorers in a game where MAGS held their structure and made the ball do the work.

On Wednesday, the Hockey Boys First XI drew 2-2 away to Avondale College. In their first game of the season on Monday, the Rugby Girls 10s beat

Kelston Girls High 60-15.

The Football First XI Girls lost to Baradene 1-0 at MAGS on Wednesday.

New-look Netball Premiers hit the courts

The Netball Premiers begin their season tomorrow against Botany Downs at 11.30am at the Auckland Netball Centre with new faces in the team and on the coaching staff.

New Head of Netball Kylie Leota is joined on the coaching staff by Sarah Hann and they will be integrating into the side Year 11s Latonya Lole, Dellwyn Fiso and Aaliyah Rooney. Kalani Posinkovich, who is also a Year 11, was named in the team but has been hit with an ACL injury. Ms Leota said the team will be led by the experience of Year 13s Ruby Young, Halaevalu Toutaiolepo, Maine-Crystal Maro, Jada Manase, Addi Albert-Jones and Waiana Jones, with Jada Manase and Princess Elliott returning to school netball.



In other Premier games this weekend, the First XV Rugby are away to Kings College tomorrow at 2.30pm.

The Boys and Girls Basketball are playing away tonight at Rosmini against Rosmini and

Carmel College respectively (7.30pm & 6pm).

The Football Boys 1st XI are playing Sacred Heart at Bill McKinley Turf at 7pm tonight.

For a full list of fixtures and results, click [here](#)

MAGS RUGBY CLUB DAY 2018

SATURDAY 26TH MAY



7 MAGS TEAMS ALL AT MAGS

U15 Boys	Kings College	Sir BG Williams Field	9.15am
2nd XV Boys	Sacred Heart College	Mt Albert Grammar 2	9.15am
U14 Boys	Kelston Boys High School	Mt Albert Grammar 2	10.30am
6th Grade	Sacred Heart College	Mt Albert Grammar 3	10.30am
5th Grade	Howick College	Mt Albert Grammar 3	11.45am
U16 Boys	Edgewater College	Mt Albert Grammar 2	12.00pm
1st XV Boys	Dilworth	Sir BG Williams Field	2.30pm

THE GIRLS RUGBY TEAM WILL HAVE FOOD AND DRINKS FOR SALE

Sports trials and registrations



Students are encouraged to register for sports teams and trials taking place in Term 2.

[Click here for the registration forms](#)



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