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May 26, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

Exams and Testing – Just Part of Life!



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

Our Year 11 students have been sitting subject examinations throughout this week. Formal examinations have been part of a MAGS education for 102 years and will continue to be so well into the future.

As a valid academic measure, the formal exam remains a critical part of measuring achievement. Testing knowledge and skills – at the same time, on the same day – provides valuable data and comparisons for students and teachers as opposed to some of the more ‘fluid’ assessment approaches.

It is concerning that a number of schools (both primary and secondary) have removed testing of any form from their programmes. In some schools, students can even gain University Entrance without ever having sat an external exam! The value and robustness of an NCEA qualification should not depend on the school you attend!

MAGS' strong support for students entering New Zealand Scholarship is a further endorsement of examinations. Scholarship is the pinnacle of academic achievement in schools and is (unfortunately) now the only true common assessment task that exists in our assessment system.

It is a delight to see our students enjoying such success with this premier award – and we plan to expand our Scholarship programme even further.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday, May 29
Samoan Language Week begins

**Wednesday, May 31 &
Thursday, June 1**
Level 3 Drama Production:
Pride and Prejudice
6.30pm, PA02

Thursday, June 8
Board Show and Market
Evening, E Block, 4pm-6.30pm

**Thursday, June 8 &
Friday, June 9**
Winter Sports Photos

Sport

Photo Essays

Being tested and measured is part of human growth. Studying and preparing, along with the exam experience itself, will help build the skills required for the biggest test of all – the test of life!

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



Football Girls 1st XI v St
Cuthbert's
Click [here](#)

Trials and Registrations
Click [here](#)

Fixtures and Results
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



Putting the fun in fundraiser



Some brave staff and students took a dunking or a cream pie in the face today – all in the name of a good cause.

The lunchtime event was aimed at generating money and sign-ups for the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge. People had to pay to throw a pie or to try to hit a target with a rugby ball to trigger a dunking.

Mr Drumm (pictured at right receiving some water therapy from Ms Williams) was a sought-after target, particularly as he turned up in a suit.

The 40 Hour Challenge is fundraising to provide children

with clean water – participants can make sacrifices for 40 hours such as foregoing food (or technology) in order to raise money.

You can contribute to the MAGS team 40 Hour Challenge [here](#)



Samoan Language Week

Next week is Samoan Language Week, which celebrates the Samoan language and culture.

Some activities at MAGS next week include a Students v. Teachers volleyball game (Thursday lunchtime) and Samoan performances (Friday lunchtime).



There will also be a Samoan Cultural Dress Day (Friday) to encourage teachers and students to come in their Samoan cultural wear.

Students getting streetwise



Year 12 Social Science students visited three locations across Tāmaki Makaurau (Lower Queen Street, Ellerslie and Papatoetoe) yesterday with the aim of gathering field data to prove that the shape, size and purpose of these areas are different to one another.

The fieldwork collection involved surveying members of the public, taking photographs, analysing shop types, noting observations and taking pedestrian counts.

This data will now be presented and conclusions made back in class as part of an internal assessment.

Social Studies and Geography Teacher Mr Hobbs said, "The students/ākonga on this trip were a credit to MAGS as they represented the school with pride in these areas and on the train. Examples

of this were when ākonga frequently gave their seats up for elderly or less mobile people entering the trains and the respect shown to members of the public when approached for surveys.

"Overall, it was a successful day out with fantastic weather."



Online safety seminar for parents



Join us for a free presentation from Netsafe and a discussion for parents and whānau about online safety on Tuesday, June 6 from 6.15pm-7.15pm in the F.W. Gamble Hall. Netsafe's Education Advisor will talk about the risks, challenges and opportunities of digital technology and social media, and the practical ways we can help young people to be

safe online.

There will be plenty of time to answer any questions.

Contact Jess Lythe – jlythe@mags.school.nz – or Tanya Montgomery – tmontgomery@mags.school.nz – for more information.

Art Show giving back to MAGS

SAVING FOR OUR NEW ARTS AND MEDIA VENUE

A significant portion of the proceeds from this year's art show will be directed towards MAGS' new performing arts and media venue.

These subjects provide students with a well-rounded education that includes both creative and academic pursuits. Participation in these programs can also boost students' confidence and self-esteem and provide a sense of community and belonging.



28th - 30th July 2023



Tune in to School TV

"The wellbeing of today's youth has never been more challenging."

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

MAGS has a subscription with SchoolTV to provide a resource for our community that supports the parenting of young people. School TV provides information on a range of topics with comprehensive videos from leading specialists and organisations.

Topics covered include managing screen time, understanding adolescence, raising boys, raising girls, resilience, sleep, nutrition, exam jitters, bullying and mental health.

To access School TV, you can click [here](#) or access it through the MAGS website's parent portal.



Pride and Prejudice next week

Pride and Prejudice follows the turbulent relationship between Elizabeth Bennet, the daughter of a country gentleman, and Fitzwilliam Darcy, an aristocratic landowner.

They must battle to overcome the titular sins of prejudice and pride before they can realise their match. Based on the 1813 novel of manners by Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* combines romance and comedy in a story about love, money and betrayal.

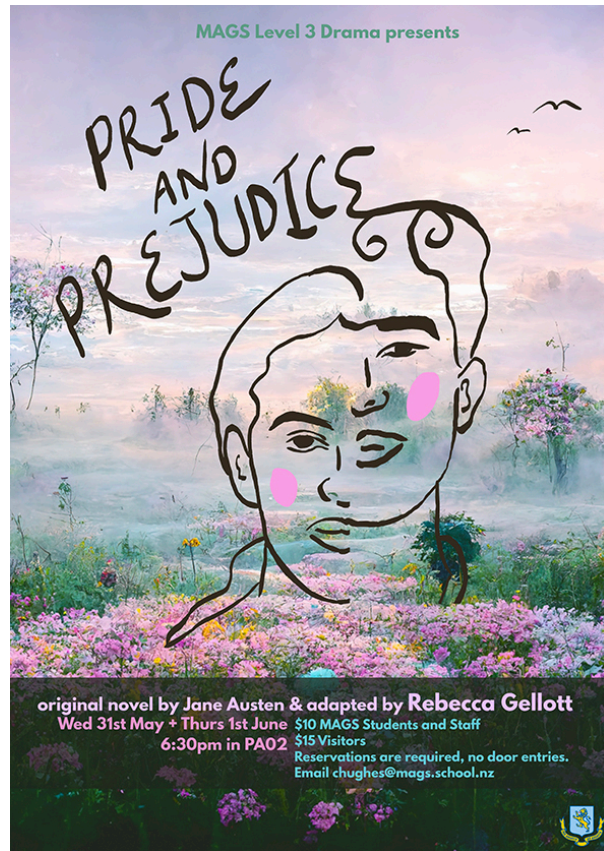
Come and support the Level 3 Drama students in their final MAGS production next week.

We guarantee a show full of laughter, love, beautiful costumes and exceptional performances. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please note there are no door sales.

Email Carmela Hughes to reserve a ticket.

chughes@mags.school.nz



Game for a challenge



On Tuesday, MAGS hosted a second Theatresports Youth Programme buddy match with Avondale.

The students competed in five improvisational theatre games and were judged on their ability to entertain, come up with a coherent story and hold true to the sacred rules of theatre techniques.

A big thank you to Kiva Carr, Mia Gardiner, Belle Horan, Jackson Madhwan, Koru McDonald, Stella Roberts, Chloe Targett and Elijah Yarr for their 'High Socks and High Standards' that bagged MAGS a shared 1st and 2nd place in the match.

Speaking their minds

Our MAGS Word! The Frontline team competed in the regional heats on Tuesday, performing three poems.

Our trio of Lily Curnow, Toby Forster and Ryan Shen took the stage with a thought-provoking poem, emphasising the significance of individuality, imagination, and creativity in today's world.

Mehak Sehgal captivated the audience with a poignant solo, sharing her journey through high school and exploring her future, present, and past selves.

Kaloni Tovo, in her soul-stirring solo performance, expressed the challenges and triumphs of her upbringing.

Overall, the team did very well and left an indelible impression on all who attended.



Term 2 Arts Calendar

WEEK	DATE (S)	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
6	31 st May, 1 st June	LEVEL 3 DRAMA PRODUCTION Pride and Prejudice	PA02	6.30pm
7	8 th June	VISUAL ARTS BOARD SHOW/MARKET EVENING	E Block and Quad	4pm till 6.30pm
7	8 th June	CHAMBER MUSIC COMP	TBC	MAGS Performance times TBC
8	13 th and 14 th June	YODANCE YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL	RFAC EGGS	MAGS Performance 14 th June 7.30pm
8	15 June	Contemporary Music nights	E9 and E10	Time TBC
9	Weds 21st June	THE BIG SING Centennial choir	Auckland Town Hall	1.30 pm session and Gala concert 7.30pm
	Thursday 22 nd June	THE BIG SING Gloriana Choir	Auckland Town Hall	8.30 am session and Gala concert 7.30pm
10	27 th and 28 th June	DANCE CONCERT	RFAC EGGS	7.30 pm
10	29 th June	CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT	RFAC EGGS	7pm
JULY HOLIDAYS	9 TH JULY	BLUEPRINT SCHOOLS HIP HOP COMP	Due Drop Events Centre	MAGS Performance times TBC

Mentor class photos available to order



Mount Albert Grammar School 2023 Mentor Class photos are now available online. Students and parents should have received an email this week with instructions about how to order these photos.

The deadline for orders qualifying for free delivery to MAGS is June 4, 2023.

Orders after this date will pay an extra postage fee.

Boarding tutors required

MAGS has vacancies for tutors in either School House (the boys boarding facility) or Centennial House (the girls boarding facility).

The school has a long tradition of boarding, with School House established in 1927 and Centennial House opening in 2022. We currently have 110 boys living in School House and 25 Girls in Centennial House.

The successful candidate will be expected to support boarding students with their educational and pastoral needs.

These are part-time positions and are ideally suited to tertiary students. The work can be a combination of the following shifts. Please state your preference when applying.

School House

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 7pm - 10pm
- Sunday 8am – 6pm
- Sunday 6pm – 10pm

Centennial House

- Sunday 8am – 6pm

Please refer to Staff Vacancies on the MAGS website [here](#) for a job description and application form.

More bangers for your buck

Buy yourself some gourmet sausages and support MAGS!

The new Strength and Conditioning Facility at MAGS (next to the GL Weir Indoor Sports Centre, and pictured below) is nearly complete and we are now fundraising for the equipment.

In support of MAGS, Neat Meat is offering a great deal at this [link](#)

Organic beef

Neat meat

MAGS WEIGHTS ROOM FUNDRAISER

Pork & Apple

Texas BBQ beef

\$60 worth of product for \$35!
 6 packs per carton (no mixed cartons)
 4 flavours to choose from
 Order here
<https://forms.gle/cTRCBMSyF8PvoD9S6>



Sports Update

AKSS Squash silver medal

After a hard-fought five-set final, Riley McCracken finished as runner-up in the AKSS Division 1 Boys Individual Championships this week.

Riley (pictured at right) pushed the eventual winner, Noah Thomas, from Auckland Grammar, all the way in an entertaining final that could have gone either way.



Getting to grips with bouldering



Last Sunday saw the second round of the ACCS competition – this time bouldering at Northern Rocks.

Bouldering is a test of strategy as well as skill, and is a favourite with many of the MAGS climbers.

Again there was a good team effort from MAGS with Katherine Rogers 15th in Senior Girls, Thomas Roberts 27th in Intermediate Boys, and Ronin Ng 22nd= in the same grade.

Our performances of the day went to Anna Swan, who, despite being only Year 11, was 12th= in the Senior Girls; and Riley Hobbs, who finished 7th=, just one higher rate wall away from a place in the final, in the Intermediate Boys grade. Round 3 will be held later this term.



Curling season well underway

This year's Auckland School Curling Championship is in full swing on Thursday nights.

MAGS have two teams competing: our boys team, which won the Auckland boys grade last year, and our mixed team, which has both experienced and novice players.

Each is off to a good start with both teams registering wins in Round 2 games. Competition runs across both winter terms, culminating in the North Island Championships in Winter Tournament Week.

Our teams are supported on the ice by Albertian Jack Millar, now an umpire, who led our mixed team last year to both Auckland and North Island titles.



Upcoming Premier Sport



Our Basketball Premier Girls and Boys play at home this evening with the former playing St Mary's at 6pm and the latter Auckland Grammar at 7.30pm. The Football Boys 1st XI are also playing Auckland Grammar this evening – at 6pm on the Grammar Turf.

Tomorrow, the Netball Premiers play Baradene at 11.30am at Auckland Netball Centre, and the Rugby Boys 1st XV have another home game – against Kelston Boys at 2.30pm.

On Monday at 4pm, the Rugby Girls 1st XV are away to One Tree Hill College.

On Wednesday, the Rugby League 1st XIII have a pre-season game against Aorere College at 4pm with the venue to be confirmed, the Football Girls 1st XI play away to Glendowie College at 4pm, the Squash Premier Boys take on Takapuna Grammar at 4.15pm at MAGS, and the Hockey Boys 1st XI play Strathallan College at Auckland Grammar with the time to be confirmed.

On Thursday, the Lacrosse Premier Girls play Epsom Girls B in a grading game at 4pm at MAGS, and the Hockey Girls 1st XI play a semifinal with details to be confirmed.

For updated fixtures and results, click [here](#)

A Tradition of Excellence

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland
09 846 2044 www.mags.school.nz

**EXCELLENCE
CONNECTION
& GROWTH**

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