



May 29, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Gagana Samoa



[Key Dates](#)



Talofa Lava to our Mount Albert Grammar School community.

Students have well and truly settled back into the security and routines of MAGS this week. There remains a real positivity about being back at school and the attitude and energy of our young people is to be commended.

This week has also seen the school celebrate Samoan Language Week (vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa) so hopefully you may have heard your sons and daughters practising a few of their newly-learned Samoan greetings around the household.

There are over 600 Pasifika students at MAGS – and over half of those identify as Samoan. Our honours boards are testament to the significant part this community has played in the journey of MAGS – and our current Samoan students continue to write this story today through their success across every dimension of our school.

While this week is an acknowledgement of culture and language, it is the backstory surrounding our Samoan-New Zealanders that resonates with so many of us who call this country home.

The courage of generations, of the not-so-distant past, who left the relative security of their homelands to travel to a new land is simply that ... courageous! Those difficult decisions were driven by hope – not so much for themselves – but hope for their children and grandchildren (that's us!).

It's an inspiring story, which I know is held close by our Pasifika student community, but equally one with relevance to all Kiwis. Thank you to our Samoan and Pasifika students (and staff) for all you do to enrich our MAGS community.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday, June 1

Queen's Birthday Holiday

Thursday, July 2

Last day of classes for Term 2



[Sport](#)



Winter Sport trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

Ia manuia le vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa!

Enjoy the long weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Samoan Language Week



Today was Cultural Dress Day as part of vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa/Samoan Language Week.

Throughout the week, students were encouraged to use Samoan greetings and phrases, and there was also a cultural performance as part of today's [Virtual Assembly](#) in which Headmaster Patrick Drumm recognised the big part that the Pasifika community plays at MAGS.

The Virtual Assembly also featured performances from the Girls Choir, and updates about Smokrefreerockquest and the Arts Challenge.

Money Jam winners



Year 10 Business students (pictured from left) Keira Mulgrew, Jaiden Patel and Amelia Laing won \$500 in Money Jam, an interactive contest designed to change how young New Zealanders think about managing their money. Teacher Steven Avis enrolled his class in the competition – run by government-funded agency Sorted in Schools – after seeing a sign advertising it outside MAGS. The trio picked up a \$500 spot prize for their entry about making budget meals. The money will go into Business student resources.

Arts Challenge update

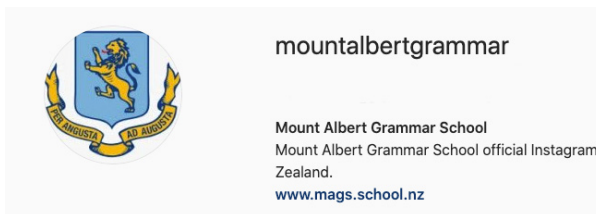
Arts leaders Faolan Okan and Lara Chuo (pictured right) provide an update on the first Arts Challenge in a short video [here](#). Entries have closed for the first challenge, and a new one will be announced next week.

All submissions must be between 30s and 1m30s. There is a link [here](#) to register submissions or you can use the one on Google Classroom form pages. Save your entry to your drive and share with msykes@mags.school.nz



MAGS on Instagram

MAGS has rebooted its Instagram account – [@mountalbertgrammar](https://www.instagram.com/mountalbertgrammar) – and it will feature posts about all things MAGS across the four pillars: Arts and Culture, Service, Sport and Academic. We'll also be tagging the other, more niche MAGS Instagram accounts across those four pillars so you can follow their events and activities.



Junior Dance auditions



Yesterday, Dance Leaders Bethany Fletcher and Samara Brain conducted auditions for the Junior Dance Performance Group. The group will meet on Thursday mornings to work on a repertoire to perform at Junior Bytes and the Dance Concert as well as other school events.



Resumption of Sport

At this stage, College Sport has advised that plans are in place for the resumption of AKSS competitions from June 15.

Most Saturday sport is expected to begin on June 27 or July 4. Draws and a calendar of new events are expected to be published next week. Students should register for their chosen sport and watch the Daily Notices for information about trials and training times.

Rockquest entries



Owing to the current COVID-19 situation, bands and solo acts/duos will record and submit their songs for Smokefreerockquest and Smokefree Tangata Beats via video submission, to be viewed and assessed by judges along with the other entries in each region.

Each act will receive feedback from the judges.

Smokefreerockquest organisers will put the video submissions together to create virtual regional shows that will be posted on their social channels and website, so the competition can be followed through its various stages. Regional and National prizes will still be up for grabs. Video submissions due dates are:

- July 1 for Solo Acts/Duos
- July 24 for Bands and Smokefree Tangata Beats

For more info about the competition click [here](#), and you can watch a short video about the competition by Arts Leaders Kike Ogundipe and Finn Helm [here](#)

Replanting along stream continues



This week, the Year 10 Outdoor Education classes have been planting trees on the ASB MAGS Farm in a cross-curricular lesson as part of their Environmental Care unit. The area along the stream is being revegetated with native plants as part of an ongoing effort to clean up the waterway and boost its biodiversity.

New way to order lunch

A promotional graphic for 'Lunch Orders' featuring a green and blue background. The text 'Lunch Orders' is written in a white, bubbly font with a blue outline. To the right, 'COMING SOON' is written in blue, and 'JUNE 15' is written in large yellow letters. Below this, the text 'ONLINE ORDERING • NEW EAT SMART MENU' and 'CONTACTLESS • QUICK & EASY' is displayed in yellow.

Lunch Orders is coming to Mount Albert Grammar School on June 15 and will provide a convenient and contactless online lunch ordering platform. Users will be able to browse the new Eat Smart menu and order or schedule a nutritionally balanced and affordable meal. The order is then sent to the tuckshop where it will be made fresh on the day. You can find out more about Lunch Orders [here](#)

The smell of space

Astronauts have consistently reported the same strange odour after lengthy space walks, bringing it back in on their suits, helmets, gloves and tools.

It's a bitter, smoky, metallic smell—like seared steak, hot metal and arc welding smoke all rolled into one. Astronauts can't smell it while they're actually bobbing around in it, because the interiors of their space suits just smell plastic-y. But upon stepping back into the space station and removing their helmets, they get a strong, distinctive whiff of the final frontier.

Steven Pearce, a chemist hired by NASA to recreate the space odour on Earth for astronaut training purposes, said the metallic aspect of the scent may come from high-energy vibrations of ions. But astronauts don't dislike the sharp smell of space, necessarily. NASA astronaut Don Pettit described it this way after a mission back in 2003: "The best description I can come up with is metallic; a rather pleasant sweet metallic sensation. It reminded me of my college summers where I laboured for many hours with an arc welding torch repairing heavy equipment for a small logging outfit. That is the smell of space." There are more fascinating insights about outer space on the MAGS Astronomy Club's Instagram [here](#)



A different era

Mt. Albert Grammar School
Prefects, 1939

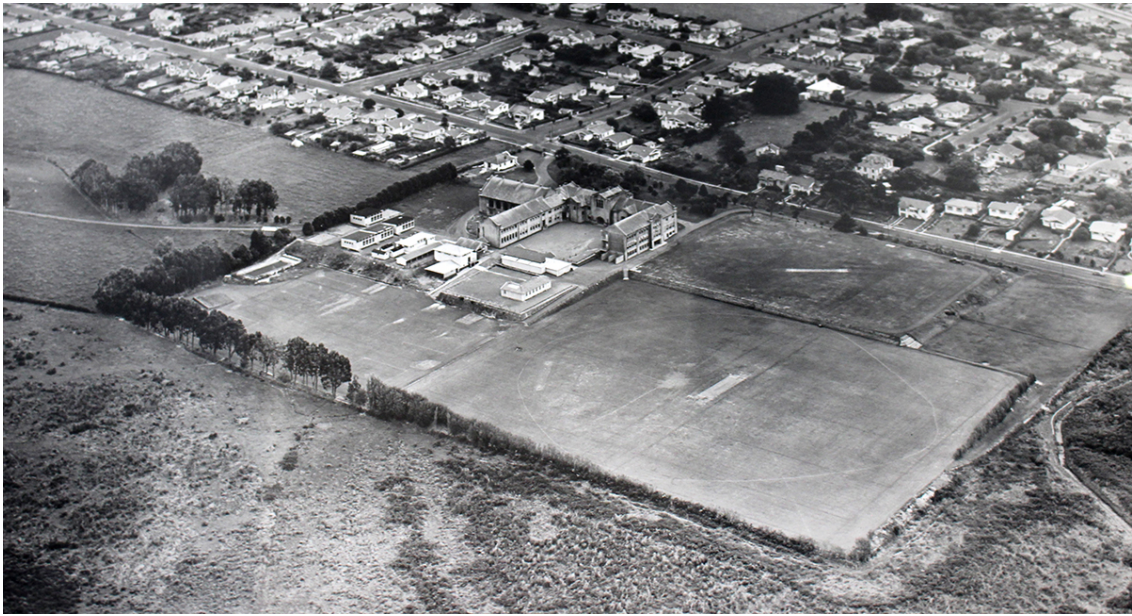


ALAN BLAKEY STUDIO

Back Row—K. L. Piper, L. I. D. Collard, K. L. Shaw, A. F. Tucker, H. J. H. Irvine, D. A. Anderson, W. H. Hickson, R. Amore
Front Row—M. L. Pulham, C. L. Cleal, O. G. McGregor, D. W. Rollinson (Head Prefect), K. H. Hemus, J. F. Sloman, R. F. Burton

Many in this group of Prefects photographed in 1939 served the war effort. You can find out more about this image, which is part of Set 39, the most recent collection of historical images added to the website [here](#). This is an ongoing collection of images sourced and annotated by our archivist, Brian Murphy.

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

Student Sport Spotlight



This week we feature twins Hannah and Natalie Brook, who were jointly awarded the Junior Victrix Ludorum for the best performing junior sport girls in the school. This was the first time this award has been shared in the school's history.

The Year 11 girls represent Mount Albert Grammar in a wide range of sports, including football, cricket, squash and cross country.

You can read about their sporting journey [here](#)

Twins' surf boat success



Just prior to lockdown, twins Niamh and Molly Brittenden (pictured above third from left and fourth from left respectively) won three Gold medals as part of the Piha Surf Life Saving Club's U19 surf boat crew at the Surf Life Saving National Championships in Gisborne.

Their Piha Piranhas crew won the Female U19 short course and long course events and then stepped up a grade and took out the Female U23 short course event.

This was their first year competing as 'boaties', and they went into nationals as hot favourites as they had won all the competitions they entered throughout the summer except for one, where they got silver. They had often raced up in the U23s at carnivals, as part of their preparation for nationals, and had wins in those events.

They are aiming to be chosen as the NZ boat next season for their age group, and compete in some events in Australia.

Trials and registrations

With trials back on, the Sports Department is asking students to 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.



General Notices

From tomorrow, Alberton is hosting an exhibition by Mt Eden artist Emma Bass. Adorning the walls of the historic ballroom as part of the exhibition The Impossible Garden for the Auckland Festival of Photography, the richly decorative works blur the boundaries between photography, painting and collage.

Emma will also be in conversation with Aimee Rafini, from Art Ache, on Sunday, 7 June at 2pm, followed by tea. Bookings required as places are limited.

Contact alberton@heritage.org.nz or ph 8467367.

The exhibition is free entry and runs until 26 July.



Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025
Tel:64 9 846 2044 Fax:64 9 846 2042
www.mags.school.nz

Copyright © 2020 Mount Albert Grammar School, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)