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Week 1, Term 2, May 4, 2018 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Latest ERO Review – An Affirmation of Excellence



“The school is highly effective in achieving equitable and excellent outcomes for its students.” – (ERO Evaluation Mount Albert Grammar School 2018)

The Education Review Office has published its confirmed evaluation report following their visit and review of Mount

Albert Grammar School in Term One.

The report strongly endorses the work of our teaching staff in providing the highest quality learning experience for our students. Affirmation of governance and the strategic direction of the school is a common theme throughout the report.

The MAGS community, both current and future, can draw great confidence and assurance from the ERO findings.

Thank you again to all those who contributed to the review process and thank you to those whose work continues to make MAGS the special place it is today.

Our challenge is now to lift our school to an even higher place in the time ahead.

A full copy of the ERO report can be found [here](#)

Have a good weekend

Patrick Drumm

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

[Click here for the 2018 Calendar](#)

Saturday, May 5

First XV Rugby v St Kentigern, 2.30pm at MAGS

Tuesday, May 8

Boys Cross Country

Thursday, May 10

Girls Cross Country



Sport



Photo Essay

Football Girls First XI v Massey

[Click here](#)

Registration and trials for summer and winter sports

[Click here](#)

Fixtures and results

[Click here](#)

Farm appoints Experience Centre Development Manager



Peter Brice has been appointed as the ASB MAGS Farm Experience Centre Development Manager.

Mr Brice will be driving the planning, design and funding of the \$14 million Experience Centre, which will be the centrepiece of the 8ha farm and give students and visitors a world-class experience and educational environment with classrooms, an exhibition space and a seminar area.

It is hoped that the Experience Centre will open in 2020 and take up to 500 students a year and also demonstrate the innovation, science and environmental best-practice used in farming to around 25,000 Auckland school students every year.

The Experience Centre will have five new classrooms and in addition to the seminar and exhibition spaces it will have shearing and milking facilities and machinery bays. It will also have a hydroponics building and overlook neighbouring horticulture and viticulture blocks.

For more info on the redevelopment of the ASB MAGS Farm, click [here](#)

Megacrew magic



Following on from the MAGS Megacrew's stunning victory at the Street Dance New Zealand National Megaschool Championships, several MAGS dancers have once again qualified to represent NZ at The World Hip Hop Dance Championship in Arizona in August.

Tai Hemana, Remy Sutton, William Tuarae, Faolan Okan, Karissa Tapu and Moanekah Va'ai were members of teams that qualified for the Varsity division, and the above boys plus Sophie Houghton and Amelia Worsley were also members of the NZ champion Megacrew team YUNG ID run by Albertian Josh Cesan that will represent NZ in that division.

Director of Arts Co-Curricular Jacqui Cesan said, "Extra congratulations must also go Faolan Okan, who, around his hectic Hip Hop schedule, also found time to compete in the ACDA National Young Performer Nomination competition for Tap. Faolan not only got the nomination to compete in the National Young Performer of the Year Award, but also got an unprecedented 100 per cent for his performance."

Shakespeare - but not as you know it

MAGS participants were praised for creative directing and quality performances at the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival.

Students and teachers took part in the festival's Auckland Central region show held at Diocesan School for Girls.

Student-directed scenes included an all-female fight scene from Romeo and Juliet directed by Seamus Stalker, a 1920s inspired take on A Midsummer Night's Dream directed by Rachel Simpson, and a jazz version of Othello directed by Zoe Holden. There was also an Aussie bogan interpretation of The Mechanicals (from a Midsummer Night's Dream) directed by Miss Carmela Hughes in the teacher-directed section.

Head of Drama Gerald Urquhart said that the Student Leaders for Sheilah Winn – Alec Ross and Rachel Simpson – did a great job of organising, and the input from the student director assistants was very helpful.

He added: "Finally, a large thank you to the friends, family and former students who filled a third of the audience for this multi-school festival. It was impressive and your ongoing support is very much appreciated."



Relay for Life cracks \$100,000 barrier



MAGS Relay for Life team celebrated their amazing fundraising efforts yesterday with a team photo and were greeted with the news that they had raised more than \$100,000 for the Cancer Society.

Students took part in the sponsored run at the Millennium Institute on the North Shore on March 10 & 11, with 292 MAGS students running a total of 25,000 laps. Their total raised now sits at \$100,294.30 and is by far the highest among schools across the country. The Cancer Society is making a promotional video featuring MAGS students to inspire other schools to match their efforts.

MAGS' Relay for Life organiser Alayna Pulham says because of the students' impressive efforts, 16 chemistry/science students who made an outstanding contribution would be offered the opportunity to go on a small tour of the cancer research centre to have a look at where some of that fundraising money goes. Students should keep an eye on Notices to see if they meet the criteria and to find out how to apply.

Talking about teenagers

MAGS is excited to host the highly popular talk "Understanding Your Teen" presented by the Parenting Place on Tuesday, 8 May at 6.30pm.

This highly recommended talk is free and full of tips, information and facts about raising successful teenagers and has been popular throughout New Zealand.

For more info about the evening, click [here](#)

For parents who are concerned about online safety for their children, click [here](#) for a brochure produced by Netsafe, an independent, non-profit New Zealand organisation.



High achievers hosted at special events

Miriam Leonhardt was one of 20 students nationwide to be invited to attend the Elaine P Snowden Astronomy School.

The five-day, expenses-paid camp took place at University of Canterbury's Ilam campus in Christchurch and the Mt John Observatory in Tekapo.

Year 13 student Miriam said they had mini-lectures on physics and astrophysics covering topics such as spectroscopy, neutrinos and the history of the universe, and spent two days at Mt John using the biggest telescope in the country.



Miriam, who has a passion for maths and physics, said it was a fascinating experience and an opportunity to meet like-minded people.

Around the same time, Logan Allomes attended the Youth EnviroLeaders Forum in Taranaki with 55 other students from around the country.



Logan, who is a member of the EnviroClub, said the week-long programme was focused on climate change and environmental leadership.

While he is primarily interested in physics, Logan says events such as the forum provide great background knowledge and open up other avenues.

The Youth EnviroLeaders Forum is an annual event run in partnership with the Ministry for the Environment and the Sir Peter Blake Trust.

It is designed to inspire and build the capability of young environmental leaders so they can effect change.

Sports update

First XV faces biggest challenge in season opener



First XV Rugby Coach Geoff Moon is under no illusions about the challenge his team faces tomorrow when they kick off the season against St Kentigern College at MAGS at 2.30pm.

"We are definitely the underdogs against what is probably the strongest school team in the country and one that is expected to win the competition," Mr Moon said. "But we were the underdogs last year and we beat them. And as underdogs we have got a plan about how to take them on."

Mr Moon said his side, captained by Terrell Peita, was inexperienced with 10 players making their debut but mature in that most of the team were Year 13s.

The team began training on January 20 with skills and strength and conditioning work but Mr Moon said the focus of the past six weeks has been on building a good culture.

The first rugby game of four tomorrow at MAGS is the U14 Boys v Auckland Grammar at 9.15am.

Supporters and spectators are advised that parking restrictions still apply in the school grounds on weekends. For more info, [click here](#)

Brearna Crawford picked for NZ team

Congratulations to Brearna Crawford, who has been selected for the New Zealand team to compete at the Australia State Swimming Championships in Canberra in October.

The announcement comes after she collected seven golds and broke several records at the National Age Group Swimming Championships held at the Millennium Institute on the North Shore.

In the Girls 15 Years division, she set a New Zealand record in the 50m Butterfly, and set three Auckland records (in the 50m Breast Stroke, and the 50m and 100m Butterfly). Her seven Golds came in the 50m Freestyle, Breast Stroke, Butterfly, 100m Breast Stroke, Butterfly, and in the 200m Breast Stroke and Individual Medley. She also picked up a Bronze in the 100m Freestyle.



Edie Ancell (Girls 13 Years) won her first National Age Group medal, claiming Silver with a personal best of 28.0sec in the 50m Freestyle.

Click [here](#) for a full report

Girls Water Polo grab bronze



The MAGS Senior Girls Water Polo team claimed Bronze at the NZ Secondary Schools Tournament held in Rotorua. The team only just missed out on playing off for a Gold or Silver after losing to EGGs in a penalty shoot-out in the semi-finals. They had some great wins, 7-4 v John Paul, 5-0 v Takapuna, 5-0 v Cambridge High, and 7-3 v Waikato Dio, along with a 2-2 draw with EGGs and a 6-11 loss to St Margaret's, who were the overall winners of the tournament. It was a very successful tournament, placing third out of 17 teams in the competition and with Caitlin Mossman being named in the Tournament Team.

Fencers prove their point



MAGS' fencers swept the NZ U17 boys division at the National Fencing Competition in Wellington during the school holidays. Charlie Bioletti won the competition, with James Butler 2nd and Gio Aguila in 3rd place. They are pictured with fencing coach Kyle MacDonald. Amey Smith, pictured right, also won gold – retaining her NZ U17 Girls title. Aidan Meyer won Silver in the NZ U15 Mixed Division, while Lucy Henshaw was the top-placed U15 girl in the U15 Mixed event.

Convincing win first-up

The opening game of the season saw the Football Girls First XI beat Massey High School 6-1 at MAGS on Wednesday. Alia Smith opened the scoring with her first goal for MAGS but a couple of mistakes let Massey level the scores. Then one of the best players in the first half in Kathryn Gow put MAGS back in front. Pippi Butterworth came off the bench in the second half to make it 3-1 in her first game in the top side. Year 9 student Sharon Tomokino in her first game for the school added another goal before Pippi Butterworth scored again. Rosa Muru also struck in her first game for the team to complete the scoring. Player of the game was Samara Dullabh.

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



Hockey Girls go down fighting

In a sometimes scrappy affair, MAGS' Hockey Girls First XI lost their opening match of the season 1-0 to Macleans College yesterday. Nerves from debutants and poor option-taking hampered MAGS in the first half but stand-in 'keeper Rosie Veldkemp held strong. MAGS had possession and territory in the second half but couldn't find a way past the Macleans 'keeper. One goal by Macleans was enough to decide the match. Meanwhile, the Hockey Boys First XI, who also played Macleans, won 2-1.

For a photo essay of the Girls First XI game, click [here](#)



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](#)

General notices

Alberton Mother's Day workshops

Fresh flowers, vintage tea cups and the traditional handicrafts of felting, beading and crochet come together at Alberton in a programme of classes on Mother's Day weekend.

You can make something for or with mum, or just come along yourself to learn and create in the ambient setting of the ballroom.

Following the classes, enjoy afternoon tea on the verandah served from the vintage china and silverware. Tickets also include entry to explore the house.

Saturday, 12 May

10.30am: Vintage tea cup and glassware arrangements with Olwyn Bertram-Ellison, floral designer and Alberton Gardener. \$55 (2 hours).

10.30am: Beaded crochet bowl/jug cover with Megan Mills, heirloom sewer and teacher of traditional handicrafts. \$40 (3 hours).

Sunday, 13 May

10.30am: Felted, embellished and beaded cards with Evelyn Davis, artist, Storytelling Threads. \$45 (2 hours).

Bookings are essential as places are limited. To book, contact Alberton at alberton@heritage.org.nz or ph 846 7367.

Alberton
HANDMADE
for **MOTHER**



Saturday 12 May 10:30
Vintage teacup and
glassware floral
arrangements (\$55)

Saturday 12 May 10:30
Beaded crochet bowl
cover - intermediate (\$40)



Sunday 13 May 10:30
Felted and embellished
cards (\$44)

All workshops include afternoon tea and house entry.
Bookings essential: alberton@heritage.org.nz. 846 7367



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