



Week 3, Term 4, November 1, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

# Academia – Our Primary Pillar



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

At our Senior Prizegiving yesterday we celebrated the best of the best of our academic superstars at MAGS.

We are a school that prides itself on the diversity and breadth of educational experiences we offer. There is something for everyone at MAGS and

the best students seize the opportunities on offer across our four pillars.

But it is the academic pillar that will always hold primacy in our school. Prioritising academic success above all else is a non-negotiable at MAGS and our broad education has a purpose of feeding into this key measure of success. NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship are the keys to opening doors for the future – one that must involve further learning in a tertiary, trades or work setting. Failing to reach our potential with school qualifications means that all else that we do is in vain.



So it was a delight to see our academic prizewinners walk across the stage yesterday. Many of their names will soon appear in gold on the walls of the F.W. Gamble Hall, continuing the academic legacy of our school. These students are setting the standard for those that will follow.

Congratulations in particular to our 2019 Dux, Matilda Clack, and Proxime Accessit, Adam Bateman.

All the best to every senior student as they commence their final preparations for the upcoming NCEA Examination round. Work hard over the time ahead as you strive to be the best you can be!

Have a good weekend.

## Weekly Notices



### Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

#### Monday, November 4

Te Puna o Wairaka Dinner

#### Tuesday, November 5

Girls Academic Testing and Sports Academy Trials (details below)

#### Wednesday, November 6

Boys Academic Testing and Sports Academy Trials (details below)

#### Wednesday, November 13

BYOD Drop-in Session, 3.30pm to 6.30pm (details below)



### Sport

#### Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

#### Photo Essay



Boys Sevens U15s tournament

Click [here](#)

## Senior Prizegiving



The Mount Albert Grammar School Dux for 2019 is Matilda Clack, pictured with Adam Bateman, who was named Proxime Accedit. Both were also awarded Chris Liddell Scholarships at Senior Prizegiving in the F.W. Gamble Hall yesterday. The Chris Liddell



Scholarships are each worth \$5000 per year for three years and are granted to students who show strong academic potential and are also good all-rounders. They were presented by Chris Liddell's sister Dr Hilary Liddell, with brother John Liddell also in attendance at prizegiving.

Adam also won The FW Gamble Memorial Cup for Best All-Round Boy in Year 13 and was awarded a Gold Lion. Head Girl Takunda Muzondiwa won the Prefects' Cup for Best All-Round Girl in Year 13, and was re-awarded a Gold Lion.

Head Prefects Takunda Muzondiwa and Germain Hellriegel-White, who MC'ed the ceremony, gave their farewell speeches, thanking staff, peers and parents – and providing

some humorous insights into life at MAGS.

The top teaching awards were also presented. Year 13 Boys Dean Andy Belson received the Herb Towers Travel Prize for a professional development trip overseas. Chris Liddell also awards Teacher Scholarships worth \$5000 each for excellence in teaching and contribution to the school, and these went to Haana Bovaird (Year 10 Girls Dean) and Carissa Calvert (Assistant HOF English).

For a full list of winners and and more photos from the prizegiving, click [here](#)

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## Arts Awards Dinner



The Dux Artiums for 2019 are Takunda Muzondiwa and Faolan Okan (pictured above), who also took home other major awards at the Arts Dinner on Wednesday night.

Takunda was also awarded Best Actress, the Public speaking Award, Spoken Word Poetry Award and the trophy for Outstanding Extra-curricular Representation.

Faolan also won Best Actor, Most Outstanding Male Dancer, Most Promising Filmmaker, and Creative Vision in Drama.

The Arts Dinner celebrated the depth and breadth of students' talents as well as their dedication to the Arts.

Performances and displays on the night showed excellence across Cultural Performing Arts, Dance, Drama, Media Studies, Music, Speech and Debating, and Photography and Visual Arts.

The Outstanding Arts Service Award went to Jake Paxton, pictured above right.

Director of Arts Co-curricular Jacqui Cesan echoed the sentiments of the other teachers on

the night when she said the Year 13s would be sorely missed not only for their dazzling talents but also for their hard work behind the scenes that made productions and performances possible. You can see more photos from the night and read a full list of award winners [here](#)



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## Gold Lions of 2019



*Gold Lion winners for 2019, pictured from left with Headmaster Patrick Drumm, are: Eva Williams, Tara Fausett, Takunda Muzondiwa, Claudia Saunders, Adam Bateman, Germain Hellriegel-White and Logan Allomes.*

Head Girl Takunda Muzondiwa added to her many accolades when she became the first MAGS student to receive two Gold Lions since the inception of the award in 2015. The Gold Lion is a prestigious award that goes to winners of all four MAGS Lions for Sport, Arts, Service and as Scholars.

Takunda was awarded a Gold Lion last year in Year 12 and re-awarded it this year at Senior Prizegiving yesterday.

Tara Fausett followed in her footsteps by becoming only the second Year 12 student to be awarded a Gold Lion.

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## Prefects for 2020 announced

MAGS is very excited to announce the leadership group who have been chosen from an exceptional field of students through a rigorous process.

The Prefect's role carries great responsibility around service leadership and guardianship of our school culture.

All 2020 Prefects must attend the compulsory Prefects Convention (Saturday, 7 December – Monday, 9 December) to be held at MAGS School House this year.

The current Head Boy (Germain Hellriegel-White) and Head Girl (Takunda Muzondiwa) will hand over the korowai donated by the Gallagher-Sullivan family to their successors when the Head Boy and Head Girl for 2020 are announced in early December.

Congratulations to all our 2020 Prefects on their appointment. We trust that the 2020 Year 13 student body will support this group in their significant role.



### 2020 Prefects:

**Norah Anderson, Adi Ashok, Joshua Baker, Tayla Bamber, Bailey Bennett, Samuel Chote, Lara Chuo, Oscar Clark, Theodore Coker-Grey, Jack Conder, Brearna Crawford, Luca Eastwood, Sila Esekielu, Tara Fausett, Schneider Fernandes, Tuiaki Fiuloi, Bethany Fletcher, Cynthia Gao, Finn Helm, Nanaka Inaba, Abby Irwin, Kailah Johnson, Blake Jowsey, Flynn Lakeman, David Laxon, Latonya Lole, Ayleigh Loomes, Ruby Maoate, Eloise Muir, Kareena Naran, Vaibhav Nayyar, Quinton Nichols, Kike Ogundipe, Faolan Okan, Andre Pickering, Niua Pomare-Khanna, Alexander Pullen, Marieke Richards, Eric Shen, Meadow Simpson, Aidan Skinner, Jaime Spencer, Milan Stevenson, Sataan Tawera, Isla Thompson, Iosefa Ulugia-Pua, Ronette Va'ai, Lois Wadsworth, Megan Williams, Claudia Woods.**

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## Pasifika Dinner celebrates excellence



At the Pasifika Prizegiving Dinner last Friday, Alyssa Houma was named Best All Round MAGS Pasifika Student for 2019.

Deputy Head Girl Alyssa, who is pictured above with Pasifika Initiatives Coordinator Va Anisi and Headmaster Patrick Drumm, has also earned six scholarships.

She also MC'ed the event with Deputy Head Boy DaRhys Simone, who was a co-winner (with Theresa Anisi) of the Ah Kuoi Family Cup for Services to MAGS Pasifika and co-winner (with Tuiaki Fiuloi) of the Tagaloa Peter Su'a Award for Performing Arts (pictured right), and has also earned two scholarships.

The Top Year 13 Pasifika Academic Student was Lovely Pulotu, while Ruby Maoate was named Top Year 12 Pasifika Academic and Best All Round Pasifika Student. Top Year 11 Pasifika Academic and Best All Round Pasifika Students were Leilani Ginnen and Marcus Savelio.

For more photos and a full list of winners on the night, click [here](#)



## BYOD Drop-in Session

There will be a BYOD drop-in question time from 3.30pm to 6.30pm on Wednesday, 13 November in the school library.

Parents are encouraged to come along to discuss which device from those recommended will best suit their child's needs.

The school is reviewing which device is best suited for our students' needs.

Please do not purchase a BYOD device at the moment. Information will be published in Week 4 of Term 4, 2019 concerning our preferred devices, with relevant specifications and guidance for parents.

Smartphones are not considered as a suitable main device in the BYOD programme, but can be used in class for educational purposes with teacher approval.

Please feel free to e-mail Mrs Elise Goddard if [the BYOD pages](#) do not answer your queries.

Director of E-Learning: [egoddard@mags.school.nz](mailto:egoddard@mags.school.nz)

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## Sign up to 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 and communications leading up to the Centenary celebration.

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## Year 13 Leavers Celebrations

The Year 13 Graduation Ceremony and Celebration will take place at MAGS on Tuesday, 3 December from 5pm.

We will be hosting a two-part 'formal dress' event for students and parents, commencing with a formal ceremony held in the F. W. Gamble Hall followed by a 'street food' buffet banquet and celebrations.

The MAGS Lions of 2019 will have this one last opportunity to celebrate their time at MAGS alongside their peers and teachers, before officially becoming Albertians.

We encourage everyone who can make it to come and enjoy this event.

Tickets are \$35 per head and available for purchase from the Finance Office until Tuesday, 19 November.

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## Seniors must be in uniform

Seniors visiting MAGS for any reason during study leave must be in school uniform to ensure the safety and security of staff and fellow students.

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## Year 8 Academic Testing and Academy Trials

Students starting Year 9 in 2020 will have their Academic Testing conducted on the mornings of Tuesday, 5 November for girls and Wednesday, 6 November for boys. Sports Academy trials, for those taking part, will be run in the afternoons.

### **MAGS Academic Testing**

Year 8 Girls – Tuesday, 5 November – 9.00am-12.00pm (approximately).

Year 8 Boys – Wednesday, 6 November – 9.00am-12.00pm (approximately).

### **MAGS Year 9 Sports Academies Trials** (after a brief lunch break)

Year 8 Girls – Tuesday, 5 November – 12.30pm-2.30pm.

Year 8 Boys – Wednesday, 6 November – 12.30pm-2.30pm.

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## Sports update

### Successful start to rowing season





Racing last Saturday at Lake Pupuke, MAGSRow had a successful start to the season. Strong tailwind conditions in choppy water saw all the smaller boat events cancelled and many of the Novice events cancelled. Races were run over 1000m. Our junior crews made a strong showing. Both the Girls Under 15 and Under 16 eights won their races. There were second places for another Girls Under 15 eight as well as three Boys crews: Under 15 Eight, Under 15 Quad and Under 16 Coxed Four. Another three girls crews finished in 3rd place in their races: the Under 15 Quad Sculls, Under 16 Coxed Four and the Under 17 Quad Sculls. The next regatta will take place at Lake Karapiro on November 16/17 where the race distance increases to 2000m.

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## Milly Clegg named for NZ Football



Congratulations to footballer Milly Clegg, who, at only 14 years of age, has been named as one of 18 players selected for the New Zealand team to play at the OFC U-16 Women's Championship held in Papeete, Tahiti in December.

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