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**MOUNT ALBERT
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

A Tradition of Excellence

CENTENARY
100
1922-2022

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November 11, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

You've Got to Show Up!

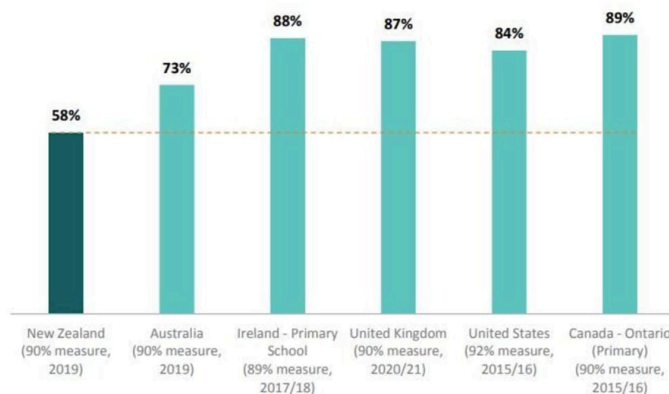


Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

It's been said before that 80% of being successful in life is showing up.

These words resonated loudly this week with the release of an Education Review Office report highlighting the disturbing school attendance statistics for New Zealand students.

The graph below (please click on it to enlarge) speaks for itself when comparing regular attendance of school students across different countries. And remember that even if someone is classified as attending school regularly (i.e. 90% attendance), that still means they are missing one day of school every fortnight!



Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Friday, November 18; Monday, November 21 & Tuesday, November 22
Year 10 Extra-Curricular Days

Tuesday, November 29
Year 10 Interform Competition



Thursday, December 1
Year 9 Interform Competition

Friday, December 2
NCEA Exams end

Sunday, December 4 to Wednesday, December 7
Prefects Camp, School House

Tuesday, December 6
Last day of classes
Year 10 Prizegiving, 9.30am
Year 9 Prizegiving, 1pm

This report comes on the back of the Ministry of Education announcing that two-thirds of Kiwi students failed the recent NCEA writing standards. Unbelievably, only 2% of students in Decile 1 schools passed the standard!

There are many places to point fingers as to the causes behind these results. The usual suspects – poverty, social media impact, lack of rigour in some school curricula – these will all play a part in this complex issue.

But the correlation between school attendance and academic success is often overlooked.

Simply – if you turn up to school, every lesson, every day – you are much more likely to be academically (and socially) successful. Our MAGS data shows this as does our national school data.

We enjoy high levels of student attendance at MAGS – but we can still do better!

It's certainly not rocket science – being present matters.

Have a good weekend – and looking forward to seeing every junior MAGS student at school on Monday!

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

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

Sport

Trials and Registrations

Click [here](#)



Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)



Arts Awards Dinner



The wealth of talent in Performing Arts, Visual Art and Media Studies was recognised and celebrated at the Arts Award Dinner held at Sorrento in the Park last Friday.

Jorja Stevens and Josh Li (pictured below right) were named Girls Dux Artium and Boys Dux Artium respectively.

Jorja, an Arts Lion, was 2022 Arts Leader in Design, Media, and Theatresports and has 30 credits at excellence already in Arts subjects before externals this year. She has been Endorsed with Excellence in all NCEA Arts subjects at Level 1 and Level 2, and Drama Level 3 as a Year 12.

She has been a winner of awards at prizegiving in Arts each year since Year 9, and this year also won Best Sheilah Winn performer for Drama, Excellence in Design, and Excellence in Film-making.

Jorja has been an active participant in Theatresports, Sheilah Winn Shakespeare, the Musical Theatre group and many Visual Arts groups.

Josh Li is a two-time Arts Lion recipient, Arts Prefect, Music Leader, and co-leader of the Centennial Choir, which he has been a member of since its inception.

He has already achieved NCEA Level 3 with 30 credits at Excellence in Arts subjects prior to externals.

He has won awards in Music each year he has been at MAGS, and this year won awards for Service to the Choral programme and Outstanding Arts Service.



The awards evening, which was MC'ed by Albertian Tali Meavale, also saw several performances: Jackson Absolum-Leuluso'o, Manas Chigurukota, Isaac Chisholm, Isaiah Nin, Viliami 'Ofamo'oni and Nathan Setefano sang *End of the Road* (accompanied by Josh Li on keys); Eve Thompson performed a self-devised piece about Mary Queen of Scots, and Mr Watson and Bill Liu (pictured below) played a guitar piece, *Stella by Starlight*. There were also video presentations by the Dance Department and Media Studies.

You can read a full report and see more photos and all the award winners [here](#)



Te Puna o Wairaka Dinner



Te Puna o Wairaka was finally able to celebrate its top students and send its Year 13 Leavers off in style at its awards dinner on Monday night after last year's event was held online due to Covid.

The awards dinner at Te Mahurehure Marae was MC'ed by Puna students Waimarie Tawera and Stuart Renata (pictured below), and featured Albertian Lincoln Savage as guest speaker.

Mr Savage, who worked as a high school teacher for many years, was introduced by HOF Te Puna o Wairaka Waimirangi Paul, who had been one of his students.



He spoke on the theme of the whakataukī 'He manako te koura i kore ai' ('A crayfish won't jump in your net, just because you wish it in there'). He said hard work, determination and dedication at MAGS had helped him to become a Deputy Head Prefect, an athletics champion, a swimming champion and captain of the 1st XV. He had also helped to set up kapa haka at MAGS by approaching the Headmaster at the time – Greg Taylor – about the need for such a group and then following through when he got permission.

He said that whakataukī had served him well throughout life, and it was one that Puna students could use as their mantra.

When it came to the prizes, Aleisha Roulston won the Top Senior Academic Award, while Jackson Absolum-Leuluso'o was named All-Round Top Senior Student.

Isaiah Nin won the "Manu Tute" Award For Services to Puna and the wider community, while Bree Tipene received the "He toka tū" Award For Contribution to Kapa Haka.

Sasha Tobin was All-Round Top Junior Girl, and the All-Round Top Junior Boy was Jarom

Rowell. The Top Junior Academic Award went to Kingston Ballantyne. The award for Top Senior Māori Language Orator went to Hokioramai Dunn, and Awanui Hope was named Top Junior Māori Language Orator. When it came to sports achievement, Gabreyl Tahitahi won the top junior award and Dani Ah Chee-Wilson the top senior award.

You can see more photos from the event [here](#)



School Ball a blockbuster



The School Ball at the Pullman Hotel last Saturday night was another fantastic occasion thanks to the efforts of staff and the Ball Committee.

The 'Movie Night' theme was realised by the Ball Committee along with Mrs Cato, Ms Smith and Ms Butler, who set the scene for the night. The ballroom entrance had movie posters, a star-studded, roped-off celebrity walkway and the ballroom was decked out in black, silver and gold with tables decorated with film reels and clapperboards.

White Door Event Photography was organised to video and photograph the evening, and the students had the use of different themed photo booths to capture the glamour of the evening. There were also awards given out on the night (some not so serious):

Cutest Couple – Wesley Donald and

Matisse Laskey, Best Dressed – Blaise

King, Best Dressed to theme – Paris Campbell, Best Dancer – Oliver Fox,

Life of the Party – Ben Hellriegel, Best Dressed Teacher – Haana Bovaird, Most Likely to be

Asked for ID at 30 – Calvin Pooley, Worst Mullet – Connor Stulich.



2023 Prefects announced



MAGS is very excited to announce the 2023 student 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 2023 Prefects must attend the compulsory Prefects Camp (December 4-7) to be held at MAGS' School House.

Congratulations to all our 2023 Prefects on their appointment. We trust that the 2023 Year 13 student body will support this group in their significant role.

2023 Prefects:

Violani Afoa, Kairo Ah Kuoi-Simich, Kalani Ah Sue, Shayyan Ali, Leila Belt, Olivia Bennett, Jacob Cameron, Kade Cartwright, Hokioramai Dunn, Luke Eagles-Smith, Ella Edwards, Jamie Eickhoff, Isaiah Fale, Josie Gaoa, Ikaika Hanks-Papali'i, Mihimere Hope, Nikau Hopwood, Bella Houghton, Celestine Howard, Keera Ieriko, Lucia Jack, Sahil Kirpalani, Angie Lolohea, Taiarahia Moataane-Mika, Eva Moody, Hannah Moy, Ashleigh Muir, Tyler Ngawati, Bill Nguyen, India O'Neill, Jaiden Patel, Ohm Patel, Siena Pound, Emily Rednall, Stuart Renata, Benjamin Roache, Lizzy Robins, Phonephimonh Monh Sabanhdit, Andrew Samuels, Mehak Sehgal, Mridul Singh, Summer Temu, Tito Tipi, Kaloni Tovo, Maya Vince, Jude Wilson.

Order your 2022 Albertian now

Our Finance Department is now taking orders for The Albertian 2022, which will be available in 2023.

The yearbook can be delivered to Year 13 students, rather than picked up from MAGS, for a small extra cost.

Please click [here](#) and fill out the form to order your copy of The Albertian 2022.



The Albertian
2022

The ASB MAGS Farm – A Short Summary



The driving force behind the ASB MAGS Farm was the local Council of the New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, which wanted rural subjects taught in some school or other, preferably a specialised one.

Various manoeuvres involved the NZIH, the ASB, the Government, the Auckland Grammar School Board of Governors, the Headmaster and some minor punters. The upshot was that this School was in a serendipitous position. The last 20 acres of the Kerr-Taylor home farm was on the market, the land was contiguous with the School, it was the depth of the Great Depression, a School Farm was an idea whose time had come.

The Auckland Savings Bank purchased the land, the Grammar School Board leased it, and

we had access on 1 May 1933, a year after negotiations began.

Two acres were sub-leased to the DSIR for a Citrus Test Orchard of 116 trees. The School planted a mixed orchard of 72 trees. Seventy six boys were studying agriculture that first year.

Animals were introduced in 1934: a bull, six Jersey cows and three calves, an unspecified small number of sheep and pigs, horses for ploughing, and bees. A hive of activities.

There was a series of part-time farm managers for the first 10 years. Then the position became full-time and has been ever since. The most significant, by a long stretch, was Ces Honeybun, 1956-1985, who set up the farm as a profitable concern with annually renovated pastures and pedigree studs of sheep and pigs. They won awards in Agricultural Shows year after year.

The farm is ever-changing; there is now a block of kiwifruit, a wetland planted in endemic trees and a thriving Horticultural Unit, harkening back to the original orchards and vegetables.

– Brian Murphy, Archivist, 2022

Order your Xmas ham and help MAGS



Quality Manuka Smoked Christmas Hams

The perfect Gift for you and MAGS



New Zealand Free Farmed Half Ham, Cooked on the Bone.
Gluten Free and Delicious.

Each ham weighs approximately 4.26 - 4.75kg

How it works: \$80 per ham, with \$10 of this going back to
Mount Albert Grammar School.

Pick up: Wednesday 7th December 4-6pm from MAGS.

Get in quick while they last!

Every ham ordered via the Neat Meat promotion sees \$10 go to MAGS.
You can make your order [here](#)

Centenary books on sale now

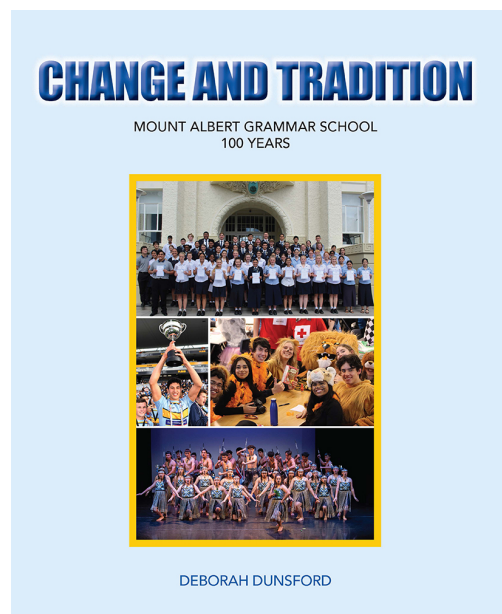
Our Centenary book, *Change and Tradition*, by Deborah Dunsford is available to [order online](#)
The book, which focuses on the period 1997-2022, is a companion to Professor Russell

Stone and Neville McMillan's 75th Jubilee book, *Tradition and Change*, which covers MAGS' history from 1922-1997.

Change and Tradition has comprehensive coverage and photos of the past 25 years at MAGS.

The book has a RRP of \$45 but our Centenary pricing has it at \$35, and it can be bought in a bundle with *Tradition and Change* for \$50.

You can order these books online [here](#) along with MAGS Centenary apparel and merchandise.



Sports Update

Paddlers make the podium



MAGS had a great Auckland Waka Ama Regional Regatta last Saturday, making the podium on three occasions.

The Mixed J19s claimed the silver medal in the Championship Final, and the Boys J16 claimed silver in the 250m sprint Championship Final

The Boys J19 took silver in the 250m Sprint Championship Final. They got the jump on Manurewa High at the start and pulled away but were just pipped at the finish line by a very powerful Manurewa team.

Director of Sport Allie Wright said, "The students had a great day on and off the water and the feedback from parents has been very positive."

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

Centenary Week
25th Sept - 1st October
<https://mags100.ptly.com>

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