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November 24, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

## Key Dates

## Resourcing for Excellence



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

Recent weeks have seen a constant stream of celebrations and awards ceremonies as we recognise student success from across the 2023 school year.

The breadth of opportunities placed in front of each MAGS student on a daily basis is extensive. The highlights in today's newsletter alone are testament to this. The role of our Arts, Culture and Sporting programmes in complimenting the academic journey of students is vital – and it is the quality of those programmes that sets us apart from other schools.

These programmes don't happen by chance. They rely on the leadership of dedicated teachers and community members as well as significant financial resourcing. The role of the school donation in meeting the shortfall in government funding is critical here.

MAGS is grateful to our families who support our school through the school donation. You can be sure that your financial contribution is reaching into every corner of our school.

We hope that all MAGS families will choose to prioritise the annual school donation.

In doing so we can all play our part in resourcing a school where every MAGS young person can be the best they can be.

Have a good weekend!

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

**Wednesday, November 29**  
Year 9 Interform Competition

**Thursday, November 30**  
Year 10 Interform Competition

**Tuesday, December 5**  
Junior Prizegivings:  
Year 10 (morning)  
Year 9 (afternoon)

## Sport

### Photo Essays



Futsal Senior Girls v Diocesan  
Click [here](#)

### Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)

Patrick Drumm  
Headmaster

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**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**

## **Juniors unite for school haka**



This week, our Year 9s and 10s have been practising Takatū, our school haka, in the gym, culminating in an interform competition today and then the whole of the Junior School out on the Sir B.G. Williams Field this afternoon performing together.

Year 9 and Year 10 haka-ed each other, with Year 10s winning, and then performed Takatū together in honour of our departing Property Department staff, Property Manager Mr Gardiner and Caretaker Mr Hull, whose tireless efforts have made sure students have top facilities year-round.

Takatū embodies our MAGS Pride and translates to 'Stand to Attention'. It challenges our students to channel their mental focus and come together as one.

A huge thanks to Whaea Waimirangi Paul and Matua Peter Walters for organising and running the sessions – with the help of student leaders – and judging the interform competition.

The interform winners were 09GCA, 09MIS, 10ABR and 10PNE. They will all enjoy a pizza lunch for their efforts.



## Junior Arts Awards



A Junior Arts awards presentation and performances were held on Monday in Gym 2 to two very appreciative audiences – Year 9s in Period 3 and Year 10s in Period 4. The event started with performances, firstly Herbie Hancock's *Chameleon* performed by the talented Magnaphonics jazz band, directed by Kingsley Melhuish, and then a great Hip Hop dance by all members of the two Year 10 Dance classes. This was followed by an item by the combined Year 9 and 10 Drama classes about a snowball fight. The 10DNA dance class then took us back to the 70s with a performance to Earth, Wind and Fire's *Let's Groove*. Closing the performance section was Abdullah Ibrahim's *Ek Se* by the Magnaphonics. The performances were followed by the presentation of Junior Arts Badges and the special Junior Arts trophies. Director of Arts Co-curricular Ms Cesan said, "It is wonderful to see not only the significant growth in numbers across the Arts but also the high standard of performance and the number of high-achieving students."

You can see all the students who were awarded Arts Badges [here](#) and the award winners [here](#)



## Albertian of the Year celebration



*You are invited*

**THE ALBERTIANS ASSOCIATION**

*presents*

### ALBERTIAN OF THE YEAR

**FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

**THOMAS WYNNE**

(MAGS 1980-84)

FRIDAY | **1 DEC** | 4.00-6.00PM  
2023

THE W.O.H GIBBS ROOM, MAGS

FIRST FLOOR, PA BLOCK (OLD SCIENCE BLDG), MOUNT ALBERT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**Tickets \$20**

Ticket includes  
hors d'oeuvres &  
non-alcoholic drinks

Cash & Eftpos Bar



**Speeches  
& Performances**

RSVP by Sunday  
17th November to:

[reception@mags.school.nz](mailto:reception@mags.school.nz)

Thomas Wynne will be celebrated as Albertian of the Year at an event on Friday, December 1, from 4-6pm in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room.

You can buy tickets via this [link](#)

Thomas attended MAGS from 1980 to 1984. Since leaving school he has

devoted himself to service in a wide variety of endeavours, both in New Zealand and in the Cook Islands. He has been involved in education,

health, counselling, communications, politics and is a strong advocate for Pasifika political, social and development challenges and successes. He is extremely proud of his Pasifika background and is currently the

Albertian and Pasifika Representative on the MAGS Board of Trustees.

## GIS mapping helps communities

On Monday we welcomed Tom Dowling, Rachael Boswell and their team from the University of Auckland/Waipapa Taumata Rau Geography department.



They worked with 10DUN and 10PUL who had a chance to learn some GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping techniques, which they then used to do some mapping for the [Missing Maps Project](#)

This is a global collaboration that is working to fill in missing data for vulnerable communities around the world.

Our students were working in South Sudan and Arizona, and were very pleased to feel that what they had achieved will make a real difference.

## Gloriana boosts fundraising



The All Together Now group of community choirs held their annual Christmas fundraising concert at St Matthew's in the City on Saturday.

Gloriana were able to lend a hand taking donations, acting as ushers and staffing the "front of house".

The City Mission receives all profits from ticket sales and all donations, and Auckland City

Missioner Helen Robinson was on hand to thank the choir members personally for their service. At this stage, the concert and Gloriana's efforts raised over \$5200.00.

Gloriana members commented it was great to learn about running a large event with over 160 singers in such a prestigious venue. They were able to listen to the music, observe the rehearsal techniques and conducting, and had the opportunity to "sing in" during the concert.

Both of the All Together Now

Directors Kate Bell and Steven Rapana commented the choir members were a big asset to the event and helped it run smoothly.

Choir Director Catherine Oxenham believes these acts of service are part of Gloriana's role in the wider music community and help to build a strong choir with confident singers.



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## Health Education Community Consultation

At least once every two years, Boards of Trustees are required to produce a written statement about how schools will implement Health Education under the requirements of the Education Act 1989 (Section 60B).

Boards of trustees consult with their community to:

- Inform the school community about the content of the health curriculum.
- Ascertain the wishes of the school community regarding the way in which the health curriculum should be implemented, given the views, beliefs and customs of the members of that community.

To help with community feedback, you can complete a survey [here](#)

The survey will be open until December 1.

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## Order your 2023 Albertian now

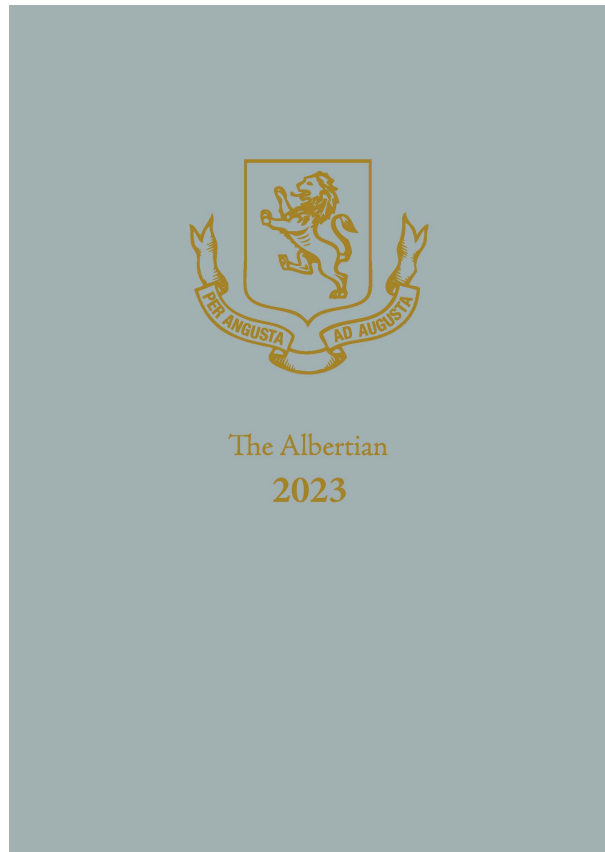
Our Finance Department is now taking orders for The Albertian 2023, which will be available by mid-2024.

The yearbook contains a full wrap-up of the year including Academia, Arts, Service and Sports reports and photos as well as formal class photos – and much more!

It can be delivered to Year 13 students, rather than picked up from MAGS, for a small extra

cost.

You can order the Albertian [here](#)



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## Reminder to empty lockers



Please be aware that student lockers must be emptied and locks removed before students leave for the year.

Any remaining locks will be removed during the holidays and any contents stored at the Student Centre for collection next year.

Students will need to purchase a new locker next year if they want one.

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# Homestay families required

MAGS is still looking for more wonderful families, as we have a large number of International students starting in 2024. This is a great opportunity to learn about a different culture and build lasting friendships.

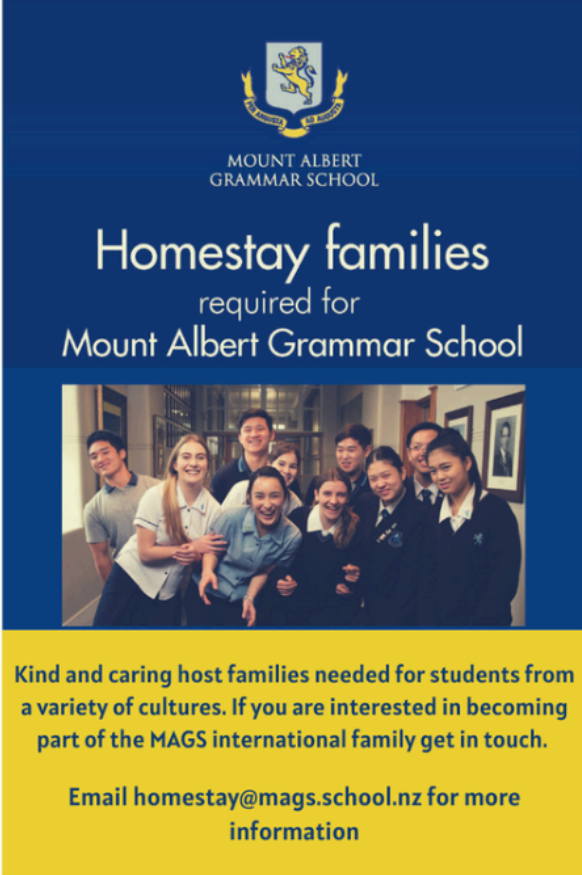
Our next student intake will be for Term 1, 2024. We will have short- and long-term students, staying for between 10 weeks to a full year. Homestay families are our most popular choice of accommodation as our students benefit from living with an English-speaking family and sharing in the New Zealand family experience.

## What are the expectations of a host family?

A host family is expected to provide a clean and comfortable bedroom with a bed, a wardrobe (built-in or free-standing) and drawers, linen and towels, a desk and a lamp and three meals a day.

## The application process:

The application process involves police vetting for all family members over 18 years. This is followed by a home visit from the school. This helps us to know a little more about your family's interests and lifestyle and enables us to make a well-informed student match. We pay \$330.00 per week (from 2024) which is paid fortnightly in advance. If you would like some further information, or to receive the application forms, please email [homestay@mags.school.nz](mailto:homestay@mags.school.nz)



Kind and caring host families needed for students from a variety of cultures. If you are interested in becoming part of the MAGS international family get in touch.

Email [homestay@mags.school.nz](mailto:homestay@mags.school.nz) for more information

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## MAGS has your Xmas sorted

Neat Meat is again helping our Sports Department with fundraising for students in need – \$10 from every ham sold goes back to the school.

Pick-up is December 11, and you can order [here](#)

And MAGSRow has Christmas cakes and trees for sale, as per below.





## **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 4.25 - 4.75kg**

**How it works: \$90 per ham, with \$10 of this going back to  
Mount Albert Grammar School. <https://forms.gle/dSvM9vwwSyCchN8aZ>**

**Pick up: Monday 11th December 4-6pm from MAGS.**

**Get in quick while they last, only 80 hams!**

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# Support MAGS Rowing this Christmas!!

Yummy Xmas Cakes:

**BREAD & BUTTER**  
BREAD THAT'S BETTER

## Christmas cakes from Bread & Butter

- Traditional rich, dark Christmas cake with fruit & spices (*cakes 15cm in diameter & weigh approximately 900g*)
  - Will come to you attractively gift-wrapped
  - \$35 each or \$32 when you order five or more
  - Ideal as gifts for family, friends, staff or suppliers
  - To make an order, please email your order through to [christasmagsrow@gmail.com](mailto:christasmagsrow@gmail.com)
- Cakes will be delivered early December



## Real Christmas Trees

Nothing beats the smell of real Christmas trees

- Trees start at \$60
- To order your tree (or trees!), visit the Misa website <https://misachristmastrees.co.nz/> and use the code MAGS20



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## Sports Update

### Cricket Boys 1st XI host final showdown



The MAGS Boys 1st XI cricket team has reached a second consecutive championship final, having won the Auckland title in our Centennial year, 2022.

The team completed the season three points clear of its nearest competitor on the table after losing only one game from 14 in the regular season.

The 1st XI will meet Westlake in the final at MAGS tomorrow, starting at 10.30am. The outcome will also decide who represents Auckland in the annual Gillette Cup tournament in Christchurch in December.

The team, wonderfully coached by Deputy Principal Mr Todd, has some injury issues for the final but so far this season they have prevailed in overcoming every challenge they have encountered.

It will be the final home game for four players: captain Ryan Krige, Ohm Patel, Thomas Iles and Sam Patchett, all having made excellent contributions to the team over more than one season.

Other members of the team are Year 12s Aqib Adil, Arya Suddala, Felix Naish, Yann Rowe, Jordan Nethula, Rudra Brahmabatt, Harsh Verma, Jaskaran Sandhu and Year 11s Krishna Patel, Luis Kerrigan and Henry Olliver.

#### **A Tradition of Excellence**

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland  
09 846 2044 [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

**EXCELLENCE  
CONNECTION  
& GROWTH**

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