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A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022



November 27, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Tradition and Change



[Key Dates](#)



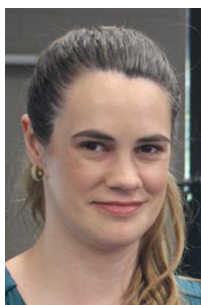
Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

Members of our MAGS Alumni gathered together this week in School House for our Annual Albertians Christmas Luncheon.

This gathering was significant on a number of levels, not the least that the luncheon was our first (and last) for the year with previous events being cancelled due to Covid.

A further piece of history was made with the election of Lisa Oakden (pictured below right) as the first woman President of the Albertians Association. Lisa herself was a girls' first-day student in 2000 and was featured on the front cover of *The Lion* magazine earlier in the year when we celebrated 20 years of girls at MAGS.

The Albertians Luncheon was a celebration of so much of what makes MAGS special. The people in the room represented the all-important tradition that we rely on for certainty and purpose as a school.



But equally we know we must keep MAGS relevant for our current young people who are inheriting a very different world. This dual perspective was so well articulated by Ryan Antia (Year 9) and Henri Blakely (Year 12) when they addressed those present.

These young men showed a maturity beyond their years and a real understanding of the value of tradition sitting alongside the need to constantly change and improve.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar



Tuesday & Wednesday, December 1 & 2

Junior School Interform Competition

Monday, December 7

Year 10 Prizegiving, 1.30pm, FW Gamble Hall

Tuesday, December 8

Year 9 Prizegiving, 9.30am, FW Gamble Hall

Wednesday, December 9

NCEA Exams end



Sport

Sports registrations for 2021

Click [here](#)

With the young (and not so young) supporters of MAGS present on the day, we know our school is in great heart!

Enjoy the weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Junior Bytes delights audience



The annual Junior Bytes concert was held at Centennial Theatre AGS on Tuesday evening in front of an appreciative audience of family and friends, with the performances showcasing the huge amount of artistic talent in the Junior School.

The concert presented items from Dance, Drama and Music – the evening opening with the Junior Jazz band, with a special guest drummer!

Other music items were Junior Boys and Girls choirs, the Junior Rock Band and a thoughtful clarinet solo by Year 10 student Vedant Sheth in his very first public performance.

In Drama, the Year 9 and 10 students presented some scenes from plays they have performed or devised during the year to a high standard. There was also a rousing performance of *A Hard Knock Life* by the Junior Musical Theatre Group.

From the Dance Department there was a variety of themes – a tribute to 80s Jazz, a demonstration of Hip Hop dance styles, Contemporary choreography inspired by poetry about the four seasons, and finally a thought-provoking piece from the Junior Performance Group inspired by the year we have experienced.



It was a great night despite missing a number of students, particularly in the choir, who were unable to participate because of sports commitments. The concert programme also featured colour photos of the fabulous work by Junior Visual Arts students.

For more photos from the night click [here](#)

Photos: Darcy Vasquez



First female Albertians president



At the Albertians Association AGM (preceding the luncheon), out-going Albertians Association President Alan Holmes congratulated incoming president Lisa Oakden, who is also the Albertians representative on the Board of Trustees, and is the first woman to head the Association.

Lisa, is one of MAGS' Foundation Girls, a Year 9 when girls were first admitted to MAGS in 2000. She will be president during MAGS' 100th year as a school.

Albertians' Christmas Luncheon



Standing (from left): Alan Burton, Greg Cave, Noel McKernon, David Thomson, Bruce Lovett, Kevin Lafferty, Bill Lake. Seated: Alex Bing, Maurice Mall (Headmaster), Christine Hallett, Roy Clements, Brian Murphy.

The Albertians Luncheon allows former MAGS students to get together but on Tuesday it also provided a chance for former and present staff to reunite (as pictured above).

A highlight of the event was Henri Blakely and Ryan Antia (pictured, left to right respectively) giving the addresses they had planned for MAGS' annual Anzac service, which was cancelled due to the lockdown.

Both students spoke about the sacrifices made by Albertians during the war and how that related to the school motto 'Per Angusta Ad Augusta (Through Hardship to Glory)'. That theme was reflected in the speech by Mr Drumm, who looked back on a year that proved the importance of teachers to students, and face-to-face learning versus virtual lessons.

Centenary committee chair Dale Griffiths also outlined proposed events for MAGS' Centenary Celebrations in 2022, and encouraged Albertians to spread the word and sign up to the [Centenary database](#)

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School closedown and re-opening dates

Mount Albert Grammar School will close on Wednesday, 9 December after the final NCEA Exam that day.

Main Reception:

Closed from Thursday, 10 December and will open again on Thursday, 28 January, 2021.

Finance Office:

Closed from Thursday, 10 December and will open again on Tuesday, 2 February, 2021 for Year 9s only. For all other years, the Finance Office is open from Wednesday, 3 February.

Student Centre:

Closed from Thursday, 10 December and will open again on Tuesday, 2 February, 2021.

Enrolment Office:

Closed from Thursday, 10 December and will open again on Wednesday, 20 January, 2021. Mount Albert Grammar School enrolments should be done online [here](#)

International Office:

Closed from Monday, 14 December, and arranged visits can be made from Tuesday, 12 January, 2021. Email bwatts@mags.school.nz for an appointment. Open again on Tuesday, 2 February, 2021

The Lion's Den uniform shop:

Closed from Friday, 18 December and will open again on Monday, January 11, 2021. It will also be open on Auckland Anniversary Day – Monday, 1 February – from 9am-12pm to alleviate any last-minute rush before school opens for Year 9s the following day, and the full school the day after. For the uniform shop's full hours, click [here](#)

Sports registrations for 2021

MAGS' Sports Department has opened up registrations for all sports next year for Terms 1 to 3.

In an effort to simplify the registration process, the online form includes likely costs and dates where possible, although these could be subject to change.

Trial and training dates will be confirmed closer to the time.

Students can click [here](#) to register for their chosen sport.



Year 10 cross-curricular programme



Over the past three days, Year 10 students have been enjoying a cross-curricular programme, spending one day doing a science investigation, one day in Technology or Visual Arts and one day with Social Sciences.

University of Auckland students ran the Social Science days, with topics as diverse as philosophy, poetry, criminology and gender studies.

Year 9 haka and athletics



Today, Year 9 Boys were kept busy with an athletics day and learning a new school haka: Takatū.

HOF Te Puna o Wairaka Ms Paul and teacher Mr Walters have been working with Deputy Head Boy Niua Pomare-Khanna to devise a haka for our all of our students ahead of our

Centenary. Takatū roughly translates to 'stand at attention' and the haka has been written to prepare our students for challenges and rally us together. The plan is to have the whole school learn this haka through the course of 2021. On Monday, it is the turn of Year 9 Girls to take part in an athletics day and to learn the school haka.



Unitec Experience Days



MAGS partnered with Unitec over two days – Wednesday and yesterday – to give Year 9s some unique workshop experiences at the Unitec campus. Students spent a day engaged in activities such as robotics and electronics (pictured

above), building garden ornaments and bird houses (pictured right), business consultancy and science and engineering.



The Archive needs your help



Our Assistant Archivist Mr Cave has discovered a trove of photos – from the 1960s to the 1990s – like the ones above and below that don't have names. Some of the photos are

identified, some not.

Mr Cave would like to enlist the help of Albertians who could provide more detail about the photos, including names and dates.

There are more photos like these on the MAGS website [here](#), and if you have any information about the photos, could you please email Mr Cave gcave@mags.school.nz



Sign up to the Centenary database

As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, with events planned for May 9-14, we warmly invite all Albertians to sign up to the database [here](#) to keep up to date with information 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

Cricket Boys 1st XI in T20 Final



The Cricket Boys 1st XI play Kings College in the final of the College Sport Auckland Premier T20 championship tomorrow.

The game will be played at Kings College despite both teams having dropped only one game and MAGS having beaten Kings in pool play last week. A quirk in the rules makes net run rate the deciding factor as to who hosts the final.

Director of Cricket Tony Sail says that after finishing third in the 50-over One Day Championship behind second-placed Kings in Term 1, it's widely recognised that the two best teams in Auckland will contest the T20 final.

He says, "Wonderfully led by NZ Under 19 World Cup player Adi Ashok, with solid support from NZ Under 19 training squad members Yahya Zeb and Umang Patel, the MAGS players are eagerly awaiting the challenge from a strong Kings College XI."

It's MAGS' first taste of finals cricket since 2017 and comes on the back of a good year from a well-balanced young side.

The game starts at 10.30am and will be live-streamed on [CricHQ](#).

Following the final, Adi Ashok, Umang Patel and Yahya Zeb will be playing more cricket as they have been selected for the Auckland squad for the Men's Under 19 National Tournament in Christchurch beginning December 16.

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