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Week 2, Term 4, October 25, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

From the Headmaster

Weekly Notices

## Excellence By Any Measure



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

The annual MAGS Sports Awards Dinner on Wednesday evening saw 450 people join together to celebrate our best young sportsmen and sportswomen of 2019.

Sporting excellence was on show in abundance. Forty-eight students received their Mount Albert Grammar School 'Black Cap' for representing New Zealand in their chosen sport.

Our students have brought home six New Zealand sporting championship titles in addition to nine Auckland championship titles, and 50 students received a 'Blue Cap' in recognition of this success.

Underpinning this pinnacle event for our Sports pillar are the 1700 students who have played sport for MAGS this year. These students and their families understand the power of the sporting context in developing character.

The importance of sport in creating the right culture at MAGS is as important today as it was in 1922 when the first young men of MAGS pulled on the colours of their new school.

Congratulations to our 2019 Victrix Ludorum – Latonya Lole – and Victor Ludorum – Lachlan Pearce.

And thank you to our Director of Sport, Allie Wright, and her team who lead a sporting programme the envy of every other school in New Zealand.

Have a good weekend.

**Patrick Drumm**  
Headmaster



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

**Tuesday, October 29**

[Summer Sports Photos](#)

**Wednesday, October 30**

Arts Dinner

**Thursday, October 31**

Junior School Study Leave

Senior Prizegiving

School House Dinner

**Monday, November 4**

Te Puna o Wairaka Dinner



Sport

**Fixtures and results**

Click [here](#)

**Photo Essay**



Girls Sevens U15s – Auckland Champions

Click [here](#)

## Sports achievers celebrated



An outstanding year of success in the sporting sphere was celebrated at the Sports Awards Dinner 2019 at Alexandra Park on Wednesday evening, with world champion kayaker Lisa Carrington as guest speaker.

Latonya Lole and Lachlan Pearce (pictured above) were named Victrix Ludorum and Victor Ludorum respectively, while the NZ champion Softball Boys Premiers were awarded the Headmaster's Cup for Team of the Year.

The Te Aroha Keenan Cup for Outstanding Individual Achievement for girls was awarded to swimmer Brearna Crawford while basketballer Nate Wilson won the comparable boys' award – the Olympic Cup.

Fencer Charlie Bioletti won the Service to MAGS Sport Cup for offering his opponent a



rematch when he discovered he had been wrongly awarded victory.

The night also saw the awarding of Blue Caps to MAGS' Auckland representatives and Black Caps to MAGS' NZ representatives.

Six students were also recognised as Elite Premiers for representing MAGS at Premier level for each of their five years at school: Rikki Fiatau (Basketball), Zane Harrison (Lacrosse), Jack Norris (Lacrosse), Eva Williams (Swimming), Dylan Moon (Touch) and Moanekah Va'ai (Touch).

Trophies were presented by Hockey coach Mark Dempster, School House Assistant Manager Angela Moon and Ms Carrington, who was presented with a bouquet of flowers



after her speech by champion rower Holly Chaafe (pictured above).  
For a full report and more photos from the evening, click [here](#)

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## Arts Attitude Awards Assembly



Albertian Josh Cesan was the perfect guest speaker at today's Arts Attitude Awards Assembly with his story of triumph through hard work and persistence.

Josh (pictured), who now runs a dance company with world champion hip hop crews, said he was not successful as a dancer to begin with and couldn't even break into his brothers' crews.

But he kept pushing and decided to set up his own dance company, Identity, which has fostered men's and women's crews who have gone on to great success nationally and internationally. His story fitted perfectly with the theme for the awards: 'It's attitude not aptitude that determines the altitude'.

For a list of winners, who were recognised for their effort and positivity, click [here](#)

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## Market Day booms





Changeable weather meant the Year 10 Business students set up their Market Day in N Block yesterday and today but that didn't stop the lunchtime crowds. Students flocked to the stalls selling drinks and food such as sushi, chop suey, doughnuts and fudge brownie. As part of Market Day, the Year 10 Business students formulate, carry out and review a business activity that involves selling selling sweet or savoury treats. It also tests their marketing and presentation skills. Groups fund their own start-up costs and share profits. Afterwards they are encouraged to reflect on where their businesses had succeeded or failed. Market Day is a taster for business activities to follow in years 11, 12 and 13 when business students build on earlier skills to develop more sophisticated products and services.



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## Memorial bench unveiled





A memorial bench has been erected on the ASB MAGS Farm and a totara planted in memory of Giandomenico Ghella, one of the executives from the Italian tunnelling firm Ghella, the leader of the Joint Venture with Abergeldie delivering the Central Interceptor Project for Watercare.

In conjunction with the unveiling, Ghella Abergeldie JV presented a generous scholarship for \$5000 to MAGS student Lachlan Pearce that will go towards his engineering studies next year.

Giandomenico Ghella's son, Lorenzo Ghella, is pictured presenting the scholarship to Lachlan.

The farm was chosen as the site for the memorial due to the vista over Meola Creek and one of the Central Interceptor portal sites at Lyon Ave.

A karakia and tree planting ceremony was conducted by Blackie Tohiariki, preceding the unveiling of the bench, which has a plaque with a dedication to Mr Ghella, who died suddenly in July this year. This strengthens the relationship between Watercare, which is building the Central Interceptor to help make the waterways in central Auckland cleaner, Ghella-Abergeldie JV and Mount Albert Grammar School.

ASB MAGS Farm Development Manager Peter Brice said, "Watercare has been a great supporter of the ASB MAGS Farm, catering for our first native tree planting day this winter and committing to planting the southern half of the stream in 2020."



## Media Studies Film Night



This year's Media Studies Film Night held at Event Cinemas St Lukes was a resounding success.

The Year 13 documentaries both challenged and entertained a receptive audience, covering topics such as digital playgrounds, the state of NZ's exciting music industry, and drag culture in Auckland.

Year 12 students again excelled in making compelling and technically complex music videos, from noir-inspired murder fiction to beautifully crafted memories to the tunes of Fleetwood Mac.

Our Year 11 students produced catchy, polished and innovative advertisements, highlighting that the future of Media Studies film production is bright looking ahead to 2020 and beyond.

Head of Media Studies Simon Allen said, "Many thanks to the fantastic Media Department, who have both supported me and guided these talented film-makers and shared in their success: Aubrey Mason, Jo Beck, Carissa Calvert, Tom Dale and Becky Woodall."

To watch all the short films on YouTube, click [here](#)

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## Final Pasifika Assembly





At the final Pasifika Assembly of the year on Tuesday, Deputy Principal Corey Todd (pictured above) challenged the Year 13 Leavers to keep pushing for their personal best and to keep getting better. Mr Todd, who has responsibility for Pasifika, also encouraged the Leavers and those in other years at MAGS to become teachers.

"We need more Pasifika teachers, especially male Pasifika teachers."

Pasifika Prefects DaRhys Simone and Alyssa Houma farewelled and thanked their peers and teachers for what was a challenging but rewarding year.



There was also a performance by Lilee Ieriko, William Filimoehala (pictured) and Tavita Fa'amausili on piano followed by the Pasifika Leavers Video, which had a rowdy reception. Tonight, Pasifika achievement across the four pillars of MAGS will be celebrated at the Pasifika Dinner.

## Farewell Constable Rob

At an assembly on Tuesday, MAGS students farewelled Constable Rob Kennerley, who has been our School Community Officer for nine years.

Constable Rob was presented with handmade cards from Junior Health students and thanked on behalf of the Health Department by Claudia Goff.

This was followed by a morning tea with the PE and Health Department, who presented him with a Koru garden ornament as a token of their appreciation and to wish him well for his new beginning.

Constable Rob said a lot of his work was focused around awareness about drugs and alcohol as well as bullying. He also made students aware of their rights and

responsibilities as citizens.  
"My approach has always been to give the students the information but then let them ask questions and lead the conversation."

Constable Rob is leaving the police to work in the family construction business.



## Students dish up charity dinner



During the October school holidays, MAGS was part of a charity fundraiser gala dinner for the Child Cancer Foundation.

Auckland schools came together to put up a four-course meal for the charity event. MAGS and Papakura High made an entrée platter consisting of Smoked Mushroom Voul-



au-Vent, Prawn Tacos on a Skewer, Rice Paper Rolls with Peking Duck, and Corn and Filo Cigars.

Sohail Varma (Year 12) and Ken Naidu (Year 13) – pictured above – and Food Technology teacher Caroline Jeyachandran enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of an amazing event that raised over \$6000 for the charity.

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## Pah Homestead arts trip



On Monday, 9IRE was fortunate to experience Culture Vulture workshops at Pah Homestead, with the Wallace Art Trust providing a free bus.

Georgia Verspeek and Chanelle Frank, of 9IRE, report on the trip: "The workshops were arts-related and involved dance, drama, visual art and documentaries made by New Zealanders for Doc Edge.

Our first workshop was dance, where we were taught a few dance moves by a member of the New Zealand Dance Company. In this workshop, our class was delighted to follow along to some contemporary dances held in a beautiful room with art covering the walls. Our next workshop was drama, with Massive theatre company. We played many different games that involved moving around and using our bodies to make objects using improvisation and group work.

After lunch we moved into the workshop run by Doc Edge, where we were shown short documentaries.

The next workshop was art, held by Katie Blundell, an artist who makes 3D sculptures. She showed us her process of creating amazing 3D sculptures and taught us how to make our own out of cardboard. Our trip was fun and we had such an amazing time at Pah Homestead."



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**Summer Sports Photos next Tuesday**





Summer Sports Photos will be taken next Tuesday – October 29. For instructions and the schedule, click [here](#)

## Year 9 & 10 on study leave next Thursday

Year 9 and Year 10 students have been given examination study leave for Thursday, October 31, which is also the day of the Senior School Prizegiving. The granting of this examination study day offers our junior students the opportunity for independent preparation and then the ability to seek clarification regarding any uncertainties they may have from their teachers on the following day, before final study and preparation across the weekend. End-of-year examinations for Year 9 and Year 10 start Monday, November 4. Year 9 and Year 10 students will sit two-hour examinations for their English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science subjects across the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 4, and are currently preparing for these with their teachers. The examination timetable has been published to all junior students and is also on the school website [here](#)

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

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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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## From the Archives

Our archivist Brian Murphy has not been distracted by all the fuss over his 60 years of service to MAGS.

Rather, he has been busy adding to the rich resource that is [The Archives](#)

One of his latest pieces of work is a list of decorations awarded to Albertian World War II servicemen.

Mr Murphy said these military decorations are for bravery or gallantry over and above the campaign and service medals.

You can read the list and see the medals [here](#)



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## Sports update



## Sevens Girls teams win Auckland Champs



Congratulations to the Open Girls Sevens team who won back-to-back Auckland titles last Friday at Waitemata Rugby Club. Photos of them are [here](#)

Their success was repeated by the U15 Girls Sevens yesterday, also at Waitemata Rugby Club. Photos of them are [here](#)

The defending champion Open Girls reversed a close loss in pool play to Aorere College to beat them in the final 24-15, taking the first qualifying spot for Auckland at Condors 7s at the end of November.

The Open Boys team, champions last year, lost their semifinal to eventual tournament winners De la Salle and finished the tournament third-equal. They have also qualified for Condor Sevens. Photos of them are [here](#)

The U15 Girls played extremely well throughout yesterday, developing their skills every game. They won the final against Onehunga High School 22-7.

Yesterday, the Boys U15 team had a close semi-final but lost 12-24 to eventual winners De la Salle, and finished third.

Teams now look forward to the Condor 7s tournament.



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