



From the Headmaster

Long Service as a Value



Yesterday afternoon, people from across the Mount Albert Grammar School community gathered to celebrate one of our special staff members.

Tupuola Apisaloma Taulapiu, or 'Mr Api' as we know him, was honoured for 25 Years Service as a MAGS staff member.

Api's work in the area of Pasifika Liaison has made a difference to the lives of thousands of MAGS students – many of whom returned to MAGS for yesterday's event.

Long service to an organisation is becoming a rare commodity in the modern-day workforce.

Sadly, the vocational nature of teaching does not carry the same draw as it might have had in the past – yet there remain those special individuals who understand that to grow good young people takes time and is a long-term process.

Api becomes the 36th member of the MAGS staff over the past 97 years to receive a 25 Years Service Medallion.

He joins five other current staff members who have surpassed the 25-year service mark. These current staff members have collectively given 240 years of service to our school!

Tupuola Apisaloma Taulapiu – we salute you and thank you for all you continue to do for our MAGS young people.

O le ala I le pule ole tautua

Have a good weekend

Patrick Drumm



Weekly Notices



Key Dates

[Click here for the 2018 Calendar](#)

Monday, October 29

Leavers Dinner, 6pm,
Alexandra Park

Wednesday, October 31

Year 8 Girls Academic Testing,
9am, & Sports Academy Trials,
12.30pm

Albertian of the Year Dinner,
6pm, Northern Club

Thursday, November 1

Year 8 Boys Academic Testing,
9am, & Sports Academy Trials,
12.30pm

Friday, November 2

Arts Dinner, 6.30pm, Sorrento
in the Park



Sport

Photo Essay



Boys Rugby Sevens win AKSS

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Celebration of service to Pasifika



An overdue recognition of Tupuola Apisaloma Taulapiu's 25 Years of Service to MAGS was held yesterday in the F. W. Gamble Hall, with family, friends, colleagues and students gathering to pay tribute to his passion for helping Pasifika students.

Overdue because Mr Taulapiu has now been at MAGS for 26 years, despite his insistence that this was his 25th year.

Some people claimed he was operating

on "Island Time", others blamed his education at St Paul's College. More likely it was Mr Taulapiu's humility that had him shunning the limelight.

What everyone agreed on was Mr Taulapiu's dedication and commitment to helping Pasifika students since he started as Pasifika Liaison at MAGS in 1992.

Tributes flowed from Mr Greg Taylor, Headmaster when Mr Taulapiu joined MAGS, previous Headmaster Mr Dale Burden, and current Headmaster Mr Patrick Drumm, as well as praise from Board of Trustees members, friends and students.

The common theme was Mr Taulapiu's willingness to go the extra mile for students, whether it was coming up with initiatives to further their interests or helping them out with food or a pair of school shoes.

For his part, Mr Taulapiu said it was, "All about we, not me", and he couldn't have done his job without the help of the school and the wider community. He thanked all those who had supported him and called up Mrs Va Anisi, MAGS Pasifika Initiatives Co-ordinator (pictured above), who had helped him to improve the lives of thousands of Pasifika students.

Proud of his Samoan and Solomon Island roots, Mr Taulapiu has been a driving force in



celebrating Pasifika culture, including organising groups for Polyfest. Stories were also told about Mr Taulapiu's love of rugby league and his dancing skills, something he got to show off at the end of the celebration with a Samoan Siva. Mr Taulapiu was presented with his 25 Years Service Medallion, and his portrait will go up in the hallway of the main building along with other members of staff who have reached that milestone. For more photos from the celebration, click [here](#)

Sports champions named



Isaac Munro and Sharne Pupuke-Robati were named Victor Ludorum and Victrix Ludorum respectively at the MAGS Sports Dinner on Wednesday night. Sharne is captain of the Girls Premier Basketball team that won the AKSS Basketball title, and came seventh at NZSS Basketball, where she also made the Tournament Team. She also played for NZ U17 Basketball. She is the Premier Netball shooter in the team that was recently crowned National Champions, and that came third in the



AKSS competition.

She was part of the MAGS Girls Rugby Sevens team that won the AKSS competition, and she is a Tania Dalton Scholarship Recipient.

Isaac is a member of the Boys' Softball team that won the Auckland school competition, and won the New Zealand Schools Championship for a sixth year in a row. He is a member of the 2nd XV Rugby team that placed second in the Auckland competition. He is the top skier at MAGS, and is a member of the Premier Water Polo team that competed at NZSS.

Team of the Year was the National Champion Premier Netball side, while swimming sensation Brearna Crawford won the award for Outstanding Achievement in Sport (Girls) and Premier Softballer Floyd Nola won the equivalent award for Boys. The pair are pictured above.

Orienteering champion Liam Thompson was the inaugural recipient of the Service to MAGS Sport award for sacrificing his chances in a race to help a competitor who had become lost.

Upping the Tempo



While everyone else was on holiday, dancers from MAGS were rehearsing and performing as part of Tempo Dance Festival held in Auckland City from 5-14 October.

Male dancers Charlie Pellet, Carl Mu, Shaun Owen, Remy Sutton, William Tuarae, Faolan Okan, Liam Akeli and Xavier Wong See were all part of the very successful *Boyzdance2 Metamorphosis* production, which was showcased at Rangitira at Q.

They were part of a cast of 47 male dancers aged 7-18 who, thanks to a Creative NZ grant, had the opportunity to work with a group of professional male choreographers to produce new work as part of a 20-year celebration of the Boyzdance2 network, which has been a pivotal force in supporting and advocating for males in dance.

The show was a huge success and special mention must be made of Xavier and Liam for not only stellar performances but also the excellent leadership they demonstrated with the younger cast members.

As well, three MAGS dance students – Charlotte Barrand, Lulu Qiu and Remy Sutton – were



selected to be a part of an elite group of young choreographers who had their creative work selected for and showcased at *Ignite* youth concert held on Sunday, 14 October also at Q Theatre. Dancers Faolan Okan, Bethany Fletcher, Samara Brain, William Tuarae, Eden Matthews and Allie Hawksworth performed the choreography and gave stellar performances.

All three MAGS choreographers received awards for their choreography by the panel of industry judges.

Pictured above, left to right, are Eden Matthews, Lulu Qiu, Bethany Fletcher, Charlotte Barrand, Samara Brain and Allie Hawksworth.

Ballroom Dancing success



Year 9 student Josh D'Arth had significant success in the NZ Open Dance Championships held in Hamilton over Labour Weekend.

He and his partner won the Junior Level 1 Latin section and were second in Ballroom for this level.

He is pictured above with Year 13 student and fellow competitor Allie Hawksworth, who was performing in the Level 2 section and was among the top couples in this section.

Academic Testing and Sports Academy Trials

Academic Testing for all Year 8 students has been scheduled as follows:

Girls – Wednesday, 31 October from 9.00am to 12.00pm.

Boys – Thursday, 1 November from 9:00am to 12.00pm.

Sports Academy Trials for those students who wish to try out will also be held on these days for Girls and Boys following their academic testing. After a brief lunch break, trials will be held between 12.30pm and 2.30pm.

Students who cannot make the trials, can arrange an alternative time with the director of the relevant Sports Academy.

For more information about the academies, click [here](#)

Sports update

Sevens teams clean up



Both the Boys and Girls Rugby Sevens teams won convincingly at the Auckland Secondary Schools Rugby Sevens competition held at Waitemata Rugby Club, qualifying themselves for the NZ Condor Sevens. Both teams won every game they played.

You can see a photo essay of the Girls team [here](#), and the Boys team [here](#)

There are also photo essays of recent games involving the Junior Girls Touch team [here](#) and the Junior Boys Touch team [here](#)

General notices

Whānau Day

Māori and Pacific 'Family Day'

Explore where study can take you with your whānau and Unitec.

Where: Unitec Mt. Albert Campus

When: October 27th, 2018 | 9am - 2pm

Entertainment - Activities & Food!

Community event for the whole Fanau to visit & find out about courses

Song & Dance contest with great prizes and giveaways!

For more information register at unitec.ac.nz/events



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