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October 27, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

The Celebrations Continue!



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

The MAGS community is enjoying this special time of the year when we acknowledge the extraordinary achievements of our students across our four pillars.

A snapshot of current celebrations include: Pasifika Awards Dinner, Sports Awards Dinner, Arts Awards

Dinner, Senior School Prizegiving, School House Leavers' Dinner and Te Puna o Wairaka Awards Evening.

It is impressive to see a significant number of our individual students being recognised more than once across the different events. It further reinforces the generic skills and attitudes that are necessary to be successful in any context ... setting your expectations high, being organised, working hard, dealing with setbacks and keeping going! These traits help to maximise talent.

Our senior students have one eye on recognising what they have achieved to date, and the other on preparing for NCEA Examinations. The skills listed above will also be very relevant in the time remaining before entering the exam hall. And if our senior students aren't busy enough – the Graduate Ball is also held next week!

It is a time to catch our breath and mark the great year we've enjoyed to date. But also to remember the full stop on 2023 comes after NCEA and Scholarship Examinations.

Have a good weekend (and go the All Blacks)!

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday, October 30

Leavers' Day

Tuesday, October 31

Senior Prizegiving, F.W.
Gamble Hall, 10am

Thursday, November 2

Te Puna o Wairaka Prizegiving
Dinner, Te Mahurehure Marae,
6.30pm

Saturday, November 4

School Leavers Ball, Pullman
Hotel, 6pm

Monday, November 6

NCEA Exams begin

Monday, November 13

Teacher Only Day – Juniors
study at home

Tuesday, November 14 to

Thursday, November 16

Junior Exams

Sport

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

Sports Dinner celebrates huge year



Anika Todd and Roy Tatupu were named Victrix Ludorum and Victor Ludorum respectively for their wide-ranging and impressive achievements in sport.

Last night's Sports Awards Dinner at Alexandra Park saw a huge crowd of students and their whanau celebrating a great year in sport for MAGS.

Anika Todd and Roy Tatupu were named Victrix Ludorum and Victor Ludorum respectively, while the Headmaster's Cup for Team of the Year was shared between three high-achieving teams: the Rugby Girls 1st XV, the Cricket Boys 1st XI and the Basketball Boys Premiers. The Te Aroha Keenan Cup for Outstanding Individual Achievement for Girls was awarded to Summer Temu, while Marlin Toloa won the comparable boys' award – the Olympic Cup. Anika has represented the school in Athletics, Cricket, Football, Curling and Lawn Bowls

this year, and was also selected in the Aotearoa Maori Secondary Schools cricket team, the Auckland Women's A side and the Auckland Hearts Squad. Roy has performed well in both summer and winter codes, competing in Athletics and playing Volleyball and Softball then 1st XV Rugby in the winter season – and he represented Rugby League during tournament week and played a one-off tournament for Netball. Roy was also named in the NZSS Tournament Team for Volleyball this year. In only his second year of playing Rugby he was selected for the Auckland U18 team and the Blues U18 squad.



Summer, pictured top right, is Captain of the Premier Netball team and has played in the team since Year 10. This year Summer was named in the New Zealand Secondary schools team who played Australia in June. She captained the MAGS team back to National qualification this year and was also named in the NZ U21 squad. Summer received her third Sports Lion award for Netball this year and the trophy for Best Player in Premier Netball.

Marlin, pictured lower right, captained the MAGS NZSS Waka Ama team this year and won the school's first Blue Cap for Waka Ama by winning the U19 W1 race as an U16 at NZSS. He also won the U19 World Championship W6 over 500m and 1000m and is the current National U16 W6 Champion and was placed second in the World U16 W6 long distance competition.



The Team of the Year award was shared between Boys Premier Basketball – AKSS Champions for only the eighth

time in the 50 years of the competition, Boys 1st XI Cricket – AKSS Champions, the second time in 40 years of the competition, and Girls 1st XV Rugby – AKSS Champions for the first time in MAGS history.

Guests also enjoyed a panel discussion, pictured below, that was hosted by students Benjamin Roache and Tito Tipi and featured Albertian sportsmen Paul Roache and Adi Ashok. There was also a musical interlude with a rendition by Hokioramai Dunn, Kairo Ah Kuoi-Simich and Eved Ah Soon of *It's Now or Never*.

You can see more photos from the prizegiving and the full list of prizewinners [here](#)



Top Arts students recognised



On Tuesday, we held the Arts Lion and Arts Attitude Awards Assembly to an appreciative audience of parents and Year 9 students.

Arts Lions were presented to 45 senior students in recognition of their excellence in Arts Academia, Leadership, Creativity and Performance.

This was followed by the presentation of the Arts Attitude Awards. These awards recognise commitment, work ethic and going the extra mile to achieve personal and collective best practice, and also to serving the arts through lifting others. These awards reflect that attitude rather than aptitude determines the altitude.

The Owairaka Jazz trio – consisting of Daniel Lees, Gene Todd and Theo Wright performed to the delight of the audience.

You can see the Arts Lions [here](#) and the Arts Attitude Award winners [here](#)



Chess player claims national title

Year 10 Janice Shi was named Female Open Champion at the Chess Power Champions Trophy event held at Alfriston College over Labour Weekend.

Janice, who also finished 19th in the Open Mixed event, is the first female student at MAGS to claim that title.

Jacob Miller was eighth in the same tournament, which is invitation-only and aims to find the best young chess players in the country.



Art for the Planet



This year, Art for the Planet worked on two ocean-themed sculptures in relation to the Maui dolphin and a starfish suspended on a rock formation.

Over the course of the year the group collaborated with the leaders (Toby Forster and Sandra Mao – Year 12 students) to create a display drawing attention to the plastic pollution problem in the ocean. Students also worked on haikus based on this theme. The sculptures, together with information, are now displayed in the Library.

Dance for the Planet: This small group worked together to form a choreography to draw

attention to the deforestation of the Amazon forest and its impacts on both local communities and the natural environment. Currently the video is being edited and then will be shared.

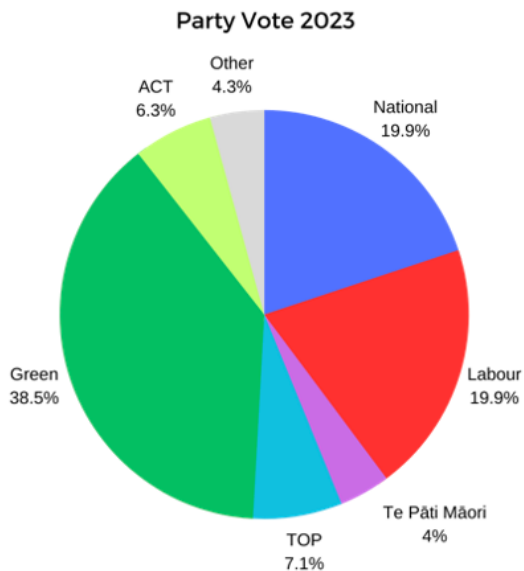
Mock election at MAGS

Our student bloggers, who produce *The Roar*, asked students and staff to take part in an anonymous mock election before the official NZ general election – with interesting results.

In the mock election, 38.5% of Mount Albert Grammar School students and faculty supported the Green Party, support for Labour and National was 19.9%, while The Opportunities Party (TOP) got 7.1%, followed by ACT with 6.3% and Te Pāti Māori at 4%.

This differs significantly from the 2023 General Election's preliminary results, where National leads the polls at 38.99%, followed by Labour at 26.85%, and the Greens at 10.78%.

You can read the full article, and others in *The Roar*, [here](#)



Seniors' one-off exhibition

To acknowledge and celebrate all their hard work throughout the year, our Year 11 and Year 12 Visual Art Students' (Design, Photography and Painting) folio boards went on display in MH Block Atrium on Tuesday at lunchtime.

It was extremely popular, with teachers and students all crowding through to view the fantastic work on display.



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 11th of December, 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!



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
- 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



Sports Update

Albertians take on 1st XI Hockey teams



Last Friday, Albertians once more played against our Boys and Girls 1st XI Hockey teams.

Director of Hockey Mr Dempster said, "The games were played on the Auckland Grammar turf in brilliant conditions with good numbers, particularly in the boys' game!"

The girls played first in an even game, the difference being the finishing in front of goal for the Old Girls team. Caitlin Donaldson and MAGS teacher Sharne Roberts were strong at the back for the Old Girls. Chilean international Sofia Castillo Sambuceti and Maisy Simpson dominated the midfield and Briar Tippett and Bethan Grant had fun up front. The Old Girls were lacking numbers so were topped up by MAGS players, and in fact it was Sophie Rednall who scored two late goals to seal the win 4-0 for the Old Girls.

The boys produced a tightly fought match. Shae Iswar scored early with a cracking reverse shot for the Old Boys, but it was the school team that led after the first period. Two goals to Ollie Swann and one to Oscar Vink gave them a 3-1 advantage. The 1st XI held the ball for long periods and played great attacking hockey down both flanks. The Old Boys changed their tactics after that and fought their way back into the game. Late in the game it was 3-all after Zack Edgerton and Jayden Dahya scored goals then Shae managed to score for a 4-3 win.

We were lucky enough to have vintage old boy Owen Hayward entertain the crowds on the sideline. He was captain of the 1954 team and coached MAGS teams through the 1980s. Goalie Glynn Clarke, who had an outstanding game, and the father of Yashani Bhana from the 1st XI Girls' team were both in his teams.

Mr Dempster said, "Thank you to Year 9 student Hunter Norris who umpired the girls' game and Rakesh Govind, father of 1st XI player Neel Govind, who umpired the boys' game."

"What rounded off the day nicely was the introduction of a trophy for the girls. The Simpson family kindly donated the 'Simpson Cup', which Old Girls captain Caitlin Donaldson [above at left, received for the first time from Maisy Simpson].

Mr Dempster added, "We are hoping numbers can grow with the girls to match the boys and we can make this a regular fixture in the MAGS calendar. The after-match makes for an



excellent evening. It was good to see so many players, Albertians and parents enjoying the skills displayed on the field as well as the festivities at the Good Home afterwards."

A Tradition of Excellence

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**EXCELLENCE
CONNECTION
& GROWTH**

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