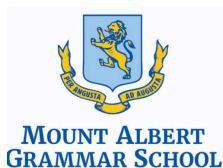




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**A Tradition of Excellence**  
9th-14th May 2022



September 11, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

### NCEA Learning Recognition Credits – A Confidence Boost!



The announcement that the New Zealand Qualifications Authority has increased the offering of additional NCEA credits (Learning Recognition Credits) to Auckland school students is welcome news.

NCEA students can now gain 1 additional credit for every 4 credits they achieve (an increase on the previous 1 for 5) up to a total of 16 credits at Level

1 and 12 credits at Levels 2 and 3. The threshold for certificate endorsement has also been reduced to 44 credits at Excellence or Merit (from the original 50 credits). Please see more information in the item below.

Universities have also signalled that they will be flexible around course entry requirements for 2021. These changes will bring a big confidence boost to our senior students as they move into preliminary examinations in just over a week's time.

They further reinforce there is still much to gain from the remainder of the school year. Students can move into the business end of the academic year knowing that schools, NZQA and tertiary providers are prepared to work alongside them to ensure qualifications are achievable.

There really can be no excuses now. The support measures announced are more than generous and potentially provide an advantage for our Auckland and MAGS students over other students across the country.

There remains over nine weeks until NCEA examinations begin – plenty of time to make an academic success out of 2020.

#### Weekly Notices



#### Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

#### Hepetema (September) 14-20

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week)

#### Thursday, September 24

Last day of classes for Term 3

#### Friday, September 25

Staff Only Day

School Ball, 6pm, Ellerslie Event Centre



#### Sport

Having a plan, working smarter (and harder), taking advantage of the extra tutorials on offer at school, and using the 'Auckland weighting' brings NCEA to within reach of everyone! No excuses!

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm  
Headmaster



Summer sport registrations  
Click [here](#)

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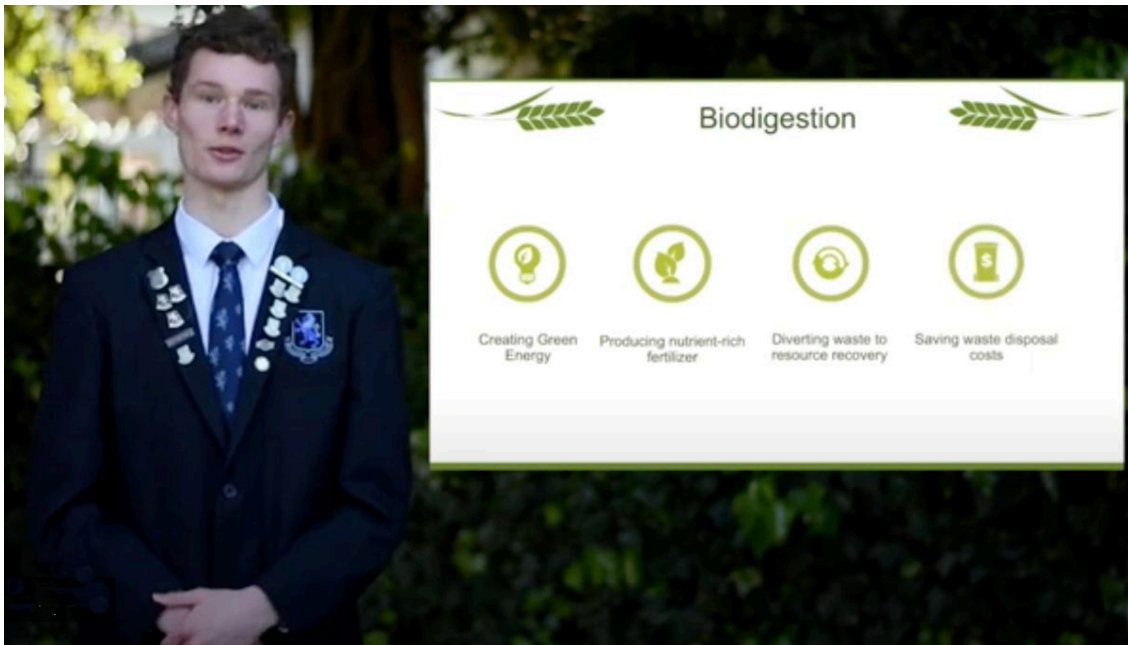
## Tongan Language Week



Tongan Language Week – Uike Kātoanga’i ‘o e Lea Faka-Tonga – was celebrated at MAGS this week with staff and students encouraged to use [Tongan greetings and expressions](#). Activities around the week were limited due to Auckland being at Alert Level 2.5 but students enjoyed Cultural Dress Day today as part of embracing Tongan culture and language.

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## Faolan in Eureka! finals again



Amazing effort from Year 13 Prefect Faolan Okan, who has once again been selected as a Eureka! Awards finalist.

Last year, Faolan was a finalist and won a Department of Conservation internship for his presentation about wastewater treatment.

This year, his [video presentation](#) is about using biodigestion to produce a sustainable gas supply.

The Sir Paul Callaghan Eureka! Awards challenges students to present about how an application of science or technology will benefit New Zealand. There is prizemoney and scholarships up for grabs, with the Premier Award worth \$10,000.

This year, the competition has introduced a People's Choice Award, and you can vote for Faolan [here](#)

Albertian Shalin Shah (2015-18), who is studying Engineering Science and Global Studies at the University of Auckland, is also one of the finalists this year.

There will be a livestream of the judges questioning the finalists on their presentations [here](#) on September 28 at 2pm.

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## Sharnah moves up the St John ranks





Congratulations to Sharnah Pascoe-Scouller, who has been named St John's Regional Cadet of the Year (RCOTY) for the Northern Region.

Two weeks ago, we shared the news that she had been named one of the region's six District Cadets of the Year vying for the honour of being RCOTY. Now she is up against the two other RCOTYs (South Island Region and Central Region) for the title of National Cadet of the Year, announced next month.

Sharnah (pictured top left with her St John Regional Youth Manager, at right, and her Deputy RCOTY, below) says of her RCOTY selection: "I had to create a presentation on wellbeing/mental health and how I would use my leadership position to support cadets. As a part of this, I went through a range of interviews and team-building exercises showing how I can work in a team and what skills I have to prove I deserve the role.

"As I'm currently District Cadet of the Year (DCOTY), I finish my DCOTY term for this year and then start my RCOTY term on January 1.

"As a part of my role as RCOTY, I have to support cadets and be a positive role model and leader for them. I currently have blue aiguillettes on my uniform from being DCOTY, but I will switch to silver ones in 2021 when I start my role as RCOTY."

As previously reported, Sharnah is working towards getting her Grand Prior, which is signed by the Queen and awarded by the Governor-General, and is the highest award in the St John Youth program.

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## Another Duke of Ed Gold achiever

Congratulations also go to Year 13 student Caitlin Mitchell, who has joined Head Boy Eric Shen in achieving the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award this year.

To gain the Gold Award, participants must learn a skill, improve their physical wellbeing, volunteer in their community, experience a team adventure in a new environment and complete a residential project.

Caitlin's physical recreation is karate, her skill is guitar, her service is in conservation



projects, her adventurous journey was an expedition in the Nelson Lakes National Park, and her residential project was Space Camp in the USA.

Eric was awarded his Duke of Ed Gold in February. His physical recreation is karate, skill is piano lessons and performance, service is piano tutoring, adventurous journey an expedition in the Kaimai Ranges, and his residential project was also Space Camp in the USA.

The Duke of Edinburgh programme challenges young people in goal-setting, leadership, organisation and self-improvement through persistence and achievement.



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## Dance Concert cancelled

Unfortunately, because of COVID-19 Alert Level restrictions, we are unable to open our dance concert to a public audience.

Students will still be teaching and performing in the theatre to meet all assessment criteria, however they will attend in groups to meet safety requirements.

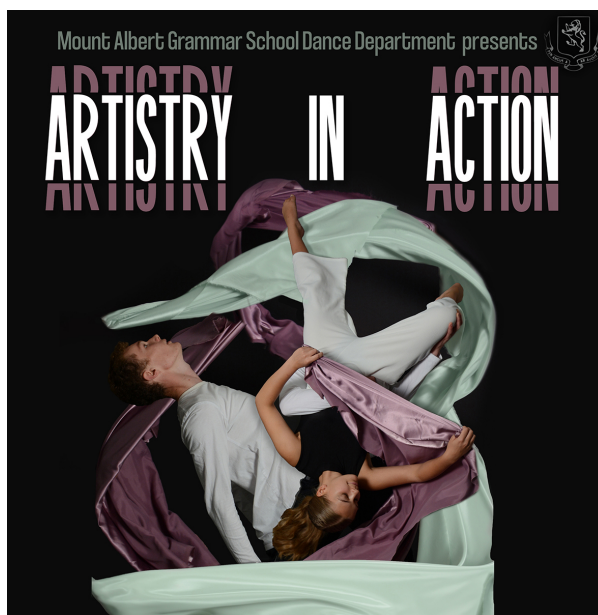
All dance students will, however, get an opportunity to perform for each other and staff next Thursday after school.

A huge thanks to the many parents who have donated the cost of their purchased ticket(s) to the Dance

Department to offset the theatre and

technical expenses. We will be sharing the prepared show video with you.

To any others who have purchased tickets and wish to get a refund, please contact the Finance Department direct. All credits will go to students' school accounts for later use.



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## Arts and Cultural photos



PhotoLife will be coming to MAGS for one day only to take Arts and Cultural photos – next Thursday, September 17.

This means we have had to prioritise groups as per [this schedule](#)

Please note that for the groups in the first three time slots on Thursday morning, you will need to be at school earlier than usual to be ready for your photo.

Students are advised to read the schedule carefully and ensure that they meet uniform requirements.

The schedule also has a list of those groups who we will photograph in-house at a later date.

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## End of Term 3 schedule

### Examinations:

**Senior students in Years 11, 12 & 13** will be on examination study leave across Week 10 – 21-25 September. These prerequisite examinations are timetabled across the week Monday to Friday inclusive, and senior students have been supplied with the examination timetable to plan their schedule for the week.

Across this week, senior students are expected to be at home revising for these examinations and many will be completing portfolio/assessment work, unless at school sitting examinations or attending scheduled subject workshops/tutorials.

### Last days of term:

**Junior students** will finish the term on **Thursday, 24 September**.

**Senior students** will finish the term on whichever day they have their last exam scheduled in Week 10. For **some senior students** this will be **Friday, 25 September**, with only those students who have exams scheduled on that day expected at school.

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## More changes to NCEA

There has been an update from NZQA regarding the Learning Recognition (LR) Credits and Qualifications for **AUCKLAND** students.

- **AUCKLAND** students are now eligible for 1 LR credit in every **4** achieved (previously 1 in 5)
- The maximum number of LR credits has been increased (see below)
- **AUCKLAND** students only need to get **44** credits for Certificate Endorsement (previously 46; normally 50)
- There is **NO** change to the number of UE credits per subject = 12 (normally 14)
- Learning Recognition Credits will be assigned to a Level but will not be assigned to a subject or endorsement qualification (this is for **ALL NZ** students and is a change from the original announcement of LR credits but not a change within this recent announcement).

### *Changes to earning rate and LR credit maximums*

<b>NCEA Level</b>	<b>LR credit maximum</b>	<b>LR credit earning rate</b>
L1	Up to 16 LR credits	1 for 4 credits achieved
L2	Up to 12 LR credits	1 for 4 credits achieved
L3	Up to 12 LR credits	1 for 4 credits achieved

You can read the full details [here](#)

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## College Sport update

College Sport Auckland (CSA) advises that subject to the COVID-19 alert level and gathering size restrictions being eased, the remainder of the winter sports season will resume next Thursday, 17 September.

CSA says, "Some sports and grades have already completed their scheduled fixtures and the games missed will not be rearranged."

You can see how this affects different codes [here](#)

CSA has also cancelled the annual Young Sportsperson of the Year Awards, which were due to be held at Eden Park on 19 November.

Meanwhile, summer sport registrations are open (on the [website](#) and app) and students should look out for more internal mini summer competitions happening at MAGS next term.





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## Year 8s put to the test in 2004



This image, part of Historical Images Set 48, is of Year 8s being tested in 2004, prior to starting at MAGS the following year.

The girl in the red top is Rachel Peeters. Five years later she was Head Girl.

Historical Images on the MAGS website is an ongoing collection of images sourced and

annotated by our Archivist, Brian Murphy.

For more photos like this, recently added to the MAGS website, click [here](#)

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## Sign up to the Centenary database



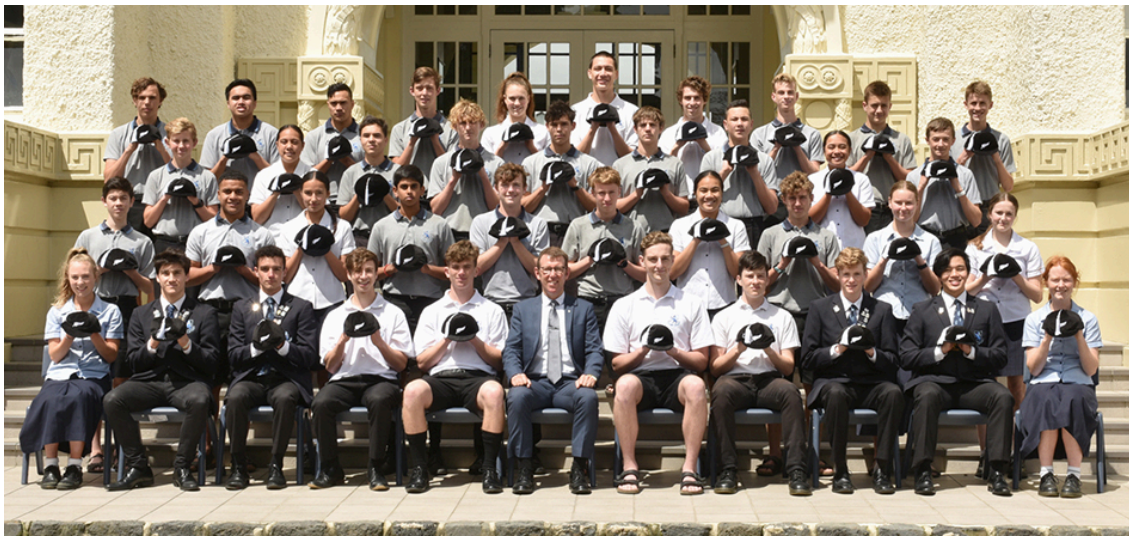
As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, with events planned for May 9-14, we warmly invite all Albertians to sign up to the database [here](#) to keep up to date with information, communications and events leading up to the Centenary celebration. Please encourage your friends and peers who were with you at MAGS to attend with you, and to also register at the link.

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## Sports update

### Black Cap applications open





The Sports Department is taking applications [here](#) for the MAGS Black Cap. You must have represented New Zealand between October 24, 2019 and October 12, 2020. To receive your Black Cap at the Sports Dinner on October 21 you will need to submit your application by Friday, September 25. Any performances after September 25 will still be celebrated at the Sports Dinner but the student name will not appear in the programme and your Black Cap will not be embroidered until after the dinner.

- You must have played in a game/sport
- Non-playing or paper teams do not count
- You must be a current MAGS student when you competed in the event

A formal photo of all Black Cap recipients will be taken at School on Wednesday, October 15 at 1.00pm.

Any queries, please email [sports@mags.school.nz](mailto:sports@mags.school.nz)

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## General Notices



# Mt Albert Primary School



1870  
**150**  
Years  
2020

## *We are turning 150 years old!*

We would like to invite all past and present:

**Students | Parents | Family | Staff**

and anyone who feels connected to our amazing school. To recognise this once-in-a-lifetime occasion, we are planning to hold events on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November 2020.

Please go to the school website for more information and register your interest

[www.mtalbertprimary.school.nz/150th/](http://www.mtalbertprimary.school.nz/150th/)

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025  
Tel:64 9 846 2044 Fax:64 9 846 2042  
[www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)



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