



Week 8, Term 3, September 13, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

# The Cost of a Quality Education



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

The costs associated with schooling and education in New Zealand have again been the focus of recent media interest.

Discussion has centred around the right of students to a 'free' education and whether parents should be further supporting schools who wish to offer more than a base level learning experience for their sons and daughters.

At MAGS we pride ourselves on a learning environment that goes far beyond any basic notion of what a school may look like. The diversity of choice across our four pillars allows for every student to follow a pathway unique to their strengths and aspirations.

Creating a school such as MAGS has not simply happened by chance – and it certainly could not have happened by relying on funding from government sources alone.

Many parents and families have helped to build up our school through donations, community fundraising events as well as investing their time in the coaching and mentoring of our students. In doing so, they have created the school they want for their sons and daughters – a school the equal of any in New Zealand.

The ideological debate about whether schooling should be free in New Zealand needs to be put to one side. The reality is we can't have MAGS as we know it without the financial and human capital our parents provide.

Thank you to our families who continue to support the MAGS young person through donations, course costs and fees.

The cost of a quality education is significant – but it pales in comparison to the cost of our young people not reaching their potential!

## Weekly Notices

### Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

#### Friday, September 20

Staff Only Day/ Exam Catch-ups

#### Tuesday, September 24

Arts Alive concert, Centennial Theatre, 7pm

#### Thursday, September 26

Last day of classes for students in Term 3

#### Friday, September 27

Staff Only Day

### Sport

#### PHOTO ESSAY



#### School House Boys v Day Boys Rugby

Click [here](#)

#### Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Have a good weekend.

Sport trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

**Patrick Drumm**  
Headmaster

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## Winter Tournament Week wrap-up



Many thanks to the staff, parents, family members and Albertians who have coached, managed and/or supported MAGS teams throughout Winter Tournament Week. More than 200 students participated in various sports throughout the country during the week and it wouldn't be possible without the efforts of all the helpers behind the scenes. One of the highlights of the week was an outstanding effort from the Fencing team to win the Girls and Boys Epee Teams events as well as Charlie Bioletti being the NZSS Individual Epee Champion, with James Butler runner-up and Gio Aguilar third-equal – a MAGS trifecta.

On top of that, Amey Smith won Bronze in the Womens' Individual Epee.

The Boys A Team (pictured above with coach Kyle Macdonald) won the Epee Teams event in dramatic fashion with Charlie winning the last point when both teams were tied on 44 points, and 45 points needed for the win.

Special thanks to Kyle Macdonald for championing the event to be held at MAGS and his commitment to coaching the team.

Other highlights were the Basketball Girls Junior Premiers (pictured below) finishing runners-up in the Schick AA Regional tournament to Westlake Girls High, and the Hockey Boys 1st XI beating Rotorua Boys High 3-2 in their last game to finish third at their tournament in Whangarei.

In Curling, the four-person Mixed Team of Bryn Williams, Jack Millar, Lily Hardy and

Hashmita Singh were runners-up in the NISS competition in their debut season. You can read all about Winter Tournament week and see photos of the teams in action [here](#) and see their fixtures and results [here](#)



## Tickets on sale for Girls Alumni Cocktail Party

Get your tickets now for a cocktail party for female Albertians to be held on Friday, September 27 to celebrate 20 years of girls at MAGS. We'd like you to join us in the F.W. Gamble Hall at 5pm for a celebration and a commemoration of this significant event in our school's history. You can buy tickets [here](#). The evening will feature canapés and drinks, special student performances and guest speakers.

We will also be hosting school tours 4.30-5pm (prior to the cocktail party). Please register your interest to [events@mags.school.nz](mailto:events@mags.school.nz)

The school will be celebrating 100 years in 2022 and we hope to build our database of alumni – male and female – so we can celebrate with as many of you as possible at other alumni events over the coming three years.

If you haven't already, you can sign up to our database of alumni [here](#)



## Te Wiki o te Reo Māori



As part of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori/ Māori Language Week, MAGS' staff and students have been introducing te reo Māori into the day-to-day routines of classrooms with help from Te Puna o Wairaka staff.

Te Puna students also presented to staff about the importance of correct pronunciation of names and their cultural and ancestral importance. As pictured, the Physical Education department has introduced a Maori tākarō (play) unit into its Junior PE programme to provide opportunity for ākonga (students) to explore and experience games specific to Māori culture.

PE teacher Andrew Scaife said, "The main aim is to celebrate Māori and promote cultural and physical wellbeing. "The games celebrate the traditional aspects of Māori movement, and strengthen physical and mental agility. Junior ākonga have been thoroughly engaged in the games, encouraged to use te reo Māori and it is proving to be a rich and valuable learning experience for both ākonga and kaiako (teachers)."



For beginners and people wanting to improve their te reo, there is a selection of helpful, short videos [here](#)

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## Don't miss out on Arts Alive



The annual Arts Alive concert presenting the very best of Dance, Drama and Music performances and a stunning display of our talented Visual Artists' work will be held at Auckland Grammar's Centennial Theatre on Tuesday, September 24 at 7pm.

At the conclusion of the concert, Headmaster Patrick Drumm will present the 2019 Arts Lion recipients with their award.

Please come and support our talented students.

Tickets on sale from MAGS Finance Office from next Tuesday.

Tickets: Adults \$20, students/pensioners \$15, MAGS staff and students \$10.

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## Spoken Word team in finals

MAGS' Spoken Word team will be competing at the Auckland Town Hall tomorrow against five other teams drawn from across Auckland in *WORD - The Front Line Grand Slam*.

Our team of (from left) Abby Irwin, Matilda Clack, Takunda Muzondiwa and Vaibhav Nayyar made it through the tough semifinals in a poetry slam competition that began with 44 teams.

They have been working hard to write and rehearse their pieces and will perform three items in the final in the Town Hall Concert Chamber tomorrow at 7pm.

You can buy tickets to the final [here](#)



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## In-Zone enrolments for 2020

An urgent reminder to all MAGS families that Year 9 enrolments for 2020 are currently being processed.

Parents will appreciate that being able to process enrolment information, and being able to determine student numbers as early and accurately as possible, is important for making the best staffing decisions for next year.

Our MAGS families are urged to get their new enrolments in as soon as possible and asked to remind any friends, who they know to be In-Zone for our school and intending to enrol their child, to do the same.

**Enrolments for Year 8 students coming to MAGS in 2020:** Please enrol online using the ['Enrolment' link](#) on the MAGS website.

**Please note:** Class and Options for 2020 are filling fast and it is critical that our In-Zone enrolments for 2020 are received as soon as possible to ensure students are able to take their preferred option choices.

### **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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## Upcoming Staff Only Days

The last two Fridays of Term 3 – Friday, September 20 and Friday, September 27 – are staff only days to allow for examination catch-ups and administration tasks and responsibilities.

Students are to remain home on Friday, September 20 unless they are required at school to sit catch-up examinations.

The last day of student attendance for Term 3 is Thursday, September 26.

## Students dish up charity dinner

**Ignite Colleges**

**DINE with us**  
**HELP a child**

Join us for a magical dinner as young chefs from across 6 Auckland Secondary schools come together to create a delicious 4 course meal and receive a goodie bag to take home. All proceeds go towards the Child Cancer Foundation.

Ticket : \$95  
Time: 6 PM Onwards  
Ignite Colleges  
98 Kers Rd, Wiri  
Campus 2 (Free Parking)

**9 OCTOBER 2019** BOOK NOW  
Anna Irvine  
airvine@childcancer.org.nz

PROUD SUPPORTER

A SPECIAL THANKS TO

IC, PAPA KURA HIGH SCHOOL, AUSTIE BUTCHER

Five MAGS students will be preparing food for a charity dinner on October 9 to help the Child Cancer Foundation. Caitlin Tubman, Sohail Varma, Jody Li, Novalee Enosa Rapana and Kanhaiya Naidu will join students from other schools to bring the four-course meal together and provide guests with a goody bag. The MAGS students will be preparing the canapes/entree. Join in and book your tables and support this event.

## From the Archives

Our archivist Brian Murphy continues to be busy illuminating the rich history of MAGS. Among articles he has updated or added to [The Archives](#) is a list of the people associated with the school who have gone on to be principals of schools – such as MAGS' former Deputy Principal Fiona Barker (pictured), who is now Principal at Green Bay High School.

Mr Murphy says the list is a work in progress and he is happy to be emailed regarding further additions at [bmurphy@mags.school.nz](mailto:bmurphy@mags.school.nz)  
You can see the list of principals [here](#)



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## Sports update

### Curling team's successful debut



Our curling team, a first ever for MAGS, has just finished their season with the Mixed Team gaining top three placings in both the Auckland and NISS competitions.  
The Auckland Secondary Schools Competition saw our mixed team competing over



several months against other Auckland schools, all of whom have been curling for several years.

Our team, one of the youngest in the open competition, of Bryn Williams, Jack Millar, Lily Hardy, Hashmita Singh, Sarah Brinck and Nabil Malik finished third in the competition. They then went on the North Island Secondary School Champs, played during tournament week, with their four-person team of Bryn Williams, Jack Millar, Lily Hardy and Hashmita Singh, and finished runners-up in this competition.

All six team members improved enormously throughout the season and show great promise. Our team was approached by one of the Auckland Curling Association international representatives who is keen to do some coaching with them next season. If you are keen to give this Olympic sport a go, look out for the 'have a go' sessions and trials in April next year in preparation for the 2020 season.

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## School House wins out

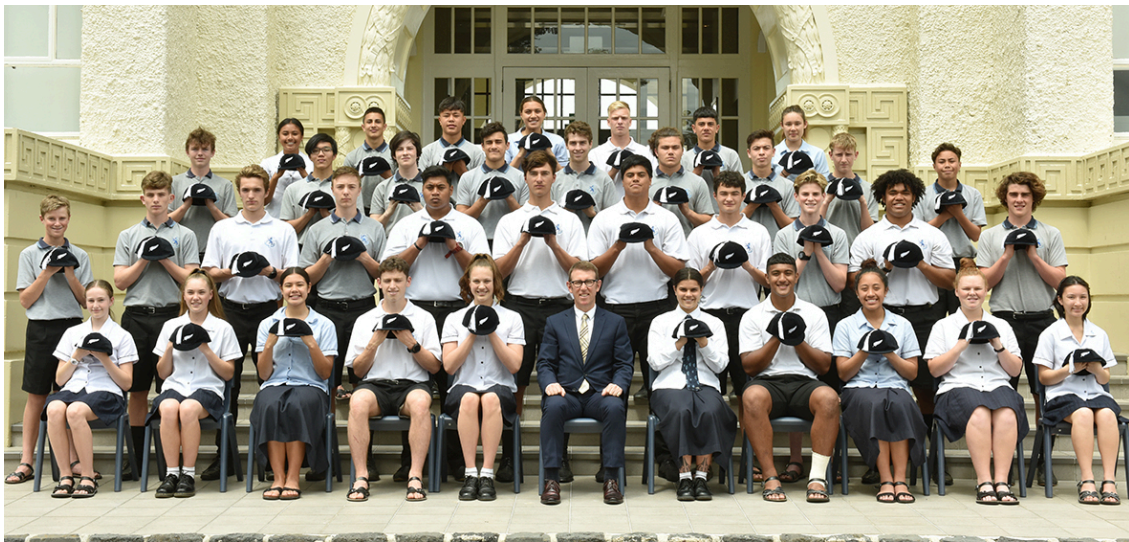


Tuesday afternoon saw the much-anticipated rugby showdown between the School House Boys and the Day Boys, which was a lively affair in front of an appreciative and vocal crowd.

Momentum see-sawed in the game but the School House Boys hung on for a 29-27 win. Click [here](#) for a photo essay from the game.

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## Black Caps nominations



Nominations are open for MAGS' Black Caps. To be eligible:

- You must have represented New Zealand between the 24 October, 2018 and the 23 October, 2019.
- 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

You can register your nomination [here](#)

Applications close 24 October 2019. Applications after 14 October will be acknowledged but names will not appear in the Sports Dinner programme.

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## General Notices

**Drowning Prevention Auckland**

# SPLASH

**Break-Away Holiday Programme**

**11-17yrs**

**October 2019**

FREE school holiday programme - Have fun, make new friends, strengthen your swimming skills and learn how to keep yourself and your mates safer around water. Previous water experience not essential.

## Mount Albert Aquatic Centre

38 Alberton Ave, Mount Albert

Monday 30th September, Tue 1st, Wed 2nd, Thur 3rd October

(Must attend all four days)

9.00am - 2.30pm daily.

**Includes FREE lunch**

To Register email: [Splash@dpanz.org.nz](mailto:Splash@dpanz.org.nz)



Spaces are limited and will be filled on a first-in basis. Registration essential.

Drowning Prevention Auckland is the trading name of WaterSafe Auckland.

**FREE PROGRAMME**

- water safety
- aquatic games
- beach safety
- snorkeling

For more information:  
Ph 09 368 5611 or  
Email: [Splash@dpanz.org.nz](mailto:Splash@dpanz.org.nz)

Enrolment forms available from  
[www.dpanz.org.nz](http://www.dpanz.org.nz)



**ORANGA TAMARIKI**  
Ministry for Children



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