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September 9, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)



## Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

### September 12 to 19

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori  
(Māori Language week)

### Tuesday, September 13

Senior Pre-requisite Exams  
start

### Thursday, September 29

Last day of classes for Term 3

### Friday, September 30

Teacher Only Day

## A Legacy of Service and Presence



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

Our National Flag flies at half-mast today at MAGS in acknowledgement of the death of Queen Elizabeth II, New Zealand's monarch for the past 70 years.

The length of service by the Queen has been immense by every measure.

Our Head of State has been ever-present in the story of MAGS with her birth in 1926 coinciding with the opening of the F.W. Gamble Hall – in just the fifth year of the school.

It is that faithful example of presence and duty throughout the



## Sport

### Photo Essays



Queen's reign that is most impactful. It is a model of leadership that has provided such confidence and certainty throughout the past 70 years since her ascension to the throne in 1952 and her coronation in 1953.

The Queen will potentially be remembered as 'Elizabeth the Great' – a reflection on both the quantity and quality of her service leadership. What an example for our young MAGS leaders – and indeed all leaders around the world.



Thank you to our Tongan student leaders for their celebrations and performances throughout Tongan Language Week this week.

Ma'u ha uike ni lelei (Have a good weekend).

Patrick Drumm  
Headmaster

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**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**

Basketball Premier Girls  
Tournament  
Click [here](#)

**Fixtures and Results**  
Click [here](#)



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## Tongan Language Week



This year's theme for Uike Kātoanga'i 'o e Lea Faka-Tonga (Tongan Language Week) was *Ke Tu'uloa 'a e lea faka-Tonga 'i Aotearoa*, which means Sustaining the Tongan Language in Aotearoa. Our Tongan students created and shared videos on the [MAGS Pasifika Instagram page](#) about Tongan values throughout the week.

Yesterday, there was a Staff v Pasifika Council basketball game, and today there was a Tongan cultural performance in the gym.



**Centenary Events selling fast**



Tickets are selling fast for our [Centenary Celebrations](#) during the week of September 25 to October 1 so get in quick if you want to attend any of the following events:



- Centenary Dinner (Saturday, October 1, 6.30pm, Grand Millennium Hotel).  
The culmination of our Centenary Celebrations week will feature a three-course dinner, drinks and entertainment.  
The event will be MC'ed by Albertian broadcaster Mark Watson and feature a Headmasters' Q&A session, as well as three guest speakers: Albertian rugby legend Sir Bryan Williams, Albertian high-flying academic Molly Swanson, and our Academic Dean Warwick Gibbs, who has taught at MAGS for 50 years and was named Albertian of the Year 2021.  
Guests will also be able to order [Centenary merchandise](#), and buy the Centenary Book, *Change and Tradition*, which covers the past 25 years at MAGS and is a companion to MAGS' 75th Jubilee book, *Tradition and Change*.
- Centenary Reunion Drinks (Friday, September 30, 6pm, F.W. Gamble Hall).  
This informal gathering over food and drinks is a time for Albertians to catch up or reconnect.  
There will be food on shared platters, a cash bar, a DJ on the night, and guests will be able to view class, sports and school photos from their time at MAGS.  
A photographer will be available to take photos of the reunions of classmates and friend groups.
- Albertians' Day and Luncheon (Wednesday, September 28, at MAGS).  
This day begins at 9.00am with a School Tour, followed by a Centenary Tree planting conducted by one of our oldest Albertians, Professor Russell Stone (the co-author of MAGS' 75th Jubilee book *Tradition and Change*) and one of our youngest students.  
Following this ceremony, there will be a special assembly with a guest speaker

before adjourning for the Albertians Luncheon (for Old Old Boys and past staff) in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room. Make sure you bring along some \$5 notes for the raffle. Guests will also be able to buy the newly released Centenary Book, *Change and Tradition*.



- The Centenary Thanksgiving Service (Sunday, September 25, 10am, FW Gamble Hall) kicks off the week, with Caleb Faleolo as MC and the guest speaker being Thomas Wynne on "Through Hardship to Glory". The one-hour service will feature musical pieces by Matatumua Opeloge Ah Sam and our school choirs, with refreshments served at the end.
- Centenary Golf Day (Thursday, September 29, 11am, Muriwai Golf Club). There are limited slots available for this event, which will be an Ambrose competition with a shotgun start – and a social function and prizegiving afterwards at the Muriwai Golf Club.
- The Alternative School Tour with the Pua brothers (Friday, September 30, 10am at MAGS). Social historians Mua Strickson-Pua and Sofi Ulugia-Pua (pictured right) will conduct a light-hearted and nostalgic tour of the school grounds with fun facts, trivia and prizes.
- School Tours (various days throughout the week). Tours will be led around key locations of the school campus with time to explore the honours boards in the F.W. Gamble Hall. Some tours will culminate in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room (the new staffroom), with light refreshments and some time to speak with our archivists Brian Murphy and Greg Cave.



You can learn more about these Centenary Events and buy tickets for them or register for them [here](#)

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**A victory for the ages**



*The triumphant Football Girls Junior A side with coach Rudy Mozr and Captain (for the week) Piper O'Neill holding aloft the Kathy Seaward Trophy.*

They might have been last-minute entrants up against much older players but that did not stop the Junior Football Girls cleaning up at the Kathy Seaward Tournament during Winter Tournament week.



As Director of Football Peter Smith explains, "The tournament is one below the Premier Tournament and for school First XI teams that did not qualify for the Premier tournament in Taupo.

"We were asked if we would like to enter a team after the organisers had several teams pull out due to COVID. We accepted but put together a Junior team made up of Year 9 and 10 Girls. "The Girls went the whole way in the tournament, winning the final against Lynfield College 1st XI by 3-0."

On the way to winning the trophy, they defeated the 1st XI teams of Waitakere

College, Whangaparaoa College, King's College, Albany Senior School, Selwyn College and Western Springs College.

Mr Smith adds, "This is a real achievement for a squad of Year 9s and 10s playing against much older players."

You can see the team in action in a photo essay [here](#)

See the Sports section below for a Winter Tournament Week wrap-up.

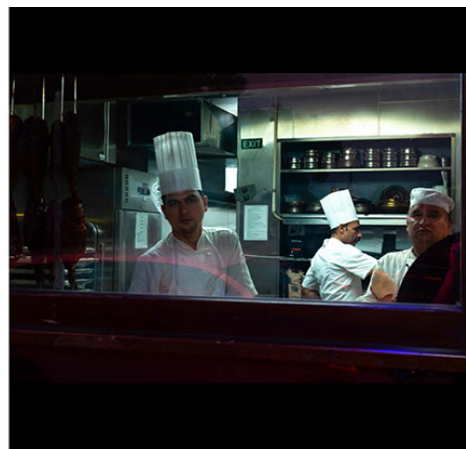
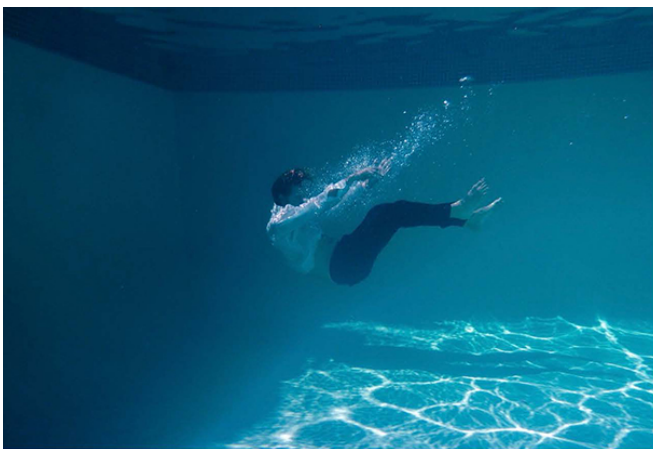
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## Visual Art students rack up awards



Congratulations to Zoe Whaley and Nico Stroud, who took out first and second respectively in the Youth Photography section at The Trusts 35th Art Exhibition, held at the Trusts Arena in West Auckland.

Zoe won for her underwater photo *Descent*, and Nico came a close second with his photo *Chef*.



Zoe Whaley and Jorja Stevens are pictured below with Visual Art teachers Ms Smith and Ms Gauntlett at the Pat Hanly Creativity Awards.



Zoe also won a 2022 Pat Hanly Creativity Award along with Jorja Stevens, who created the illustration pictured right.

Ms Gauntlett says, "The Pat Hanly Creativity Awards are held annually at Auckland Art

Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, in partnership with AUT.

"As one of Tāmaki Makaurau's longest-standing creative youth art awards, this event celebrates our senior secondary school/kura artists in an evening event that also acknowledges one of New Zealand's most prolific artists: Pat Hanly. "All Tāmaki Makaurau secondary schools/kura are invited to nominate for this award one or two of their top art students/ākonga, who have demonstrated outstanding creativity, imagination and commitment to the visual arts."



## Model UN solving the world's problems



*Model United Nations participants, from left, Nishka Arora, Helen Wen, Ryan Antia and Jason Jacob.*



Last week, the MAGS Model United Nations club was lucky enough to have four individuals attend the New Zealand and Auckland Model United Nations events in Wellington and at the University of Auckland respectively.

The event spanned three days in which the students engaged with topics such as climate change and poverty. While in Wellington, the students each represented a country and tried to cooperate to amend resolutions.

High School Ambassador (HSA) Ryan said, "While at Wellington and the University, the students learned about the affairs and the problems faced by the other students who were allocated countries with a view to seeking solutions.

"We learnt a great deal from the event and hope to apply the same here at MAGS."

Ryan and Helen, two of the HSAs who run the MAGS Model United Nations club, hope to run a similar event at MAGS in Term 1 next year.

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## Choir rehearses with composer



After hearing many of David Hamilton's compositions at The Big Sing, Gloriana was treated to some expert direction when he attended choir rehearsal on Wednesday.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the choir, who have been working hard on new repertoire.

Choir Director Catherine Oxenham commented that the choir rose admirably to the challenge of being directed by an industry expert.

Mr Hamilton (pictured left) remarked that Gloriana was developing a beautiful sound and there was considerable talent among the group.

Mrs Oxenham said, "Gloriana is working on one of Mr Hamilton's compositions and it was a fantastic opportunity to put a face to the name and understand how and why he wrote the music as he did.

"Mr Hamilton also commented how fortunate Gloriana was to have such a large team of staff supporting their development."

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## Secondary teacher training 2023

Mount Albert Grammar School is one of 22 Auckland schools involved in the Auckland Secondary School Teaching Training Programme that is run in conjunction with University of Waikato.

This programme offers the opportunity to train as a secondary school teacher within a secondary school environment, while completing the Post Graduate Diploma in Teaching online. 2023 sees this programme in its third year of operation.

Trainees accepted into this programme spend a full year working on site at MAGS, completing their Post Graduate Diploma in Teaching online with the University of Waikato. The programme provides the opportunity for trainees to be paired with a subject specific mentor and work alongside them in a both a senior and junior class. There is an expectation that trainees will also choose to be involved in the co-curricular programmes within the school: for example, those in the arts, sports or service pillars.

During the year, trainees will also have the opportunity to participate in a three-week professional experience (practicum equivalent) at one of the other Auckland schools in the programme. Plus, there are also 12 professional development days hosted across the other Auckland schools involved.

MAGS will meet the costs associated with the Post Graduate Diploma in Teaching and pay a stipend, currently \$10,000, for the year.

We are specifically interested in those who wish to train as Mathematics, Physics, Technology and Te Reo Māori teachers. However, applications from other subject areas are also welcome.

If you are interested in further information about this programme, please see the link [here](#) and/or contact Sarah Hayes, Deputy Principal ([shayes@mags.school.nz](mailto:shayes@mags.school.nz) or phone 815 4038).

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## Senior Pre-requisite Exams



Senior Pre-requisite Exams start next Tuesday, September 13. These examinations provide the opportunity for students to test themselves under the same conditions that NZQA exams are run at the end of the year. You can see the exam information [here](#) and the timetable [here](#)

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## Homestay families for 2023

The International Department is currently looking for families to accommodate our international students in the year commencing 2023.

Homestays are our most popular style of accommodation as our students benefit from living with an English-speaking family and sharing in the NZ family experience. The experience is enriching and rewarding for both students and hosts.



### **What are the expectations of a host family?**

A host is expected to provide a clean and comfortable bedroom with bed, wardrobe (built-in or free-standing) and drawers, linen and towels, desk and lamp, heating in room, three meals a day plus snacks and laundry. We prefer our students to be placed within a 20-minute commute of school

### **What is the benefit of hosting?**

- A chance to meet students from all over the world.
- An opportunity for your children to learn a different language and build an international friend network. We have many families who have visited or sent their children to stay with their past homestay students overseas.
- Prompt fortnightly payment of \$640 (\$320 per week).
- Short- and long-term students available.

If you would like some further information, please email [homestay@mags.school.co.nz](mailto:homestay@mags.school.co.nz)

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## Get your Centenary merchandise now!



MAGS Official Centenary apparel and merchandise is now available to order, with more Centenary merchandise to be added.

Available now are stylish hoodies, rugby jerseys, basketball singlets, caps, beanies, ties, scarves and face masks – all in MAGS colours and most of them boasting the Centenary logo.

You can order MAGS Centenary apparel and merchandise [here](#)



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## Sports Update

### Winter Tournament Week wrap-up



With there being no Winter Tournament Week action for three years, it was great to see so many MAGS teams across various codes playing tournaments around the country.

Our Basketball Boys Premiers and Juniors finished 6th and 7th respectively while the Girls finished sixth in the Premiers and third in the Juniors.

In Fencing, our MAGS Boys Epee A team (pictured right) of Sam Taylor Sinclair, QiQliDeng and Oliver Tang was third at NZSS.

Our Football Boys 1st XI was sixth at their NZSS tournament in Napier, while our Hockey Boys and Girls 1st XIs finished 7th and 4th respectively at their NZSS competitions in Hamilton and Palmerston North.

The Lacrosse Girls Premiers played NZSS at Cambridge, finishing 6th.

A strong start from our Netball Premiers saw them win five from five at UNISS but they couldn't maintain that form, eventually finishing seventh and just missing out on Nationals.

At NZSS in Rotorua, the Rugby League 1st XIII started out with a win but that momentum was stopped by some tough opposition to see them finish seventh.

Our Rugby Boys U15 travelled to Christchurch for their national tournament, coming up against some strong rugby schools and finishing 12th.

Our Senior Open Underwater Hockey team travelled to Wellington for NZSS, and finished 5th.



As reported in last Friday's newsletter:

- Curling Seniors Jack Millar, Liam Baber, Tahlia Petersen, Jude Sheehan and Sofia Skinner won the NISS Mixed grade, and the Junior Boys finished runners-up.
- Max Shallard, Sean Harding and Tiger-Lily Cocker-Lemalie won NZSS Wrestling titles.
- Our Football Girls 1st XI finished runners-up to EGGS in the NZSS Final, and MAGS' striker Emily Lyon won the Golden Boot award for scoring the most goals (12) during the tournament.

You can see all the fixtures, results and placings for Winter Tournament Week [here](#)

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A Tradition of Excellence

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