



## From the Headmaster

### Scaling New Heights!



This week we acknowledged the outstanding academic achievement of our students in the 2018 NCEA and Scholarship Examinations.

There were 317 students awarded a Scholar Lion for gaining their NCEA Certificate endorsed with Excellence – our best ever result!

The bar was also raised to a new level with MAGS students gaining 114 New Zealand Scholarships.

Miriam Leonhardt was named as New Zealand's top female scholar and will travel to Wellington to receive her Premier Award from the Prime Minister. Jonathan De Pledge also gained first place across New Zealand in Physics.

Our Academic Honours Board will see 14 new names added to recognise students who gained three or more Scholarships.

Our Scholars Assembly was a celebration of our core business as a school. While striving for success across all of our four pillars at

MAGS, we must never lose sight of the primacy of the Academic Pillar.



Students must graduate from MAGS with qualifications that open doors to further study and vocations – otherwise everything else we have done is in vain.

Congratulations to all of our Scholar Lion recipients and their families. And thank you to our MAGS staff who have helped lift the achievements of our students to new heights.

Have a good weekend,

**Patrick Drumm**  
Headmaster

## Weekly Notices



### Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the 2019 Calendar



**Wednesday, February 20**  
School Athletics Day, Mt Smart Stadium

**Friday, March 1**  
Class, portrait and ID photos for Year 12



### Sport



**Photo Essays**  
[MAGS Swimming Sports](#)

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

**Sport trials and registrations**  
Click [here](#)

## MAGS boasts top female scholar



*Headmaster Patrick Drumm and Academic Dean Warwick Gibbs with Premier Scholar Miriam Leonhardt and her proud parents Beatrix and Rainer.*

Mount Albert Grammar School congratulated Miriam Leonhardt on being the top female secondary school scholar in the country and celebrated its students achieving a record 114 Scholarships at its annual Scholars Assembly on Wednesday.

Miriam, the Girls Dux of 2018, is one of only 11 Premier Scholars in the country, with the other 10 all being male. She achieved Scholarships in seven subjects: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Earth and Space Science (Outstanding), German, Physics (Outstanding) and Statistics (Outstanding). Premier Scholars – those who achieve at least three Scholarships at Outstanding level – receive \$10,000 per year for three years towards their studies. The last time MAGS had a Premier Scholar was in 2006.

Boys Dux for 2018 Gary He and Proxime Accessit 2018 Jonathan De Pledge (pictured below), who gained the top mark in Physics nationwide, were also named Outstanding Scholars and their names will go up on the Honours Board along with Miriam's and the 11 other students who achieved three or more Scholarships.

For more photos from the event and a full list of Scholar Lions, Scholarship winners and the



citations for our top scholars, click [here](#)



## Relay for Life oversubscribed



The popularity of Relay for Life at MAGS just keeps on growing and in just under two hours all 300 places available on the team had been taken.

Organiser Alayna Pulham says the 300 limit was set by the Cancer Society coordinator due to safety considerations at the Lovelock Track venue.

Miss Pulham said that so many people signed up that there is now a waiting list of more than 70 students.

She said, "This goes to show just how willing the Mount Albert Grammar School students are and how significantly some of them have been affected by cancer. This is a charity event and as such

the aim is to raise a large amount of money for the Cancer Society. Our goal this year is to match last year's total of \$100,000."

Miss Pulham said that in fairness to all students, if anyone pulls out of the team the next people in the order that they signed up will be sent an email to confirm they can now sign up. This email will be sent to their school email account.

The event takes place over the weekend of April 6-7, with sponsored participants walking or running as many laps of the track as possible to raise money for the Cancer Society. Since yesterday afternoon, when counting began, students have already raised \$7000.

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## 2019 Art Show positions available



**16-18 August 2019**



**[www.magsartshow.co.nz](http://www.magsartshow.co.nz)**

### **CURATOR**

The MAGS Art Show Committee is seeking someone with experience in Art curation for this year's show.

If you would like more information about this creative role, please contact us on the email below.

### **ARTIST LIASION**

This is a paid part-time position based at school from March until September. This person needs to have knowledge and experience of Art and Artists, be an excellent communicator, have good organisational and multi-tasking skills and will be highly personable.

If you are interested in either of these positions, please get in touch by emailing your contact details to [magsfom@gmail.com](mailto:magsfom@gmail.com)

### **VOLUNTEERS**

A reminder that we are also still looking for keen volunteers to help organise and run the Art Show. This is a great way to be involved with the school and the community.

Please email us as at [magsfom@gmail.com](mailto:magsfom@gmail.com) if this interests you.

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## Arts update





### **ALL EXTRA-CURRICULAR GROUPS**

Most of these groups have had their first meetings and practices. A reminder that this year the focus for all students is achieving their personal best.

This is in all activities and we are looking forward to a stellar Arts year.

### **JUNIOR MUSIC COMPETITION – MAGS IDOL**

Whether you have a band, duet or trio, or are a soloist, all Junior musicians and singers are invited to take part in this competition.

The link to register for this will be sent out to all Junior students next Monday.

### **SENIOR ARTS INTER-DISCIPLINARY CHALLENGE**

Get your group together now – dancers, choreographers, design students, filmmakers, composers, actors, musicians and directors.

The Senior Arts Challenge will see groups of senior students develop a concept for a 7 to 10-minute production inspired by an artistic quote.

Each team must present their concept in Term 2 and the winning team will get the opportunity to develop their piece for the annual Arts Alive concert.

All competing groups must have representatives from all Arts strands.

Info will be released next week about this fantastic opportunity.

Students with a passion for the Arts, should keep an eye on the [Notices](#) for upcoming auditions, meetings and events.

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## **Melbourne Victory to host Football Academy**

Yesterday, MAGS hosted a training run for the Melbourne Victory, the most successful football side in A-League history.

Football Academy members watched the squad train and prepare for tonight's match against the Wellington Phoenix at Eden Park. And some of the Academy members will get a closer look at the team's set-up when they travel to Australia to play the Victory's Youth side at Easter.

Director of Football Peter Smith has connections with some of the Victory staff and is hoping to build on that relationship to provide another Football pathway for MAGS' promising players.

Victory coach Kevin Muscat (pictured presenting Mr Smith with a team shirt) said the visit by the MAGS Football Academy team – Year 9 and 10 Boys from last year – would be the first time they had hosted a NZ school side. He said the Victory had just started its Youth development, with players from about age 15 being brought into the club's system, and they were looking to expand that to even younger players who showed promise.

Mr Smith said observing the training run was a great opportunity for young players to see how professionals prepared for a game, and should inspire them to work harder and aim higher. For more photos from the day, click [here](#)



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## Surf's up for Outdoor Ed



Perfect conditions greeted the Year 13 Outdoor Education class when they went to Piha Beach for an overnight Surf camp from Thursday 7 to Friday, 8 February.

Students were really able to extend their surfing ability across the two days as well as continue to develop their personal and social responsibility through group camping and adventure based learning activities.

They will use this experience to continue to evaluate the role outdoor pursuits play in influencing well-being. Thank you to the Rapu New Zealand Surf and Snow Tour instructors for their expert tuition.

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# Log-ins for Kamar Parental Portal

It has been brought to our attention that not all parents and caregivers have received their Kamar log-in details. These have been emailed out again today.

Apologies to those of you who have already received this information, which went out in an email titled 'School Donation'.

The [Parental Portal](#) allows you to check your financial statement and make payments, as well as look up other details such as your child's timetable, attendance etc. Please make sure you use your parental log-in – not your child's student one – as only this will allow you to check your financial status.

For any further queries, please contact your child's Dean.

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## Student absence and leave

Some parents are still not following the correct procedures for notifying student absence and leave, which are outlined below:

### Student absence

- Parents must notify the school on the morning of the absence. They may do so in the following ways:
  - By telephone: 09 846 2044 x 8142
  - By email: [attendance@mags.school.nz](mailto:attendance@mags.school.nz)
  - Via the school app: Free to download from the App Store or Google Play. Search for 'Mount Albert Grammar School'
  - By note to the Student Centre
- If a student's absence was not notified on the day they were away, they should bring a note explaining the reason for their absence on the day they return to school.
- The absence note must be delivered to the Student Centre.

### Late to School

If a student is going to be late to School, the School should be notified in any of the ways listed above.

The student must visit the Student Centre on arrival at School to receive a Late Pass.

### Student leave requests

Requests for non-school related leave of one day or more during the school year must be addressed to the Headmaster, Mr Patrick Drumm, at least two weeks before the start of proposed leave. Please give the dates of proposed absence from school and the purpose of the leave. If in writing, please address the letter to:

The Headmaster, Mr Patrick Drumm, Mt Albert Grammar School, Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025

If emailing, please send to: [paheadmaster@mags.school.nz](mailto:paheadmaster@mags.school.nz)

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## Student centre not for drop-offs

If your child forgets their lunch, sports shoes, homework, money or any other item that they might need for a school day, we politely request that parents do not drop off those items to the Student Centre.

At the start of this term, centre staff have been dealing with too many personal items and/or lunches being dropped off for students.

MAGS students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own organisation, and staff find that they need to discover the consequences of forgetting an essential item only once to learn to always pack it in future. We appreciate parents supporting us in teaching this life skill.

Also, it is not appropriate for Student Centre staff to handle cash and we request that parents do not ask them to do so.

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## Youth EnviroLeaders Forum

Applications are invited for the Youth EnviroLeaders Forum from Year 11-13 students who are passionate about the environment and keen to develop their leadership potential.

The week-long programme, which draws students from all over New Zealand, takes place in April and is run by the Sir Peter Blake Trust and The Ministry for the Environment.

This fully funded programme allows students to learn more about environmental issues relating to climate change, our oceans, freshwater systems and biodiversity. Students hear from inspirational speakers, and develop leadership skills while participating in outdoor activities.

For more info click [here](#) or contact the school's Environment Club Leader Miss Helen Dunham.

Applications close midnight 22 February.

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## College Sport App

All athletes, parents, managers, coaches, TiCs and sports co-ordinators should download the free College Sport Auckland app and subscribe to the relevant sports.

College Sport uses app notifications to let you know about any last-minute changes such as cancellations, new venues, new draws etc. Plus the app has regular draws, results, venues and other information.

For more info and to download the app, click [here](#)





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## Youth representation opportunity

The Albert Eden Youth Board (AEYB) welcomes [applications](#) from 14 to 24-year-olds keen to get involved with organising events, advising the local board, representing the local youth, and conducting surveys.

Applicants must either live, study, or work in the Albert-Eden area. No previous experience is necessary.

The Youth Board is looking for enthusiastic, genuine and committed people to join, but is also accommodating around tests and exams as most people on the youth board are students.

Application deadline for the first 2019 round is Sunday, 17 February 11.59pm. Applicants will then attend an interview.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early so they can be interviewed as soon as possible.

Successful applicants will need to attend an induction, then fortnightly meetings.

If you wish to apply for this role, please see Deputy Principal John Stradwick for assistance in the application process.

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## Sports update

### Swimming records tumble



Fifteen school records were broken yesterday at the Swim Sports competition at the Mt Albert Aquatic Centre.

Swimming Captain **Vasilina Shipilova** and Cook Island swimming representative **Bede Aitu** lead the way in fantastic fashion in their final year at MAGS by breaking three long-standing Senior records.

**Bowen Crawford** broke the oldest record on the day: the Intermediate Boys 100m Breaststroke record set by former MAGS Head Boy Malcom Richardson back in 2006.

**Brearna Crawford** starred in the pool as she was unbeaten in claiming seven from seven MAGS Intermediate school swimming records.

Year 9 School House boy **Hunter Dobson** swam a superb race to break the Junior 100m Backstroke record set last year by Tony Tua-Tagaloa.

For race results, championship points and a photo essay from the day, click [here](#)

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## General notices

Balmoral Pasifika  
Parent Group



&  
Balmoral Pasifika Old  
Boys/Old Girls BBQ

You are invited to the Balmoral Pasifika Parent and the Old Boys/Old Girls beginning of the year BBQ. Bring your children and join us outside the school hall for games and dinner. Feel free to bring something to cook on the BBQ to share. See you then!

6:00 pm-  
7:00pm

Tuesday  
19th Feb



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