

Week 8, Term 2, June 21, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz





Click here for the 2019 Calendar

Monday, 24 June Early School finish at 12.45pm

Monday, 24 June On the Move, contemporary music concert, 7pm, Raye Freedman Arts Centre

Tuesday, 25 June

Night of the Classics, classical music music concert, 7pm, Raye Freedman Arts Centre





Photo Essay Premier Girls Lacrosse v Mount Roskill Grammar Click here

Fixtures and results Click here

Sport trials and registrations Click here

From the Acting Headmaster

MAGS Pride, MAGS Proud



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

Hand in hand with the previously explored idea of Team MAGS must be that of MAGS Pride – a concept that, I believe, encompasses and encourages self-respect and self-esteem; not arrogance and superiority.

An obvious comeback might be that 'pride comes before a fall' but surely if we want our young people to understand that success often comes disguised as hard work then we should also encourage each of them to be proud of a job well done.

Our school motto 'Per angusta, ad augusta' – through hardship to glory – recognises that glory is not a given and that the journey – often involving commitment, time, tears and angst – is what makes the glory something of which to be deservedly proud.

Experience teaches that the path to glory can often be one of setback, failure and self-doubt. For our MAGS students we encourage the view that this journey offers opportunity – opportunity to build resilience when navigating one's own struggles and develop empathy when observing those of others. It is the sharing of the hardship that unites the team.

When encouraging our students to be proud of their own achievements and those of their peers, we are celebrating each journey. We must remember to always praise effort and be proud of the hardship endured, because it is only sometimes that we get to celebrate the glory.

Across this week, as reported below, there has been much to make us all very proud.

I wish everyone a safe weekend and enjoyable Matariki celebrations.

Jo Williams Acting Headmaster

French connection



On Monday, the fourth biennial French exchange got underway with 25 pupils from Sainte-Croix de Neuilly having their first day at MAGS.

Sainte-Croix de Neuilly is our sister school in Paris, a private Catholic school with around 1000 pupils from 6 to 18 years of age.

The exchange students are hosted by pupils from our Year 11 and 12 French classes. They participate in school and visit places in Auckland for three weeks then head off on holiday for two weeks with their host family.

On Monday they found it strange to wear a school uniform for the first time – although it helps them to integrate easily and feel like part of the MAGS team.

HoF Languages Helen Selaries said, "In our French classes they come in very handy to hold conversations with small groups of students who are practising for conversation assessment.

"Needless to say, our pupils are looking forward to their return visit for five weeks in France in December-January.

"They will spend two weeks at school and touring Paris, two weeks on Christmas and New Year holidays with their families and the final week on a trip together with their fellow Kiwis around the south west of France staying in Tours, Nîmes and Avignon, before flying back to Auckland."

School finishes early next Monday

School will finish at 12.45pm next Monday, 24 June, to allow teachers to attend a Paid Union Meeting.

The Secretary for Education has agreed to the PPTA holding paid union meetings with its members to review negotiations over pay and conditions with the Government.

To enable our teachers to attend the 1.30pm meeting in Glendene, MAGS students will work to an adjusted timetable structure on Monday, with shortened Periods 1-4, finishing school at 12.45pm.

Kiwi Coaches will be running their MAGS bus services early on the Monday to enable pickup after the 12.45pm finish.



Arts Update

MUSIC CONCERTS NEXT WEEK

On Monday, 24 June, **Move Over** will be an evening of contemporary and urban music featuring the Jazz Band, Contemporary Choir, Smokefree RockQuest finalists Brolo and Borderline, and special guests.

On Tuesday, 25 June, **Night of the Classics** will be an evening of classical music featuring MAGS symphonic, string and chamber orchestras with boys choir and guests. Both concerts are at 7pm at the Raye Freedman Arts Centre.

Tickets can be brought for both concerts through ITicket <u>here</u> with a discount if attending both events.

LOOKING FORWARD TO TERM 3

In Week 2, on Thursday, 1 August, the biennial Unity Cultural Concert will take place at 7pm at the Dorothy Winstone Theatre, at AGGS. Ticket details to come.

Huge planting effort on farm



Last Sunday was a great day for ASB MAGS Farm and for the environment as a further 900 native seedlings were planted on the banks of the stream, bringing the total of natives planted to around 2000.

This action will help to stabilise the banks and prevent erosion and runoff into the stream. It will also enhance local biodiversity and attract more native bird species into the area. It is an example of the environmental best practice that the ASB MAGS Farm wants to demonstrate. As with the Year 10 students' planting two weeks ago, seedlings were provided by Trees for Survival and pricked out, potted on and hardened off by students in the school horticulture unit. Food and a coffee van were kindly provided by Watercare.



And Watercare will be funding fencing, fixing of a blocked culvert and more seedlings for next years' planned planting of the upper stream and wetland area as part of the Central Interceptor restoration and community outreach program.

There was an amazing community spirit as numerous groups and individuals got stuck into planting the grasses, shrubs and trees. Groups represented included ASB Bank, Watercare, Central Interceptor Project, STEPS, MAGS Senior Leadership, MAGS Agriculture and Horticulture Department staff, MAGS Environment Club students, MAGS Agriculture students and farm neighbours, friends and families.

HoD Agriculture and Horticulture Esther Hancock said, "We look forward to inviting ASB MAGS Farm friends to future working bees and activities."

For more photos from the day, click here

Siana Vagana in The Wolves

Year 13 Drama student Siana Vagana has landed one of the main roles in *The Wolves,* which opened at Q Theatre last night.

The Silo Theatre production runs until July 13 and is a play about a group of teenaged female football players. While they have a love of football in common, they have very different attitudes and backgrounds. Writer Sarah DeLappe's Pulitzer Prizenominated work is a frank and hilarious look at the challenges faced by teenaged

You can buy tickets <u>here</u> and should be able to secure a discount using the promo code **FOOTBALL**

women.



Parent-Subject Teacher Interviews



Next Wednesday, 26 June and Thursday, 27 June, MAGS will be holding Parent & Subject Teacher Interviews for Year 9 through to Year 13 from 3.30pm-7pm on both days.

Parents should now have received full details with the interview login code so they can make bookings.

If you have not received these details or are having problems making a booking, please contact Deputy Principal Tanya Rose <u>trose@mags.school.nz</u>

In addition, reports for Year 9 through to Year 13 should be available via the KAMAR portal so they can be discussed at the interviews.

School will finish at 2.15pm both days to accommodate this.

International Food & Culture Evening



The ever-popular International Food & Culture Evening returns next Friday, June 28 at 6pm in the F.W. Gamble Hall.

There will be a smorgasbord of food and entertainment on the night, which is being organised by the International Committee.

A wide range of food will be available; last year saw guests feasting on Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Mexican, Chinese, Middle Eastern and European cuisine. International students will also perform cultural and contemporary items.

World Challenge trip

Applications are now open for students who are interested in the July 2020 World Challenge trip to India/Himalaya.

The World Challenge programme offers students the opportunity to plan, fund and ultimately lead their own 21-day long expedition next year in northern India. MAGS has been running these successful student-leadership expeditions since 2010.

You can get more information about the trip here



Sports update

Squash teams victorious



Above, left to right: Mason Smales, Max Conder, Jack Conder (Squash Captain), Tarin Love, Jaeswen Kwan and Arnd Arelmann.

The Premier Boys Squash team won the AKSS Teams Championship on Wednesday for only the third time in MAGS' history.

The Boys went into the competition seeded No.1 but had tough competition from Westlake

Boys and Auckland Grammar. They beat Auckland Grammar 3-2 in the final to claim the shield.

And MAGS' Open A Girls won Division 2, going through undefeated against Avondale College, Westlake Girls High, Western Springs College and Orewa College. A move up the divisions is on the cards for their next campaign.



Above, left to right: Natalie Brook, Kiriko May, Grace Conder, Melodi Mataia and Hannah Brook.

Cross Country Bronze for Luke Clements



Luke Clements finished third in the Junior Boys 4000m at the New Zealand Schools Cross Country Championships held in Timaru last weekend, a great result against some of the best runners in the country. The event consisted of two laps around Ashbury Park including a couple of hill climbs and hurdles.



Fencers sweep epee competition

Above: Shaun Owen (at right) executes a 'stop hit' to counter a lunge by Nikita Privalov.

MAGS' fencers swept the podium at the Auckland Secondary Schools Epee Teams Event at the Trusts Stadium last weekend.

MAGS won Gold, Silver and Bronze after fielding three similarly balanced teams, each with a strong fencer and some younger fencers. This was done to try to even the playing field, in the knowledge that the MAGS top team would completely dominate the epee event. The winning team was Charlie Bioletti, Shaun Owen and Courtney Won, in second place Caleb Anderson, Nikita Privalov and Aidan Meyer, and in third place James Butler, Lucy Henshaw and Daniel Finch.

The competition is part of the wider Auckland Team fencing events held over three weekends and involving more than a dozen schools.

Beautiful day for Xterra racing

Last Sunday, the second race of the Xterra Auckland Trail Series 2019 was at beautiful Waitawa Regional Park.

Helped by some gorgeous weather, MAGS students produced some strong results. The race course offered a good mix of mud, hills, forest and mountain bike trails.

Individual Placings: 4th Holly Bannister (Short course), 6th Sonali Mistry (Short course), 5th Jacob Bannister (Short course), 10th Bryn Williams (Short course).

The next race is on Sunday, June 30 at Waiuku.



Upcoming Premier sport



Two big games of basketball tonight at MAGS, with the Premier Girls playing Auckland Girls Grammar at 6pm and the Premier Boys playing Auckland Grammar at 7.30pm. And on Monday, the Premier Boys take on Liston College at St Dominic's at 6.30pm. Tomorrow, the Netball Premiers play Glendowie College at the Auckland Netball Centre at 9.30am.

Kicking off at noon tomorrow, the Football Boys 1st XI are away to King's College.

The Rugby 1st XV are also away tomorrow, playing Dilworth at 2.30pm.

On Monday, the Rugby Girls 10s are away to Avondale College at 4.15pm.

The Football Girls 1st XI have two games next week: away to Baradene College on Monday and at home to St Kentigern College on Wednesday. Both games kick off at 4pm.

On Wednesday, the Rugby League 1st XIII travel to Kelston Boys High to take on their old foes at 4pm.

After beating Auckland Grammar in the AKSS final, the Premier Boys Squash team take them on again on Wednesday at MAGS at 4.15pm.

Also on Wednesday, at 7pm, the Hockey Boys 1st XI play Westlake Boys at Auckland Grammar.

On Thursday, the Lacrosse Premier Girls are at home to Avondale College at 4pm, and the Hockey Girls 1st XI play Howick College at Lloyd Elsmore at 5pm.

Fixtures and results on the MAGS website are regularly updated. For this week's, click <u>here</u> and for next week's, click <u>here</u>

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