





A Tradition of Excellence 9th-14th May 2022







October 22, 2021 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Back in Business!



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

The recent announcement of next Tuesday's return to school for senior students has been greeted with some surprise, but also excitement.

After almost 10 weeks of forced closure of Auckland schools, our MAGS site is set to

come to life once again with the sounds of Year 11-13 students and their teachers.

Throughout the last 20 months of the Covid pandemic, the school has consistently taken its lead from the Government and the Ministries of Health and Education.

Again, their advice (based on good science) is clear and direct: **secondary schools in Auckland are safe to open on Tuesday!**

Since the announcement earlier this week, the school has swung into action making preparations for Tuesday's return. Safety guidelines are being followed meticulously to ensure any risks within the current alert setting are minimised.

Having our senior students returning to MAGS with confidence is critical as they move towards final NCEA and Scholarship examinations.

The face to face (facemask to facemask), in-person learning will complement the great work completed during lockdown through the online environment.

Next week will be a time of trust and courage. Trust the expert advice that schools are safe – and display the courage to begin the

Weekly Notices







Monday, November 22 NCEA Exams start

Tuesday, December 14 NCEA Exams end



journey to normality. It's the moment for our current MAGS students to bring our school motto to life!

Have a good Labour Weekend - and see you Tuesday!

Patrick Drumm Headmaster



Sports registrations for Term 4 Click here

Return to school guidelines



Today, our MAGS community was sent an email with guidelines for a return to school for our Seniors next Tuesday (October 26).

Staff have been busy preparing for the welcome return of our Seniors as well as maintaining an online learning programme for our Juniors. In the email today, along with an outline of Health and Safety precautions, a new timetable was released (pictured right)

to enable onsite and online learning. You can read the full email here

TUES 26 OCT 8.55am: 5 minute be 9.00: AMP 9.15am: End AN 9.20am: PERIOD 1 10.10am: End Pe nd 1 10.15am: PERIOD 2 11.05am: Interval



1.15pm LUNCH 1.40pm: PERIOD 5

End of day 2.30pm

REVISED TIMETABLE

Shortened School Day: Each day, including THURSDAY, will follow these revised times. School starts 9.00am AMP time has moved to the start of the day School finishes 2.30pm Both Interval & Lunch breaks = 20 minutes Period 0 classes will occur at a later start time of 8.00am Senior students are ONSITE = 50 minute periods as per

belltimes

Junior students are ONLINE and class period start times / logon times will be the same as this timetable represents BUT the length of their class periods will remain at 35 minutes and work expectations will also continue to be for this reduced time.

This will mean they will have a longer gap between contact times with their subject teachers and may also find they can complete their work in this time. Junior students will also receive a message in their Year Level Google Classrooms about this.

NB: For as long as we are running both onsite and online learning, each day will follow this new structure

Life on the farm continues



Above: Covid-savvy lambs on the farm form a bubble of 10 with their supervisor.

While Auckland has remained in lockdown, life goes on at the ASB MAGS Farm.

The recent rains and warmer weather mean the re-sown paddocks are looking fantastic, and the native plantings along the stream are showing great growth. The cleared and replanted stream is also looking healthy and teeming with life.

Farm Manager Peter Brice has been kept busy looking after livestock – keeping up with drenching, as well as tailing lambs and supervising calving.

The block of gold kiwifruit is coming into bud, and vegetable beds have been replanted in anticipation of the return of students.

Some more mature native trees have also been planted around the farm to provide shade and shelter for livestock.

Year 10 subject choices in 2022

Students who will be Year 10s in 2022 were invited via an <u>email</u> this week to make their option choices via <u>SchoolPoint</u>, with the deadline for completing these being Friday, November 5.

A pupil who will be in Year 10 in 2022:

1. Will automatically be enrolled for English, Maths, Science, Social Studies and Physical Education.

2. Need to then make up to four option choices from the combination of courses on offer within Table A, Table B and Table C.

The full list of the courses in each table can be found both in this <u>handout</u> and in this more detailed <u>presentation</u>.

It is important for students to check with Mentors to make sure they have made the right number of choice combinations to equate to eight lessons per week.

Public transport update



Auckland Transport (AT) has made changes to its services to accommodate secondary students in Years 11-13 returning to school on Tuesday, 26 October. AT is resuming school bus services, adding extra carriages at peak travel times to trains, and resuming a number of ferry services. You can read all the details <u>here</u>

Class lists on Albertians site now



Our Assistant Archivist Mr Cave has been busy compiling class lists from the previous decades and these can now be viewed on the <u>Albertian Online</u>

Community site

Albertians are encouraged to register on this site to use the resources such as the class lists and connect or re-connect with classmates, view photos from past functions and keep up to date with next year's <u>Centenary Celebrations</u> across May 9-14, 2022.



There will be more details to come about these events, and more events added as we move towards the Centenary Celebrations.

These events will bring together current and former students and staff, parents and supporters of MAGS as we celebrate our tradition of excellence.

The Centenary site will also allow you to buy tickets – when they are released – to our premier ticketed events such as the Centennial Gala Dinner and Albertian Reunion 'Pub Night'.

There will also be free arts, cultural and sporting events, culminating in a festival at MAGS on May 14.

Sports Update



In the <u>Student Sport Spotlight</u>, the Sports Department highlights students who are hard-working, positive and uphold the 'MAGS Way' values. Students are nominated then the Sports Department chooses who will have the spotlight focused on them. Those selected answer some questions about themselves and their sport. This week, the spotlight is on Lacrosse Girls Premiers captain Saira Khan. You can read all about Saira <u>here</u>

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