



# Otago College Newsletter

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Important Notices

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Labour Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Option Selection for Y10 2024 begins (online)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	External Exam Entry Slips handed out (Y11, Y12, Y13)
Thursday 26 <sup>h</sup> October	Sports Awards
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Prefect Nominations for 2024 close (Y12 Students)
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Literacy and Numeracy Digital Assessments (10GR, 10RY, 10HB, 10ON)



Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Y11 and 12 Prizegiving 1:00pm (Y9, Y10, Y13 dismissed at 12:30pm) Y13 Prizegiving and Graduation Evening 7:00pm start
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	NZQA External Exams begin

### **FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

This week we celebrated the Arts at Otahuhu College. The highlight being the Arts awards evening on Thursday, which was an opportunity to acknowledge the fantastic talent and most importantly the commitment of our students. The performances were something to behold and a credit to all involved. It is not surprising that Otahuhu College is considered amongst the top schools in Auckland for the Arts.

This year, an increasing number of students have been notified that they have won significant university study scholarships. Currently, nearly one hundred thousand dollars has been awarded to our students by institutions around the country. Their academic efforts, guided by our staff, and their involvement in a number of co-curricular activities and community programmes, has been instrumental to their outstanding successes.

On Thursday, we had a visit by the CEO of NZQA, who congratulated Otahuhu College on the rigour and organisation around assessments. This a a credit to all the staff involved. I wish all families an enjoyable and blessed long weekend.

### **Our Commitments**

The behaviour focus for next week is on being supportive. This means more than just talking to our children about treating others like they would want to be treated. It also means being supportive in learning. School is, and should be challenging, the work must require thought, and mistakes must be made if learning is to happen. A key part of being supportive at Otahuhu College is based around supporting each other in our learning, making mistakes and working hard to do better next time.

### **External Exam Entry Slips**

Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students will be receiving their NZQA External Exams Entry Slips on Wednesday next week (25<sup>th</sup> of October). It is important that these slips are checked for any errors e.g. Has the student been entered into all their exams? If a student does notice an error, they should see Mr. Roberts immediately so that it can be corrected before Exams begin on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November.





### Practice Lockdown

On Wednesday afternoon we practiced our school’s emergency lockdown procedures. It is pleasing to report that the practice went extremely well with all staff and students responding quickly, safely and calmly.

In the event of a genuine Lockdown at Otahuhu College please be aware of the following:

- Our primary focus will be the safety of all students and staff on site.
- Parents/caregivers will be informed and updated via text message.
- Parents/caregivers should refrain from attending or contacting the school, your presence or contact may make it more difficult for us or the emergency services to manage a situation.
- A genuine Lockdown may take at least 2 to 3 hours.

### Study News

The following message includes important information about NCEA externals. NCEA externals are the exams that students sit, in the hall, from **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** (term 4, week 5) until **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November**.

The expectation is that all senior Ōtāhuhu College students sit all their externals.

To achieve UE@OC students must achieve UE Literacy. **Very often students must pass externals to achieve their UE literacy credits.** UE Literacy is 5 Reading credits (R) and 5 Writing credits (W). B stands for Both. B credits can be used for reading *or* writing.

The table below shows which subjects have UE literacy credits with the externals.

Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
History ( <i>HIS1U</i> )	English ( <i>ENG2U</i> )	English ( <i>ENG3U</i> )
	Geography ( <i>GEO2U</i> )	Biology ( <i>BIO3U</i> )
	History ( <i>HIS2U</i> )	Dance ( <i>DAN3U</i> )
	Biology ( <i>BIO2U</i> )	Drama ( <i>DRA3U</i> )
	Te Reo Māori ( <i>MAO2U</i> )	Geography ( <i>GEO3U</i> )
		Economics ( <i>ECO3U</i> )

#### Common ‘thinking traps’ to avoid:

- I already have enough credits from internals, so I don’t need to sit the externals.
  - I’m not taking that subject again so there’s no point in sitting the externals.
- I haven’t done well enough to pass the course so there’s no point in sitting the externals.







**Correct thinking:**

- Achieve your externals to get your UE literacy credits.

**Notes:**

- Students should know which externals they are entered in and target achieving those externals.
- T2 is open both breaks on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (and after school by arrangement) to prepare for externals. Resources provided, bring your lunch!
- If you do not achieve UE Lit by the end of year 12 your option choice for year 13 will be limited.

**Kapa Haka**

Ka mau te wehi! Last Friday our kapa haka students took part in Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga, an Auckland secondary schools' competition in Māori performing arts. We were a combined group of Ōtāhuhu College, Aorere College and Māngere College, coming under the unified banner of Te Puru Tangata o Te Hau Tonga, *the gathering of people blowing in from the southern wind*.

Of 24 performing groups, we placed in the Top 10 overall! Ka wani kē! Our poi item placed 5<sup>th</sup>, just behind the overall champions of the day Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwāe. Kua poho kererū mātou i a koutou, you have made us all very proud. *E mihi nui ana ki a Aorere i ā koutou tono ki a mātou, nō mātou te waimārie.*







### Sports News

We would like to congratulate the following students who have gain representative honors in their respective sports.



**O'Rylee Aki**

**Moana Uiese**

**Lata Lolesio**

**Elizabeth Fetalaiga**

**Auckland U18 South East Secondary Schools Rugby Team**





**Chanel Sila      Peter Oluafi**  
**Auckland South U16s Rugby Team**

Congratulations to these students who have also made the National teams in their respective Sports.



**Sosaia Latu**  
**NZ Secondary Schools Rugby League Team**



**Matiasi Lolesio**  
**Auckland Secondary Schools U18 Divisional Rugby Team**  
**NZ Residents Boys Club U18s**



**Gillian Faumu**  
**Auckland U18 South East Secondary Schools Rugby Team**  
**Auckland Storm FPC Womens Team**  
**NZ Barbarians U18 Girls Team**



**Jurnee Brown**  
**Auckland U17 Blue Sox Softball Team**

Next week we will celebrate our sports student athletes at our Annual Sports Awards dinner on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

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