



Otago College Newsletter

Friday 10th November 2023

Important Notices

Monday 13 th November	Year 9 Math's Exam AM
Tuesday 14 th – Wednesday 15 th November	Y9 & Y10 Leadership Camp (Port Waikato)
Tuesday 14 th November	Tag Tournament (Bruce Pullman Park)
Wednesday 15 th - Friday 17 th November	Volleyball Champs (Bruce Pullman Park)
Friday 17 th November	Year 9 Science Exam AM Year 10 English Exam PM



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

The first exams have been successfully completed with all students turning up and answering every question. The exam check in times for morning exams is 8:30am and in the afternoon 1pm. It is easy and understandable for students (and parents!) to get caught up in the stress of this time of the year and it is sometimes the very simple things that we forget to do. For students organising their study, these include:

- Getting enough sleep
- Eating healthily, snacking on brain food and drinking plenty of water
- Checking the examination timetable and being organised for the day

Congratulations to the Year 11 and 12 students who earned a College Blazer by maintaining good attendance throughout the year.

Our Commitments

Our focus for next week is being engaged in lessons. On the basic level it is making sure that every student takes individual responsibility to have their books and pens. To make sure that as soon as they get into class they have their books out, bags on the floor, and they are ready to learn. From time-to-time students may not have finished all the expected work during class time, when this happens in the last period of the day, your child will likely be required to stay behind 5-10 minutes to complete the work to a standard expected at Otahuhu College. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact the Principal.

Study News

The following message includes important information about NCEA externals. NCEA externals are the exams that students sit, in the hall, from **Monday 6th November** (term 4, week 5) until **Thursday 30th 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>)
		History (<i>HIS3U</i>)
		Economics (<i>ECO3U</i>)
		Health (<i>HLT3U</i>)
		Te Reo Māori (<i>MAO3U</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.

Digital Common Assessment Activities (CAA’s)

Last week 10GR, 10RY, 10HB and 10ON all sat Literacy (Writing), Literacy (Reading) and Numeracy CAA’s. These Assessments will be a compulsory part of the NCEA qualification from 2024.

The students had to complete all the assessments on laptops using their NZQA login details.





The students gave a good account of themselves and, despite what some other schools were faced with, our IT system was able to handle the increased load during each of the assessments. The results will become available to all students mid-January 2024.

Sports News

Some exciting tournaments coming up for the Junior this term.

We start with U15 Rugby 7s on Friday 10th November being played at Bruce Pulman
Junior Tag One Day tournament on Tuesday 14th November being played at Ngāti Otara
Junior Volleyball Auckland Champs on Wednesday 15th November – Friday 17th November being played at Bruce Pulman

These tournaments will run all day, Come along and support.

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