



Otahuhu College Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023

Important Notices

Monday 11 th December	Top 25 Cinema Trip (selected students)
Tuesday 12 th December	Y9&Y10 EOY Reports emailed and available on the portal
Wednesday 13 th December	Junior Prizegiving (Final day of school 2023)
Tuesday 23 rd & Wednesday 24 th January 2024	2024 Course Confirmation days for Y11, Y12 and Y13 students
Tuesday 30 th January 2024	Y9 & Y13 students first day



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

On Wednesday we had our Junior Science Showcase, and it was great to see so many families, old students and scientists turning up to inspect and admire the work of our students.

Already, enrolments for 2024 are exceeding our numbers for this year. It is important that if you have friends and family wishing to enrol at OC they do so as soon as possible.

Next week we celebrate the many successes of our Year 9 and 10 students, and we welcome families to share in the prizegiving on Wednesday. I would like to thank the students, our wonderful staff, and our very supportive families for another excellent year at Otahuhu College.

Junior School

Kia ora whanau

I just wanted to keep whanau up to date on what is happening at school leading into next week 11th – 13th December 2023:

We do have school assembly on Monday and Tuesday. This starts at 8:40am. We are still taking the roll and notifying parents through text message of absence. Please note that if your child is late by more than 5 minutes to school, they may be marked absent as the roll is taken within the first 5 minutes of class starting.

School finishes at 3pm on Monday and Tuesday. There are no practices or tutorials after school for students. All students should be going straight home. There are two trips on Monday for two groups of Juniors and whanau should have been notified already and have completed and signed a permission.

Wednesday morning starts at 9:30am. Junior Prizegiving starts at 10am. If your child is receiving a prize, you will have been notified by email. We have organised letters to go home also. These were distributed to recipients today at assembly and anyone who was absent from assembly will have a letter delivered to their house. We are expecting all of our Junior students to attend because this is their last day for the year. At the end of Junior Prizegiving all of our Junior students will receive a Kotuku Magazine and a cupcake as a farewell for the year. Junior Prizegiving should finish no later than 12:00pm.

Please contact a Dean if you have questions:

2023

Year 9 Dean: enorgate@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Year 10 Dean: ichanner@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Attendance Navigator: jtupe@otahuhucollege.school.nz

2024

Year 9 Dean: enorgate@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Year 10 Dean: sofanoa@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Attendance Navigator: jtupe@otahuhucollege.school.nz

From the junior team we wish all our whanau a very merry Christmas and a blessed new year.

KIA TAMATANE





Junior Prizegiving

On Wednesday 13th of December School will begin at 9:30am for all Y9 and Y10 students. Students should attend in full school uniform.

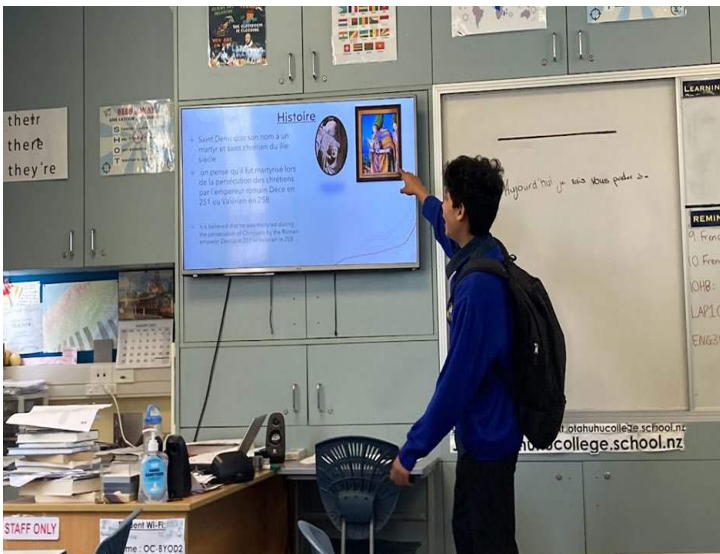
Junior Prizegiving will begin at 10:00am in our school Hall.

Parents, caregivers and whanau are warmly invited to attend. Please park on either Mangere Road or Golf Ave. The pedestrian gates will be open. Please proceed to the school hall where you will be seated. Prizegiving will conclude between 11:00 and 11:30am and students will then be dismissed for the holidays

Year 10 French

During this year's Rugby World Cup, our Year 10 French students each researched one of the cities in France where the matches were being held. They then presented these to the class as a speech in French, supported by information written in French on slides. Standing in front of a class to deliver a presentation can be a nerve-racking experience at the best of times, so the students showed commendable bravery to do so in a foreign language!

It must be said that the students' presentations all ended much better than the 2023 Rugby World Cup did!





[Year 12 Leadership Day](#)

Mahatma Gandhi is credited as having said, “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” It is this model of servant leadership which came into focus for our up-and-coming Year 12 students during their leadership day this week, as they considered how they will utilise their time and talents to support others and contribute to the wider life of the school as they enter their final year at Otahuhu College in 2024.

As well as building their knowledge and trust of each other through teambuilding challenges, students sat an online quiz to find their own leadership style, then reflected on how this leadership could be put into practice in real-life situations around our school. A particular highlight for the students was the inaugural Otahuhu College Amazing Race, in which teams had their collaboration skills put to the test as they had to jog around the school grounds solving leadership-related clues.

As they unwind for the long summer break, I would invite the Year 12 leaders to develop not only a vision but also a plan for the events and projects they would like to lead around the school next year. That way, they will make memories to take away with them and make a mark to leave behind with their school.





[Netball Academy for Year 9 & 10 students in 2024](#)

Exciting News! Netball is back as an option subject for Year 9 & 10 students at our school. Students in the academy will play Otago College's Netball Team in the Secondary School Competition at Auckland Netball Centre. This program focuses on developing fundamental skills and understanding tactics through engaging activities.

Beyond the court, the Netball Academy teaches problem-solving, decision-making, teamwork, commitment, and leadership. Students will learn games rules, positions, and have the chance to get their umpire qualifications.

They will also discover how to prepare their bodies with proper nutrition and practice mental techniques useful both in netball and life. Skills like goal setting, positive self-talk, imagery, and visualization will be part of this holistic approach.

We are confident this academy will shape well rounded individuals, boosting their sports abilities and supporting academic pursuits. Year 9 and 10 students keen to join can email Ms. Cameron at scameron@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Join us on this exciting journey towards personal growth, sportsmanship, and academic excellence through netball at Otago College





Year 10 Hospitality Class

The second half of Term 4 saw the Year 10 hospitality students start preparing for their end of year activity which was to make and serve morning tea for all the staff at school. Over the past few weeks, they have been stocking the freezer with cookies, scones and pie fillings. On the day itself they put in a lot of effort to get everything ready on time. At morning tea, they interacted with the teachers and got plenty of positive feedback. Well done to all the students for an amazing job!

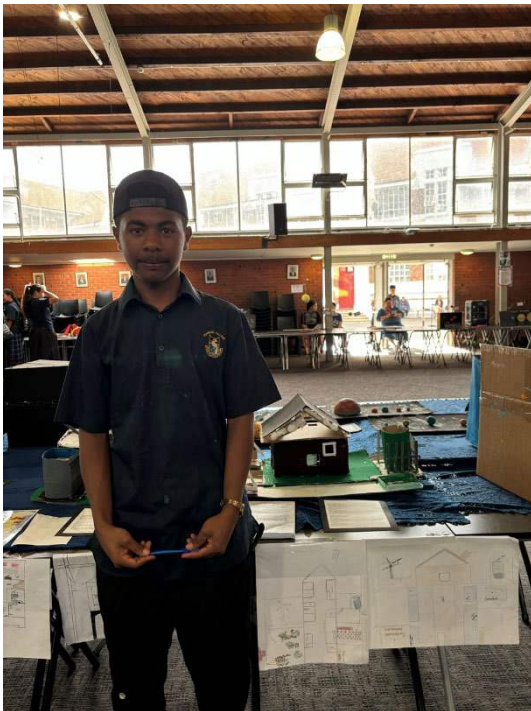


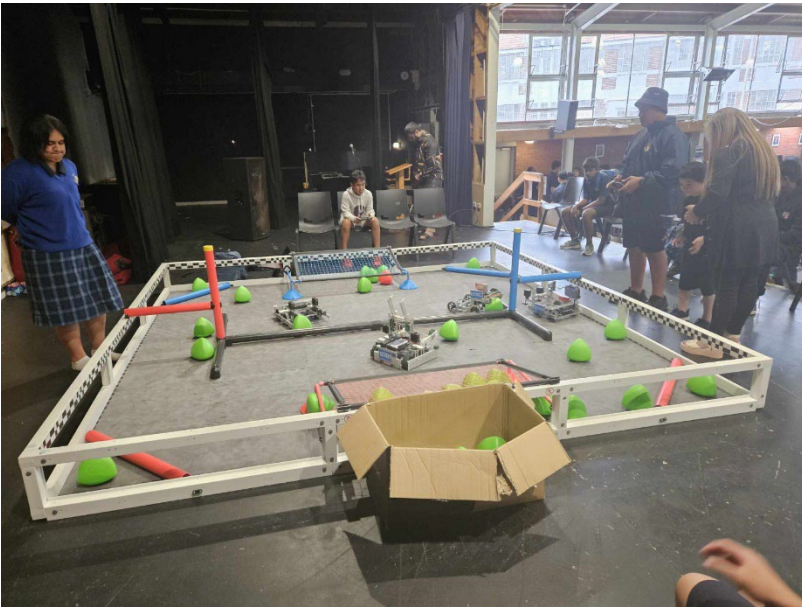


STEM News

On Wednesday 6th December, the Science Department hosted the Ōtāhuhu College Junior Science Showcase 2023. It was an evening for parents, caregivers, whānau, teachers, tertiary educators, and industry professionals to enjoy the exhibit of science inquiry projects by our Year 9 and Year 10 cohort this year. There was also a special showcase from the Robotics Club up at the school stage showcasing their VEX Robotics creations.

The winners for Y9 and Y10 Science Inquiry projects will be celebrated at our Special Assembly next week. The winners for Y9 Science Inquiry Projects for best group project in each class will receive a trip to the Stardome Observatory and Planetarium next week.





Lanu Trip

Five students from a group attended Lanu meaning UNITY from Otahuhu College, they were spoilt with gifts and free clothing which they could choose themselves.

Students enjoyed the welcome by Village Collective who caters for the Rainbow Youth, It was an awesome celebration to end the year.





Sports News

2023 has seen some real positive highlights this year. We began the year well, with our Senior Boys and Senior Girls Volleyball teams competing in the North Island Satellite Cup Tournament with our boys winning the Cup and our girls finishing runners-up. Our Tag teams competed well in the summer league going through to the top half of their draws. Our students took to the 3v3 basketball format, competing at the NZ Secondary Schools National 3v3 Basketball Tournament.

Winter season saw our soccer teams compete well over there season finishing amongst the top teams in their respective competitions. Our U15 Boys rugby went on to win their competition and our girls finishing in the Top 4 of the Girls 10 a-side competition. Rugby League were finalists in the College A competition and our Girls Basketball team qualifying for the Auckland Championship for the second time in two years. Our other teams competed well in their respective grades.

We saw the return of Rugby 7s to Otahuhu College in both the Senior and Junior Grades. Our Junior Volleyball teams were once again competitive in their grades.

Students individual and team success were celebrated at our annual Sports Awards Dinner where a number of our students achieved representative status at provincial and National level.

Otago College Sports Department would like to thank all our coaches and managers (both staff and community) for all their assistance with our teams this year. It is because of your assistance that we are able to field the teams that we have throughout the year.

2024 will see new challenges for our students and coaches but this can only be aided with the appointment of a new Director of Rugby and Director of Netball and with your continued support. Once again thank you for all you have provided to our students, and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2024. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Kia Tamatane

