



Otago College Newsletter

Friday 16th February 2024

Important Notices

Monday 19 th February	Haka Waiata Competition
Wednesday 21 st February	Head Prefect Speeches/Voting
Thursday 22 nd February	Sports Day
Friday 23 rd February	Prefects Assembly



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Preparations are well underway for our annual Haka Waiata competition, which is being held on Monday at 1:30pm. The Houses have been hard at work, and it promises to be a tight competition. We are looking forward to seeing family and old students in support. Next week, on Thursday, we will see the whole College sports day, and we look forward to making this an annual event, where once again the Houses will be in competition.

Parents have asked what is required to pass a NCEA subject. In the old days passing a subject meant gaining 50% or more, these days it involves achieving 14 or more credits. To pass a subject, a student must achieve 14 or more credits at Achieved or Merit or Excellence within a single year, with a minimum of three of these credits from externally assessed standards, and three credits coming from internally assessed standards. (Courses comprising standards from Physical Education and Level 3 Visual Arts are exempt from the second requirement.) This highlights the importance of doing well in external exams at the end of the year.

Our Commitments

Our commitment for next week is to be on time. This means more than just being at school by 8:30am and moving quickly and quietly to class. Good time management is an important aspect of being successful. For our students they need to know when their assignments are due to be handed in. A good idea is 3 days before the due date for your children to show you their assignments, this way you can check if they have finished, or need to work hard to get the assignment finished by the due date. 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 Otago College. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact the Principal.

Photo ID Cards

ID cards will be available for pre order from Monday **19th Feb**

These cards are pre -paid at Student Services in the Book Shop. Cost for ID cards is \$15.00. (Eftpos or cash, please try to bring the correct amount, thanks)

We recommend buying an ID card for getting student rates for the bus and train etc. It is valid through till March 2025.

Photo ID cards can be used for proof of identity, especially when applying for jobs and drivers licence tests, opening bank accounts and other discounts for students. The ID card order is placed once the





school photos have been taken later this term. The production of ID cards can take a few weeks as they are created elsewhere.

The whanau teachers will be notified when the card is ready to be collected.

Sports Day

On Thursday 22nd February the whole school will be involved in a Sports Day. Students will come to school in their House colours and will move around various activities in their Whanau classes competing against the other Houses. Students will be provided more specific information during Whanau classes next week.

Health Centre

WATER! WATER! WATER! To prevent Dehydration in this hot weather.

Please bring a water bottle to refill from the water fountain taps around the school. Especially on Monday for haka Waiata. Other ideas include a school bucket hat and sunscreen for protection.



Arts and Culture News

POLYFEST

Polyfest signups have begun with many enthusiastic students getting involved already! We are proud to have our first ever Filipino group with 30 students signed up!

So, our groups for the year are:

Kapa Haka – please see Mr Stewart

Tongan Group – please see Mrs Otunuku

Samoan Group – please see Ms Wickman

Cook Island Group – please see Ms Harford/Mrs Stretton

Filipino Group – please see Ms Harford/Mrs Stretton

Fijian Group – please see Ms Harford/Mrs Stretton





Students are still able to sign up and need to see the appropriate staff to find out when practices are. For our parents, practices are usually after schools until 5-5.30pm, but please confirm with your child for exact times, or you're welcome to contact the school office to confirm. Practice times should be locked in by the end of next week. Kia Tamatane!

TUTORS

We are still in search of a Niuean Group Tutor. Practices will run after schools a few times a week. We are keen to have family members of our students tutor our groups, or if you know of someone in your community, please contact Ms Harford lharford@otahuhucollege.school.nz or Mrs Stretton rstretton@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Sports News

Volleyball season for 2024 began last night with both girls teams playing at Bruce Pulman last night, which made for a very long night on the first night of games. Our Senior A team drew some tough matches against OTHC losing in two hard fought sets. The second game was against Mangere College Losing 2-1 in another tough game.

Our Senior B team were able to pull hard fought wins against Onewhero High School wining 2-0 and then going on to beat Sancta Maria 2-1.

We would also like to thank our parents who picked up their children. Due to the nature of the game of Volleyball the listed start time is only an estimated start time and games at times can start and finish well past the advertised start. We look forward to next week's games with improved results.





Study News

HELP CENTRE

ENGLISH

HOMEWORK HELP

ASSESSMENT SUPPORT

LITERACY SKILLS PRACTICE

This is a study space where you can get extra help, more practice and additional time to work on skills, homework and assessments.

This is an opportunity for students of all year levels to get extra guidance and support to help them achieve to the best of their ability.

DETAILS: Day: Every Thursday
Time: 3pm-4pm
Location: OC Library

