



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Important Notices

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Polyfest Groups All Day Practices (Various Venues)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Polyfest Fia Fia Performances 1:30pm in the School Hall (School Day will finish at 12:45)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Samoan Fa'aliga 5:30pm to 9:00pm in the School Hall
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Tongan Fia Fia 8:00 to 11:00pm in the School Hall
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Teacher Only Day (School is Closed for instruction)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	School ID Photos



## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to our Year 12 and 13 students who are submitting their first NCEA assessments of the year. The results have been pleasing with nearly half the grades awarded being awarded at the Merit and Excellence level.

Polyfest groups are practicing hard and we are very grateful for the support from our families during this time. Next week is an especially busy time for the Otago College and it is important that students know what is happening and where they are supposed to be. All the very best to all the groups that are performing.

## Our Commitments

Our commitment next week is being on time. This is particularly important when events like Polyfest are happening. Students need to ensure they have a good understanding of what is happening and when. It is also important to plan ahead and make sure things are organised early to avoid any last minute panics.

## Photo ID Cards

ID cards will be available for pre-order!

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 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.

## Year 13 Graduation

### **Requirements of Graduation from Ōtāhuhu College**

A graduation student from Ōtāhuhu College must meet the following requirements by 31 October of their Year 13:





- NCEA Level 2
- 5 credits each, in a minimum of four Level 3 subjects
- A minimum engagement score of 2.5 out of five across all subjects for the year.
- Minimum of 70% attendance as measured by half days for the year. (Attendance criteria is based on Ministry of Education definition of Chronically absent being 70% half days)

To be able to Graduate the student must also:

- Submit for all external assessments.
- 100% attendance for both school and NCEA examinations

## Curriculum News

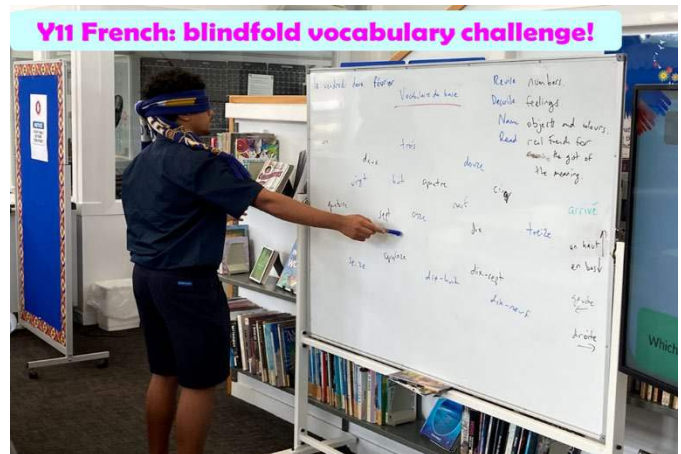
### **French**

French has gotten off to a flying start at Otago College this year with two firsts: a Year 11 French course and a French Film Club! The Year 11 class includes a mix of beginners and experts who have been brilliantly adaptable and enthusiastic in their peer work, supporting each other with their different levels of experience with the language.

Meanwhile, French Film Club takes place on Wednesday and Friday afternoons and, for those students who attend regularly, counts as an extracurricular activity on their school record. As a bonus, tasty French treats such as cakes and cheeses are often provided for snacking! All are welcome.



**French-themed tasty treats**



**Y11 French: blindfold vocabulary challenge!**



**Y11 French: Q+A interaction**



**French Film Club: Le Petit Nicolas**





## Geography Year 11 Geo Trip

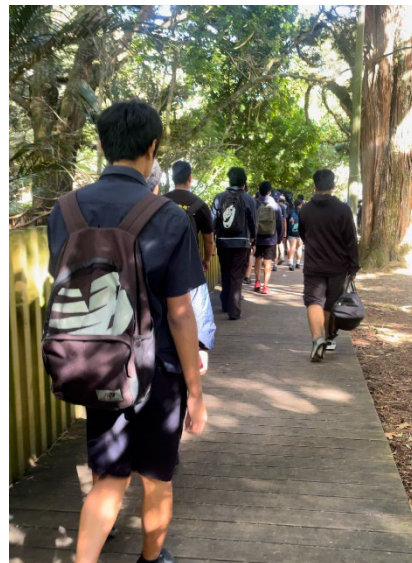
Year 11 Geography students this term have been exploring the land use around Ōtāhuhu and looking at how there have been changes across time. Part of this unit requires students to collect data and see how the land around our school is changing. Students walked around Ōtāhuhu Town Centre and Great South Road. We learnt about how Ōtāhuhu is on an isthmus and so the unique demands of having limited land and a growing population. Below are photos of our students on the trip engaging in research and exploring our suburb. A huge thank you to Ms. Mharakurwa for all her preparation with getting our students ready for this trip.





## Health & PE

Despite the physical challenges of the tramp to Totara, the Year 11 PE students demonstrated their independence and bravery, receiving praise from the public for their exceptional behavior throughout the day, making it a memorable and enjoyable experience filled with laughter and games. Kia Tuhaha Kia toa-Be independent be brave.

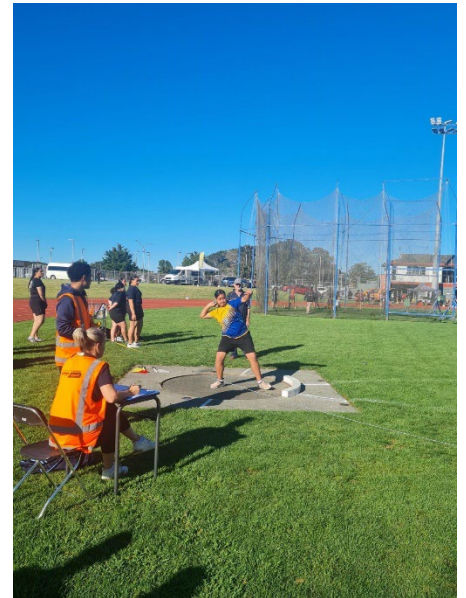




## Sports News

On Thursday we took 6 students to represent Otago College in the Counties Manukau Athletics Zones. All our students did well and some also finished top 8 in their events.

Mele Taukafa finished 2nd in the Intermediate Girls Discus which qualifies her to go to Auckland Champs. Congratulations to Xavier Etuale and Mo'unga Kivalu who have qualified for Auckland Champs in the Intermediate Boys Shot Put.



## Netball Academy

We're now in week 3 of our pre-season training with 2 Senior Teams, 2 Year 10 teams, and 1 Year 9 team taking part in a summer league at Auckland Netball Centre as part of our preparation for the winter netball competition starting in Term 2.

Our focus for this competition has been to build confidence, on-court connections, and netball understanding while applying what we've learned in training.

This has proven successful with our Year 9 team securing their first win! In a close match, their determination and commitment really shone through. Our senior teams have shown their strength, winning their first game by over 30 goals and their second game by over 15, demonstrating the talent of OC netballers. We have 3 more weeks to go, and we're excited to see how much more we can improve.






## 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

