



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Thursday 28th March 2024

Important Notices

Friday 29 th March	Good Friday (School Closed)
Monday 1 st & Tuesday 2 nd April	Easter Monday & Tuesday (School Closed)
Wednesday 3 rd – Friday 5 th April	Interhouse Junior Netball
Friday 12 th April	Last day of school for Term 1



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

What a week last week was. We had over 200 students compete at Polyfest, with the Tongan group picking up a first and second placing. Our Filipino group earning a third place in their first attempt. Sports teams competed in their tournaments. In Volleyball the boys finished fifth and the girls defeated Baradene to claim the gold medal.

These successes are made possible by the quality of tutors and coaches, hard work, attention to detail and the pursuit of excellence that is expected at Ōtāhuhu College.

On Wednesday I attended a Pasifika Futures meeting which brought together providers who work with pacific families from Northland to the Bluff. There was a common theme that emerged: the need to improve education. Ōtāhuhu College is seen as a leading light in this. Last year five doctors graduated from Ōtāhuhu College. In 2019 50% of Decile One engineering students in New Zealand were from Ōtāhuhu College. Our UE rates are significantly above the UE rate for Pacific students nationwide, and this year we will exceed the national average for all students.

Finally, it was great to celebrate with our families the Scholars of 2023 in our special assembly this week. Gaining a Merit or Excellence endorsed certificate is an achievement all families can be proud of.

Have a blessed Easter Holiday and we look forward to seeing our students back on Wednesday.

Our Commitments

For our students to be engaged in their own education, they must be encouraged to read, ask questions, actively engage in discussions, write and learn to think critically about challenging material. Every mistake our students make, every question they ask, and every time they successfully struggle with a concept, their brain grows a little bit stronger and smarter.

Each week our students receive an engagement grade based on a 1 to 5 scale. To get a 5, students need to attempt all classwork and homework, and consistently strive to produce work at or above the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic results. You can help by encouraging your child to do homework work, and independent study. Encourage your child to always participate in class discussions, by volunteering to ask and answer questions.

Uniforms and Punctuality Reminders

If students are wearing incorrect uniform, it is their responsibility to see the Dean first thing in the morning. Students without a uniform pass will have items confiscated for the remainder of the term.





Students must be in class on time. Students who are late to class are likely to get an imposition from the classroom teacher or an afterschool detention to 4pm.

House News

An interhouse netball competition has been launched this week and is proving a popular event for both spectators and competitors! Juniors from all houses are thoroughly enjoying showcasing their netball talents, having a go at a new sport, or supporting their peers. Thus far, Massey and Hobson have proven the consistent winners, though nothing is set in stone until the final next week! Additionally, it has been pleasing to see house prefects take a leading role in organising the groups of students and assisting with points scoring.

Here are some highlights from the various games so far.





Sports News

3v3 Basketball

Last week our 3v3 Basketball Premier boys competed in the Regional 3v3 Tournament. We had teams from the Waikato region and from the far North. This is the first time Otago College has competed in the Premier Grade for 3v3 Basketball, and the boys represented Otago College with great pride. They played a total of 15 games in 3 days. We did not get the result we wanted, but they excelled in their own expectation of being in this grade. All our boys are back next year, where we hope to build off the learnings from this year as we prepare to be more competitive next year.





Senior Volleyball

Otago College Senior Boys and Senior Girls Volleyball teams recently competed at the North Island Satellite Cup Championship. This Tournament attracted teams not only from Auckland but as far away as Napier and Hastings, Hamilton, Whakatane and the far North. Both teams had early starts on the first day with the boys winning 2 of their three matches and moving in to the top 8 round robin playoffs. The Girls won both their games on day one quite comfortably and look set for day two.

Day two was quite tough for our boys with two narrow losses and a win which saw them move to the playoff for 5-6 on Day 3. The girls went on to beat Dargaville High School in the last game of the round robin to finish top of the pool and head to the quarter finals later in the day. The quarter final was Diocesan School for Girls which again the girls were able to win again quite comfortably. This would see them play Trident High School in the semi-finals. Trident and Otago were well match however Otago Colleges power hitting game dominated the match and they were to win again comfortably.

Day three our Senior boys were to play One tree Hill College in the play off for 5-6. The boys managed to win after losing to One Tree Hill College earlier in the Tournament. Otago College girls' team were to play Baradene in the final. A team which they had beaten the week before at the Auckland Championship. However, this was a different Baradene team in both sets Baradene took an early 5-point lead, but once again our girls settled in to their work and began playing the power hitting game once again. Which saw them win the final in straight sets. A perfect tournament from our girls winning 7 straight games without losing a set and being crowned North Island Secondary Schools Satellite Cup Champions for 2024.





Health and Wellness Centre



Travelers Program runs in small groups over 8 weeks, for some of our Yr 9 students. It has been in schools for over 20 years.

Travellers aim to build resilience, life skills to cope with change, loss, and transition. As well as building self-esteem and confidence, so that our students can face future challenges well. Starting in term 2 and facilitated by Karlo Jackson (MHP) and Vicki Raynor (RN).

Prior to starting, all Yr 9 students will complete a brief and confidential survey. If for any reason you wish for them to opt out, or if you want any additional info please email.

Hreception@otahuhucollege.school.nz or call 963 4081





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

