



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### Important Notices

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Haka Waiata
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Head Prefect Speeches/Voting
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Sports Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	ID Photos



## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

The first three weeks of school have started well and students are working hard in class and are also preparing strongly for our Haka Waiata competition on Monday. Once again we are looking forward to welcoming many families, old students and friends of the College to Auckland's longest running school Haka Waiata competition.

In 2024 Otahuhu College students gained more merit and excellence grades than ever before. This is a reflection of both the commitment of our students, the support of families and excellent classroom teaching. Getting higher grades is not just a matter of getting more things right, though that does help. The key is the level of thinking which is demonstrated. There are some differences between subjects however in general, an Achieved grade means that you can describe the topic. To get a Merit you need to be able to explain, looking at reasons why something happens. While to get an Excellence you need to be able to analyse, make comparisons and draw links between different topics. One way of looking at it is if you can describe what a family member looks and acts like you get an achieved, if you can explain why they act that way then its a Merit, and if you can show how their actions affect the family and how the wider family responds then that is an Excellence. All our students should be aiming for Merits in their favourite subjects.

I look forward to seeing you all next week.

## Our Commitments

Our commitment is to be respectful. A key part of being respectful is using appropriate language. Learning what words, and indeed the volume, you use in different circumstances is one of the challenges of growing up into young men and women. Teenagers find this hard to do, so talking to them and explaining how different situations require the use of different words and mannerisms is a great step on developing articulate respectful young men and women.

## Attendance

School starts promptly at 8:35 a.m., and being on time is essential for students to start their day on the right foot. Arriving late disrupts learning, both for the student and their classmates. At Otahuhu College, we emphasize the importance of punctuality as a key life skill that prepares students for success in both academics and future employment.

Families can help by ensuring students leave home with enough time to arrive before 8:35 a.m. If lateness becomes a habit, we recommend reaching out to whānau teachers or attendance staff for advice and support. Let's work together to make every morning count.





‘Oku mahu’inga ke kamata e akó ‘i he taimí. Kamata ‘i he 8:35 pongipongi.  
E amata le aoga i le 8:35 i le taeao. Ia iai i le a'oga a'o le'i amataina lesona.

## Haka Waiata



Monday 17th February at 1:30pm our annual Haka Waiata performance will be happening on the lower field!

Entrance via Golf Ave for anyone wanting to attend, please enter and find a seat before 1:20pm  
Please also respect our performances and students by keeping it a smoke free, vape free area!

Goodluck to all our students!





# HELP CENTRE AND HOMEWORK CLUB



**ENGLISH**

**HOMEWORK HELP**

**ASSESSMENT  
SUPPORT**

**LITERACY SKILLS  
PRACTICE**

**CAA PREP**

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





## Kotuku News

Kotuku students created this show-stopping collaborative piece of artwork for their classroom.



## Sports News

Otago College is excited to introduce our new Netball Director, Debbie Pulusi. With extensive experience in netball coaching and leadership, Debbie comes highly recommended for her exceptional work ethic, passion for the sport, and commitment to developing players at all levels. Her dedication to excellence has earned her respect as a valued member of the Netball Community, where she has made significant contributions both on and off the court.





## Attention Otago College Netball community

We need your help in returning all netball uniforms that were distributed to your daughters last year. Please check at home and ensure any outstanding uniforms are returned to the front office as soon as possible. It's important that we collect all items to prepare for the upcoming season. Your prompt action in returning the uniforms is greatly appreciated, and it will help ensure our netball program runs smoothly. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of our netball teams!

DATE	TEAM	VS	VENUE	TIME
10/02	VOLLEYBALL TRAINING	BOYS AND GIRLS	GYM	3.30PM
11/02	3V3 BASKETBALL TRAINING	BOYS AND GIRLS	GYM	3.30PM
	TAG TRAINING	BOYS AND GIRLS	LOWER FIELD	3.00PM
12/02	PREM GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	MAGS ORMISTON	OC GYM	4.00PM 5.00PM
	VOLLEYBALL TRAINING	BOYS AND GIRLS	GYM	3.30PM
13/02	SNR GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL	HOWICK McAULEY	PULMAN 6 PULMAN 6	4.00PM 5.30PM
	SNR BOYS' VOLLEYBALL	STRATHALLAN TUAKAU	PULMAN 12 PULMAN 10	4.45PM 5.30PM
	TAG TRAINING	BOYS AND GIRLS	LOWER FIELD	3.00PM
14/02	PREM GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	ONE TREE HILL RANGITOTO	ONE TREE HILL	4.00PM 5.00PM
15/02	SENIOR BOYS' TENNIS	TBC	TBC	TBC
16/02				

