



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

### *Important Notices*

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	ID Photos
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Polyfest Fia Fia Performances
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Polyfest
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term 1



## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

The last week of summer has been full on as you would expect at Otahuhu College. Summer sports are in full swing, Polyfest practices have begun, winter sports are starting up, clubs are up and running. Further to that we have had field trips out and tutorials happening. There is a lot to do to keep our students busy and we are grateful for the support from our families that makes this possible.

Most importantly, classes are going well. For your children to be successful, the work they are doing has to be both challenging and of a high standard. Just like in sports training or Polyfest practices, we must be always encouraging and supporting our children to do a little bit better each day in their classes.

## Our Commitments

Our focus for next week is being engaged in lessons. On the basic level it is making sure that every student takes individual responsibility to have their books and pens. To make sure that as soon as they get into class that they have their books out, bags on the floor, and they are ready to learn. 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 Otahuhu College. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the Principal.

## Attendance

When students miss school, it's vital for parents to provide a written note explaining the absence. This ensures the school can record the absence accurately and identify any ongoing issues that might affect your child's ability to attend regularly.

At Otahuhu College, we encourage parents to notify the school as soon as possible, either by phone, email, or a handwritten note. Together, we can support students to overcome barriers to attendance and ensure they don't fall behind.

'Oku mahu'inga ke faka-fetu'utaki mai ki he 'apiakó 'a e 'uhinga 'oku 'ikai ma'u ako ai 'a e fānaú.  
O le tusi o faamatalaga e fesoasoani i le aoga e fesoasoani ai i le fanau.

## Community News

**Cell Phones Not to be Used Between 8:30am and 3pm**





Government regulations require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a phone while they are attending school, including during lunch time and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds.

## **Guidelines**

1. Ōtāhuhu College is not responsible for the loss of cell phones if brought to school or on school based activities.
2. Cell phones are to be kept in student's bag and turned off between the hours of 8:30am and 3pm.
3. In case of emergency parents are to contact the school office on 963 4000.
4. Teachers may grant students the use of their phones for specific learning purposes. In which case phone use will be actively supervised.
5. Breach of this policy will result in the phone being confiscated for the rest of the day.
6. Dispensations can be granted for exceptional Health and Safety reasons.
  - a. Parents must apply in writing
  - b. Dispensation can be granted by the principal
  - c. A pass will be issued to the student

## *Curriculum News*

### **Year 12 Biology trip**

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February Ms McKinlay and Ms Leslie's biology classes took a trip to Long Bay beach. As part of the students internal they visited the rocky shore and collected data for their reports. Students used quadrat and transect lines to sample the organisms living at the rocky shore. Students are excited to get back to class to analyse their data and work towards their level 2.





## Year 12 Geography Trip

Students in Year 12 Geography on Tuesday went to Newmarket and investigated the impact of the redevelopment of the shopping mall on the surrounding streets. Students had a great time exploring the area and enjoyed eating out.





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## Year 13 Geography Trip

On Thursday 52 Year 13 students made the trek into the CBD. We were collecting data on how suitable Auckland CBD is for tourism development. This is a core component of their internal where they needed to attend the field trip in order to pass the assessment. Students went up the SkyTower to get an aerial view of the CBD. Afterward we went sailing on the Ted Ashby along the Waitemata Harbour. Students then spent the afternoon collecting data along the Viaduct, Queen St and around the Sky Tower.



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## Arts and Culture News



Vaipeka Nabi (Year 11) collage drawing

## Sports News

Yesterday our senior boys and girls competed in the Eastern and Southern Zone Tag Tournament. We had a lot of new faces join the senior girl's team with two yr9 students and two yr10 students, the team put out a performance that they can be very proud of. The girls had 5 pool games, winning two against Rosehill 4-2 and Tamaki college 5-2, we then loss our next 2 games narrowly going down to Papatoetoe high in a tough game 2-1 and Aorere College 8-4. Our girls showed tremendous heart as they fought back 2-0 as they drew their final pool game against Botany Downs college 3-3 giving them a quarter final finish, where our girls went down to a strong Howick college.

Our senior boys team competed in the premiersip round. The team got off to a winning start with a win against Botany Downs college 5-0, then going down to both De La Salle college teams 6-0 and 5-4 to finish off their pool matches. Coming out of pool games the team qualified for a place in the quarter finals against a higher placed James Cook team, where the boys dug deep and won a hard-fought match 4-3. This saw our boys progress through to the semifinals where they played last year's champions Manurewa High losing 4-3

Overall, it was a very good outing for both teams, our teams displayed great skill, discipline and character throughout the day. A day our students who represented our college can be very proud of. Thank you to those students who participated and represented our college proudly, also to our staff



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members who helped make the day successful, Mrs Robati and Mr Paul.

