



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

### Important Notices

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Teacher Only Day (school id closed for instruction)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 2 Begins



## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

This week has been a busy week with Polyfest and it has been great to see so many of our students perform, and the support from families has been fantastic.

Our students, our families and our teaching staff are also behind our encouraging attendance rate throughout the first term, which has been above the national average and significantly above schools with similar demographics.

Also, through our first term this year, our summer sports teams have performed well. highlights include our Boys' and Girls' Volleyball teams both finishing third in their tournament, Basketball defeating St Kents and our rowers having their first school regatta in 50 years at Head of Harbour.

Work continues on improving the facilities and resources of our College, with an extension of the cover for the outdoor courts happening over the Easter break.

## Our Commitments

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.

## Attendance

Did you know that chronically absent students, by the time they are 25 years old, earn an average of \$40,000 less per year than their peers who regularly attended school? Missing school doesn't just affect students' academic progress—it impacts their long-term career opportunities and financial stability.

At Otahuhu College, we take absenteeism seriously and intervene early to prevent long-term consequences. Students who miss 10-15 days in a term are referred to Attendance Services, while those with 15 or more days absent are reported to Oranga Tamariki. These measures ensure that students and their families get the support they need to prioritize attendance. Let's work together to secure brighter futures for our students.



Ko e fānau 'oku nau nofo mei he akó, ko e ki'i pa'anga si'isi'i pē 'oku nau ma'ú, \$40,000 'o a'u ki he'enau ta'u 25. Koia ai, ma'u ako 'i he 'aho kotoa pē ke ma'u ha kaha'u 'oku lelei.

Ua fa'amaonia i su'esu'ega o tamaiti e le to'a'aga i le a'oga e maua se tupe itiiti e \$40,000 i le tausaga i le taimi e 25 ai tausaga le matua. E fa'aluaaina ma fa'atoluina lea seleni pe'a to'aga i le a'oga i le taimi e aulia ai le 25 tausaga. To'aga i le aoga i aso uma mo se lumana'i manuia.

## Community News

Student ID Photos were taken on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March. These have now been uploaded to our school's student management system (a catch-up day for absent students will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May).

Parents have been emailed their child's unique Key Code to go online to view and purchase 2025 School Photos from Photolife.

**\*\*\*FREE DELIVERY EXPIRES Midnight Sunday 13 APRIL 2025\*\*\***

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries.

Parent Queries – Please contact us on: [enquiries@photolife.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@photolife.co.nz)

## Junior School

### **Navy Cadets**

This week, the Sea Cadet Forces visited our junior students to speak with them regarding opportunities available. Training Ship Gambia is a Navy Cadet Unit of New Zealand Cadet Forces, based in Ōtāhuhu. They accept teenagers aged 13 to 15 years of age for challenging disciplined training with a naval "flavour" of activities. All cadets train from 6:30pm until 8:30pm on Thursday evenings during school terms. A variety of optional activities are available for cadets most weekends. These activities range from sailing and powerboat handling to bushcraft and abseiling.

We believe this presents an amazing opportunity for students who are disciplined or who require further development of self-management skills. It will build an individual's focus, resilience and leadership skills, potentially opening doors to a career in the forces.

For more information, reach out to the Cadets or turn up one Thursday evening:

Email: [ts.gambia@cadetforces.org.nz](mailto:ts.gambia@cadetforces.org.nz)

Location: 229 Princes Street East ext Seaside park, Ōtāhuhu 1062



## Uniform

Our junior students are starting to wear a range of non-uniform items to school, particularly shoes. This is not permitted unless permission is requested from the student's caregiver of the relevant Dean. All students should wear enclosed black shoes to school. This is for health and safety reasons in particular areas. Shoes not permitted: Roman sandals, crocs, sneakers which are not black, jandals, sliders, etc.

**Any student wearing non-uniform shoes in Term 2 without permission, following this request, will be issued detention by the Dean.**



*On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, Kotuku students participated in the annual Special Olympics Athletics Day at Massey Park. They performed really well and showed great sportsmanship.*





## Sports News

During Summer Sports Week, Otahuhu College's Senior Volleyball teams competed at the prestigious NISS Satellite Cup Tournament, a competition where the school has built a strong reputation, winning both the Boys' and Girls' grades over the past three years. With high hopes of securing at least a Top 8 finish, both teams made strong starts, earning spots in the Top 12 playoffs after Day 1.

By Day 2, both teams advanced to the semifinals, but unfortunately, they were defeated by their respective opponents. Despite the setbacks, both the Boys' and Girls' teams bounced back to secure bronze medals in their grades. This impressive achievement marks another successful chapter for Otahuhu College Volleyball in 2025.



At Otahuhu College, we are dedicated to providing a wide range of sports opportunities for our students to represent the school. To support this, we have introduced a sports fee this year. The fee will help cover costs for essential equipment, transportation, and uniforms, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience for all athletes.

The sports fee is \$20 and is a one-time annual payment. This means that regardless of how many teams you join, you will only need to pay the fee once per year. All payments should be made directly to the bookroom.

You can also pay online 12-3018-0190563-00 (Please put the students name as reference, and put the Particulars as sports)

We greatly appreciate your understanding and support in helping us provide the best possible sports experience for our students. The fee will enable us to maintain and improve the resources needed for successful participation in various sports. Thank you for being a part of our sporting community at Otahuhu College!

## Rowing

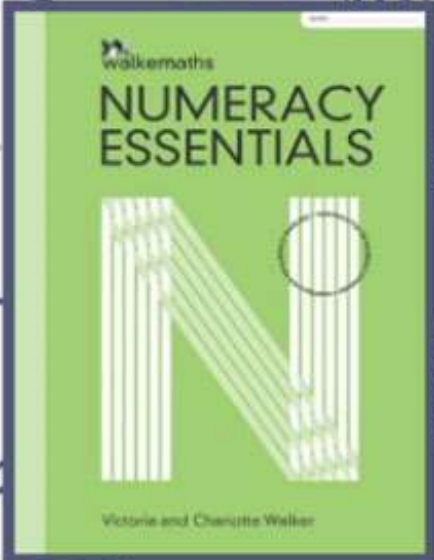
Our rowers were very grateful to accept a donation of a coaching boat from Moana Pasifika.



YEAR 10 REQUIREMENT

## NUMERACY ESSENTIALS BOOK

Compulsory requirement for all Year 10 Students



**WHERE TO BUY?**

Included in Year 10 Stationery Packs  
or  
\$10 from The OC BookShop



## 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

