



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 16th May 2025

Important Notices

Monday 19th May to Friday 30th May	Digital Literacy and Numeracy Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) - Y10 and selected Y11, Y12 and Y13 students.
Monday 19th to Friday 23rd May	Youth Week
Sunday 1st June to Saturday 7th June	Samoan Lang



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Today, I had a meeting with Erica Stanford, the Minister of Education. Many issues were discussed around education and how to improve the opportunities for our students. It is obviously testing times for the country and many families. What, however, gives me great optimism is the outstanding students and staff which I have the pleasure to work with each day.

As many parents know, the NCEA changes have also brought new co-requisites for literacy and numeracy. Students must pass these to gain any NCEA qualification. There are three digital assessments – numeracy, reading, and writing. In passing all three, students are then able to go on and gain their qualifications at Level 2 and UE. This year, the assessments are being held over the next two weeks and again in September.

This week we had the pleasure of welcoming ChildFund and Hillary Barry onto Otahuhu College. They were highly impressed by the high calibre of our students and the evident pride in who they are and their community.

Our Commitments

The focus for next week is being on time. Students are expected to be at school by 8:30am, and then seated in the correct space in assembly. With the weather due to change to more wintry conditions, your child should have a plan to get to school on wet days on time. With Auckland traffic this often means leaving 10-15 minutes earlier. For those students who are late to school three or more times in a week, they will be given a detention.

Attendance

Every day missed from school is a missed opportunity to learn, grow, and prepare for the future. Chronically absent students are significantly less likely to earn qualifications and, by age 25, they earn on average \$40,000 less annually than their regularly attending peers.

To support our students, Otahuhu College monitors absences closely. Students with 10-15 days absent per term are referred to Attendance Services, while those missing 15 or more days may be referred to Oranga Tamariki. These systems ensure students get the help they need to stay in school and secure better futures.

‘Oku mahu’inga ke ma’u ako ‘i he taimi kotoa pē, ke ma’u ha ngāue lelei mo ha kaha’u ‘oku lelei.

O le masani i le alu i le aoga i aso uma e fesoasoani i tamaiti i galuega ma fa'ai'uga fai i le lumana'i .

Senior School (Year 11-13)

YEAR 13 BUSINESS STUDIES



Thank you to Debbie and the ChildFund team for teaching our Year 13 Business class how to play Hacktics – a strategic board game that helps students develop financial literacy and life skills in an engaging, interactive way. All students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained valuable insights into managing risk, budgeting, and long-term planning.

Debbie generously donated 12 *Hacktics* games to Ōtāhuhu College. Our senior Commerce students are now teaching the game to the Commerce junior classes – and with that, the competition between future financial strategists has officially begun!

Curriculum News

Digital Literacy and Numeracy Common Assessment Activities (CAAs)

These assessments will take place during Week 4 (19th to 23rd May) and Week 5 (26th to 30th May) and will be conducted on laptops in room T13.

Year 10 students will be sitting the Reading Assessment during Week 4 and any Y11, Y12 and Y13 students that are yet to complete their NCEA Literacy and Numeracy requirements will be sitting their Assessments on specific days throughout the two-week period.

The big incentive for all students is that when they pass these Assessments, they never have to do them again! Students have been preparing well in their classes and at home and we look forward to seeing some good results.



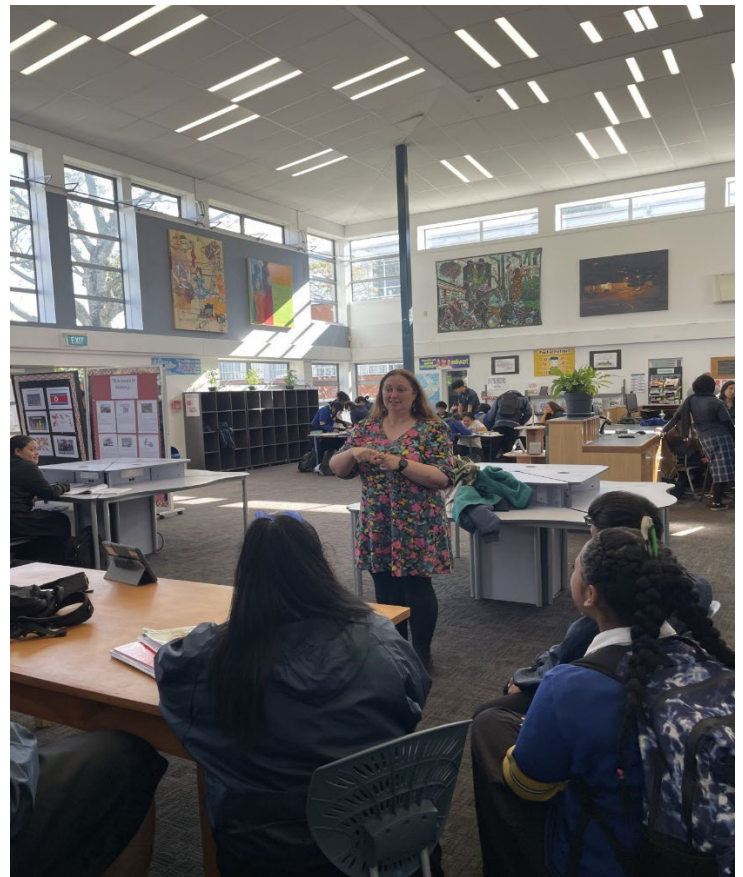
Library News

An Aotearoa Where Everyone Can Sign Anywhere:

Last week, students and teachers were invited to a 15-minute pop-in session to celebrate New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) from 5th - 9th May.

Each day, they learnt basic signs to use at school and at home. We were joined by a mix of teachers, junior and senior students learning greetings, alphabet, feelings, school subjects, needs and whānau. It was great fun that students couldn't hold their laughter in the library, so they were taught how to laugh and clap (handwaves) in NZSL too.

A big thank you to all students and teachers who supported this celebration, we are excited to plan more upcoming pop-in sessions in the future.



Sports News

Our netball season is off to a great start! We are competing in two leagues this year, with games held on Wednesdays in Takanini and Saturdays at the Auckland Netball courts. We are proud to have 7 teams this season, and all of them have begun strong, showing impressive effort and teamwork. Each team continues to improve with every game, and we are excited to see how they progress throughout the season. The energy and commitment from all players have been fantastic, and we look forward to even more growth and success in the weeks to come.






The U17 girls' basketball team started strong with a great win. This year, we're focused on rebuilding the team, and they're showing continuous improvement with every game. We're excited to see their growth and progress as the season unfolds.



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



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