



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 02nd May 2025

Important Notices

Thursday 8th May

Parent-Teacher Meetings 2:00pm to 7:00pm
(school finishes at 1:00pm)

Monday 12th – 16th May

Book Week



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to the start of the second academic term. It has been great to see the enthusiasm of students as they return to their classes after the Easter break. On Wednesday we commemorated those who sacrificed so much for the benefit of so many in our ANZAC assembly. Our prefects did an excellent job as expected in leading this important annual event.

As educators, one of our key aims is to cultivate an environment where students think independently, developing conclusions that reflect deep critical thought. Ōtāhuhu College is a place of learning – a place where students master the basics and are encouraged to challenge assumptions and develop independent, creative, and critical thinking. Pushing intellectual boundaries is integral to learning and will serve them well when faced with extraordinary challenges in their future careers.

Yet, if students are to think boldly, they must also embrace failure and disappointment. When understood as a tool for growth, failure becomes invaluable. History is filled with success stories born from resilience – people and organizations that rebounded stronger after setbacks. It is through failure that we find pathways to improvement.

Good luck to all the winter sports teams starting this week.

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 Otāhuhu College. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the Principal.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

On Thursday 8th of May school will finish at 1.00pm.

Parents/caregivers are invited to come into school to discuss your child's progress with each of their subject teachers. Meeting times available are 2:00pm to 7:00pm and will take place in the Library and A-Block. Each meeting is scheduled to last for 5 minutes. These are approximate times and assist teachers with preparation. We appreciate your patience on this evening! Detailed instructions for making appointments have been emailed to all parents/caregivers.



You can make appointments by clicking on the link or QR code:



<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/eb584>

Otago College Sports: Pride, Respect, and Excellence on the Field

At Otago College, participating in sports is about more than just winning—it's about representing our school with pride, fostering teamwork, and showcasing respect for ourselves, our teammates, and our opponents. Our sports program is built on values that inspire positive behavior and highlight the importance of respect both on and off the field.

To uphold these values, we emphasize the following:

1. **Positive Representation:** Every game is an opportunity to represent Otago College with dignity and sportsmanship. Players are encouraged to remain calm under pressure and make their school proud.
2. **Respect for Officials:** Match officials ensure the game is fair for everyone. Speaking to them respectfully reflects the values of our college and sets a great example for others.
3. **Teamwork and Discipline:** Supporting teammates and following the rules builds a strong, united team that excels together.
4. **Learning Moments:** Challenges during a match are opportunities to grow as athletes and individuals, reinforcing perseverance and resilience.
5. **Pride in our Conduct:** Displaying positive behavior before, during, and after matches enhances the reputation of Otago College and strengthens our sense of community.
- 6.

To ensure these high standards are met, there are clear guidelines for addressing rare instances of misconduct. These include opportunities for reflection and learning, as we strive to help students grow as respectful and responsible young adults.

Together, we can continue to make Otago College sports a source of pride, enjoyment, and inspiration for all. Let's play with passion, respect, and excellence!

A copy of our expectations and the consequences of not meeting those expectations for both individuals and for teams can be found at the end of this email and online in the College's website, the policy section.



Spectators

Ōtāhuhu College celebrates the determination of our athletes and their families, who embody the true spirit of sport. Whether on the field or the sidelines, our community shines by prioritizing fun, friendship, and personal growth over mere competition. We encourage everyone to support our young players by applauding their effort, respecting all participants, and allowing them the freedom to showcase their skills. Your positive energy and encouragement are essential in creating an environment where every player feels valued and inspired to grow. Together, let's ensure that our sports programs remain a source of pride, joy, and lasting memories for all.

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

- Ōtāhuhu College is not responsible for the loss of cell phones if brought to school or on school based activities.
- Cell phones are to be kept in student's bag and turned off between the hours of 8:30am and 3pm.
- In case of emergency parents are to contact the school office on 963 4000.
- Teachers may grant students the use of their phones for specific learning purposes. In which case phone use will be actively supervised.
- Breach of this policy will result in the phone being confiscated for the rest of the day.
- 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



Junior School

Year 9

This week, we celebrated the achievements of our Year 9 cohort in assembly. These were centered around attendance and engagement.

Year 9 students with 100% attendance in Term 1 (no lateness to school, class or truanancies)

Hedva Vanavana	Amanda Epifano	Shavni Chand	Ace Pio Mauga
Yvette Seda	Maraia Kauyaki	Fatani Tausisi	Jeremiah Havili
Kitiona Dariu	Julianne Marcelino	Avyan Singh	Leitu Maui
Puafisi Havea	Chyrel Ligaray	Fengsheng Guo	Marc Calubayan
Lance Lacsamana	Vainalepa Autagavaia	Blessing Iuta	Tevita Tukumoeatu
Rory Hendren	Lie Mafoa	Nargis Khawari	Arisha Kumar
Sophia Katelyn Nunaless	Krystal Ulugia	Fane Lasike	Filifiliga Toala
Taua Wight	Manea Tangimai	Phillip Stevens	BeauJanet Collier
Kent Anderson Dagpin	Tyler Marker	Ankush Nand	Pennie Takiari
Shreya Nandani	Shwarit Singh	Kelvish Reddy	
Lepeka Faingaanuku	Quentin Makutu	Rima Iakimo	

ENGAGEMENT NEWS

A huge congratulations to students in our 2 most engaged classes who were able to attain a 4 or above for engagement in school during Term 1!

Well done 9HB and 9FM!

ATTENDANCE NEWS

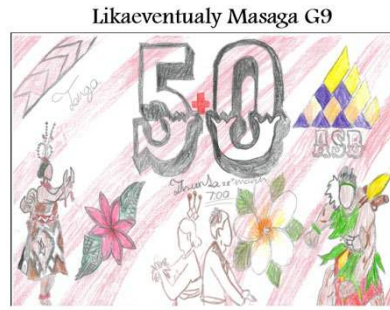
Students in Mr Kant's whānau class, G9, will be enjoying a pizza shout next week for having the highest average attendance to school.

G9 attendance average of 92.5%!

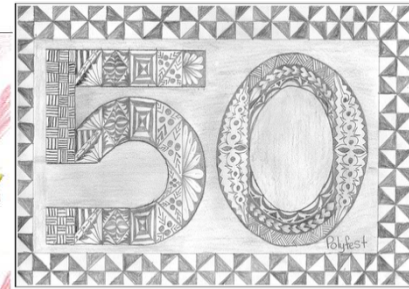
10 winning Polyfest posters from our mid-term competition



Anastacia Sione G10



Likaeventualy Masaga G9



Epalahame Eukaliti

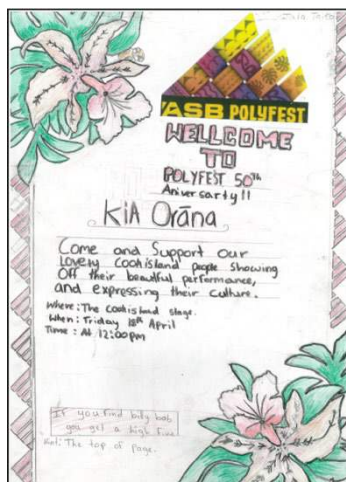


TJ Tukumoeatu G9

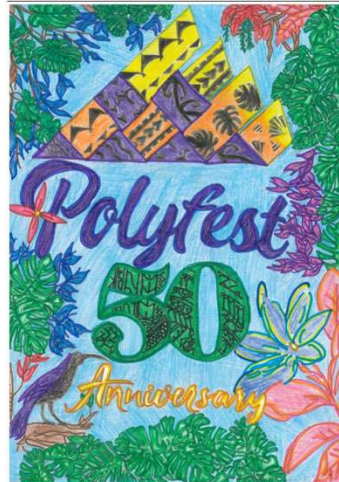
Julianne Marcelino H10



Timothy Pone H9



Tala Taito M10



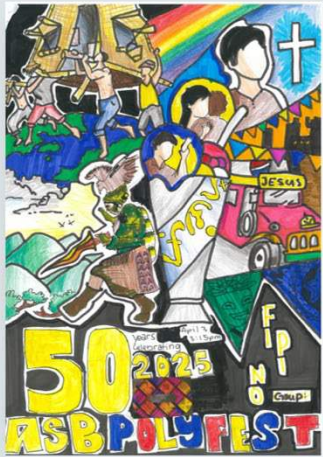
Liurina Su'a Taavao S9



Wesley Tupua S9

COMMENDATION

Danieza Calinaya G9



Sports News

1st XV Rugby Camp Success

This Easter, our 1st XV rugby team embarked on an intensive and rewarding camp that ran from Sunday through to Wednesday, culminating in a thrilling South Auckland Tournament. The camp was packed with activities designed to push the boys to their limits and foster team spirit.

The boys showed incredible dedication, rising early each morning for 5:30am wake-up runs. These invigorating starts set the tone for all-day training sessions that were both rigorous and comprehensive, covering all aspects of the game and ensuring the team was well-prepared for the tournament. After the intense training, the boys benefited from pool recovery sessions that helped them relax and rejuvenate.

Adding a unique element to the camp, local martial arts trainers visited to teach the boys valuable skills and techniques that can be applied on the rugby field. A special highlight was the visit from our very own OC hero, Roger Tuivasa-Sheck. The excitement among the boys was palpable as they eagerly awaited his arrival. Roger's visit was not only inspirational but also highly educational. The boys asked insightful questions, demonstrating their keen interest in learning from his experiences and applying his advice to their own game.

Throughout the camp, the boys developed key skills such as resilience, brotherhood, and the spirit of "Otablu". They learned to push through physical and mental challenges, building their endurance and determination. Strong bonds were formed as the boys supported each other through the tough training sessions, creating a sense of unity and camaraderie. Embracing the spirit of OC, the boys



demonstrated their commitment to the team's values and goals.

The boys had plenty to say about their experience:

- "Way better than last year."
- "I didn't know half the team's names before I got here, now the boys are Tika."
- "Sunday was boring because I didn't know anyone, but I've had the best time and wish we were staying one more night."
- "I don't want to go home, it's been seki."

Looking ahead, the team will continue their training every Tuesday and Thursday to maintain their momentum and prepare for the upcoming season. The season kicks off with an away game against Southern Cross Campus at 12pm on Saturday. We encourage all supporters to show up and cheer for our Otablu team. Go team! 🍌 🍌





Otago College Sports Respectful Behaviour Expectations

This applies to all students representing Otago College in sports. A firm and clear approach will be implemented across all sporting codes. Team Officials are responsible for ensuring the high standards of behaviour expected of students representing Otago College. The consequences outlined in this document are decided by the Principal, and further sanctions may be imposed by the Principal

On field fighting/punching

Any player who is sent off (red or yellow card) the field for fighting/punching during a match.

Sanction: One game stand-down

On Field Melee's

In the event, that there are two or more players from Otago College deemed to be inciting/ and or involved in an on-field fight and have been red or yellow carded will be sanctioned.

Sanction: Two game stand-down

Team Reserves

Reserves who take the field when a fight /melee begins, or when a perceived unfair decision or occurrence takes place.

Sanction: Three game stand-down

Referee/Match Official Abuse

Any player who is dismissed from the field for offensive language towards a match official.

Sanction: Three game stand-down

Before or After Match Behaviour

Any player(s) involved in any of the above behaviour before or after the game, following investigation by Otago College will face the similar consequences.

Banned Players

Students are responsible for ensuring they do not take to the field of play whilst they are banned (this includes students who do not meet the attendance requirements).

Should a banned player take the field, **they will be ineligible to play the rest of the season.**

Any team involved in a second breach during the season will default the next game.

Team Sanctions

Any team involved in a second melee during the season will incur a sanction for the whole team.

Sanction: One game default



If a team repeatedly breaches these expectations (3 or more times) the following sanction is available to the Principal.

Sanction: Removal from competition

Further Sanctions

These sanctions will apply if there is no sanction imposed by the Sports Governing body. Should a sanction be imposed by the Sports Governing Body, then the greater of the two will apply.

However, after investigation the Principal may impose further sanctions based on the findings.

Library News

ANZAC Assembly

This Wednesday, our school came together for a special ANZAC assembly to reflect on the sacrifices made by servicemen and women. We were honored to welcome Retired Staff Sergeant Nita Ruru as our guest of honor.

Staff Sergeant Ruru led this year's ANZAC parade in Ōtāhuhu and currently serves as the Chairperson of the Ōtāhuhu RSA. He served proudly in the New Zealand Army for twenty years, dedicating a significant part of his life to the defense and service of our country.

During the assembly, he shared personal reflections on his journey, recalling how, as a young boy, he was encouraged to join the army — a path many others followed as well. His stories gave students valuable insight into the commitment and courage that define our armed forces.

Staff Sergeant Ruru also noted that this year marks a significant milestone: 100 years since the RSA was established in Ōtāhuhu. His presence and message served as a powerful reminder of the legacy of ANZAC and the enduring importance of remembrance in our community.

We thank Staff Sergeant Ruru for joining us and for his lifelong dedication to service.



Arts and Culture News

New Zealand Sign Language Week – Monday 5th – Sunday 11th May

New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) is one of the official languages in New Zealand, Aotearoa. A form of communication using hands, facial expressions, and body gestures used by Deaf, Hard of Hearing and hearing people around the world.

Originated from BSL (British Sign Language) in the 1800s, NZSL became an official language in April 2006. Approximately 23,000 New Zealanders use NZSL daily.

A 15-minute pop-in session each day from Monday 5th – Friday 9th May will be held in the library during Break 2 from 1:30pm to learn some basic signs.

Monday: Greetings

Tuesday: Alphabet & Numbers

Wednesday: School & Subjects

Thursday: Needs & Feelings

Friday: Whānau

Pathway Career

Gateway Programme Highlights Over the Holidays

Over the holidays, we had more than 80 students participate in various Gateway Programmes, gaining valuable hands-on experience and exploring potential career paths.

Nine students completed work experience with TSS Group, where they learned waterproofing and tiling skills, and also earned their forklift licenses. The students did an excellent job and really enjoyed learning a trade.

Fifteen students took part in the ARA Trades Programme, working on refurbishing old state houses. They gained practical experience in a range of Trades including painting, scaffolding, gib stopping, and more. We received outstanding feedback on their positive attitudes and their willingness to get stuck in and do the work.

A group of students gained valuable legal insight with Youth Law, including attending real cases at the Manukau District Court. One student shared that this experience confirmed her decision to become a lawyer—an inspiring outcome!



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

Seventeen students worked at Bunnings and Mitre 10, learning about customer service and what it's like to work in retail.

Students who attended the NZ Radio Broadcasting Gateway Programme had the exciting opportunity to use radio equipment, recording and editing their own content. A fantastic experience for those interested in media and broadcasting!

Some students gained employment at Bidfood Warehouse after completing work experience there. They also completed an EWP (Elevated Work Platform) course and earned their Working at Heights License.

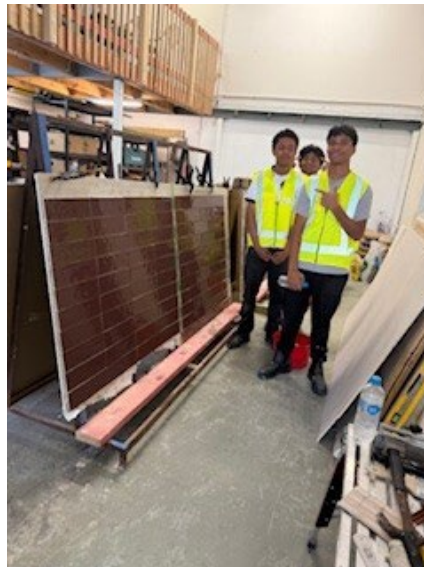
This year, we have partnered with the local Refugee Centre, where students volunteered to support newly arrived students in New Zealand. This meaningful work has been a rewarding and valuable experience for everyone involved.

Six students completed work experience with Downer and BCITO, getting involved in building, plumbing, and electrical trades. We were proud to attend their graduation on Monday and celebrate their achievements.

Students who attended the DINE Academy programme completed training and gained employment working at Mt Smart Stadium and also completed a customer service course to earn credits.

Finally, congratulations to the 17 students who completed the Learner License Programme and successfully gained their learner licenses!

This term has been filled with amazing opportunities, skill-building, and real-world experiences. We are incredibly proud of all our students who participated in these programmes and represented our school with such dedication and enthusiasm.



Friday 2nd May 2025

STEM NEWS

Waikato University Experience Engineering Trip: A Day of Discovery and Innovation Hamilton, April 2025 –

Over the Easter holidays, 11 enthusiastic students embarked on an exciting journey to the University of Waikato's Hamilton campus for the annual Experience Engineering event. This immersive trip provided a unique opportunity for students to explore the fascinating world of engineering through a series of hands-on workshops and activities.

The students, who independently signed up for the event, were eager to dive into the various workshops offered throughout the day. These workshops, designed to ignite curiosity and foster a passion for engineering, included sessions on robotics, structural design, and materials science. Each workshop was led by experienced engineers and provided a glimpse into the innovative and dynamic field of engineering.

Participants had the chance to engage in practical activities, such as building and programming robots, designing and testing structural models, and experimenting with different materials to understand their properties and applications. These hands-on experiences not only enhanced their technical skills but also provided valuable insights into potential career paths in engineering.

The day was filled with excitement and learning, as students collaborated on projects, shared ideas, and gained a deeper understanding of the engineering profession. The event also included a campus tour, allowing students to experience university life and envision their future academic journeys.

Overall, the Experience Engineering trip was a resounding success, leaving students inspired and motivated to pursue their interests in engineering. The University of Waikato continues to support and encourage young minds to explore the endless possibilities within the field of engineering, fostering the next generation of innovators and problem-solvers.

This was a first for our students and hopefully Otago College will become regular attendees.





EPro8 Challenge
Engineer Problem Solve Innovate

JUNIOR WEEKS - Y9 AND Y10 TEAMS

WEEK 1

WEEK 2

Thursday 1 May	Friday 2 May	Monday 5 May	Tuesday 6 May	Wednesday 7 May	Thursday 8 May	Friday 9 May
Team 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judje Taufelilla - 10GR Maire Henry-Jones - 10GR Tanya Ape - 10GR Ofa Siaki - 10ON 	Team 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoey Amituanai - 9ON Shar Solomona - 9ON Andantae Penaia - 9ON Lorrelle Eteuati - 9ON 	Team 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nabeela Shabnam - 9ON Faaizah Basha - 9SD Khadeejah Salim - 9SD Narjes El-Ibrahim - 9SD 	Team 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percy Sione - 10EY Vikeel Prasad - 10HB Xiao Omido - 10MA Mohammed Junaid Khan - 10FM 	Team 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meleane Fakai - 10FM Lucas Tekeu - 10RY Ana Purotu - 10GD Mele Latu - 10RY 	No Competitions today.	Team 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memphis Boyce - 9SD Zavier Keepa - 9SD Dallas Remana Leefe Porter - 9SD Meziah Palavi - 9SD
Team 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rayan Maharaj - 10MA Kavish Gounder - 10EY Risay Raju - 10FM Aarav Kishore - 10GR 	Team 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abisek Irfaan - 9AH Manpreet Dhillon - 9AH Ryan Singh - 9AH Lotuseini Teuila - 9AH 	Team 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salome Toluta'u - 9SD Gillissanne Faletose - 9EY Tongamauea Laumanu - 9EY Meliuaina Filipe - 9HB 	Team 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abul Nawrozi - ELINT Zameel Ali - 10MA Derick De Castro - 10MA Maruf Hossain - 10EY 	Team 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dayzha Harema - 10FM Jessie Cassidy - 10HB Eco Seik - 10HB Ayesha Cruz - 10FM 		Team 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pennie Takiari - 9GR Francis Clarke - 9GR Jeremiah Havili - 9GR Zephaniah Afoa-Tuumaialu - 9GR
Team 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sera Tinai - 10SD Sereana Naidiri - 10SD Farisha Begum - 10SD Mafi Vea - 10SD 	Team 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reeshab Sharma - 9SD Obadiah Maiava - 9SD Izaan Shamim - 9SD Siba Baker - 9MA 	Team 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phillip Stevens - 9ON Levi Mulpola - 9ON Te Rupe Taukolo - 9ON Cassian Otani - 9ON 	Team 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Mafoa - 9DN Wesley Tupua - 9ON Fatani Tausisi - 9FM Aiden Autaua - 9ON 	Team 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leon Thomas - 10GR Izhaan Hussein - 10SD Kamal Saifuddin - 10SD Faigaluega Vau Samau - 10SD 		Team 17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anastacia Sione - 9FM Joel Kiliata - 9FM Mackenzie Va'aelua - 9FM Krystal Heke-Mugridge - 9FM
Team 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron Fretton - 10AH Joseph Iosefo - 10AH Diontay Mills-Marsters - 10AH Skysyn Tusa - 10AH 		Team 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ace Pio Maunga - 9FM Kepueli Paongo - 10MA Tevita Masima - 10ON Harlym Tangata - 10MA 	Team 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tyler Marker - 9GR Taua Wight - 9GR Tetaunga Marukore - 9GR Min Maung - 9GR 	Team 21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Azariah Rau - 10HB Diana Latu - 10HB Silia Fineisalo - 10HB Tulai Flaiu - 10HB 		Team 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avani Prasad - 9ON Lepeka Faingaanuku - 9ON Malika Iqbal - 9ON Joanne Taamai - 9ON



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



CAA preparation sessions

NCEA achievement

Reading Writing

Wednesdays &
Thursdays with
Ms Norgate

M5 @ 3-4pm

A calm and quiet space
will be provided for
reading and writing
practice and/or
support