



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 27th April 2025

Important Notices

Monday 14th July

Start of Term 3



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

This term also marks the end of our long association with Pasifika Futures. Ōtāhuhu College has been blessed to be part of the Pasifika Futures Family. This has been both humbling and an incentive to always look at ways in which we can better serve our families. We have always been impressed by the amazing work our partners have done for some of the most vulnerable families. To be associated with them even in a small way has been very humbling. At the same time, it served as a reminder that education is the way forward for our families, and that we have a crucial role in supporting families achieve future prosperity.

As a College during our partnership we have significantly changed the way we operate. Our way is based on respect, service, and open dialogue—principles reflected in Talanoa, which encourages inclusive and respectful conversation. Similarly, our management approach has empowered staff at all levels, and fosters collaboration and transparency. Overall, through our partnership with PFL we have been able to significantly benefit the families we serve. We are extremely grateful for the support from all at PFL and in particular the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Board of Pasifika Futures.

We would like to wish all our families all the very best for the July holidays.

Common Assessment Activities (CAA) Results

Students who sat the Reading standard as part of the Literacy and Numeracy assessments in May will be able to access their results via their learner login from 3pm on Wednesday 25 June.

<https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/login/>

Results for the Writing, Numeracy, Te Reo Matatini and te Pāngarau standards will be available from 14 July.

Study News

French Film Festival

This term marked our school's fifth annual trip to the French Film Festival. Laughter permeated all rows of the cinema as we accompanied a modern French family on a hilarious romantic adventure in which a psychiatrist's daughter visits her parents to introduce her new fiancé, who unknowingly turns out to be... a notorious patient of said psychiatrist! Physical and situational comedy was blended with a rich variety of colloquial language, and exposure to such vocabulary and structures has supported the students' oracy in French.

As always, the trip to the festival also provided splendid views of the Auckland Harbour Bridge and cityscape, thanks to the viewing point adjacent to the cinema. We are immensely grateful to the Bridgeway Cinema for the cordiality of its ongoing relationship with our school, including the generously discounted tickets which make this annual trip to the festival possible for our students.






Junior School

Year 9 Rhymes Their Way into the Holidays!

To wrap up Term 2, my Year 9 (GR & MA) students were given a fun little mission: to write a playful poem on one of the following topics:

 The Secret Life of the School Bag

 When My Phone Came to Life

 Ode to the PEEL Paragraph

Let's just say... the results were hilarious!

It was a treat to see their creative sides shine - and yes, their poems absolutely made my day! I wish I could include every single one, but here are a few to kick off the holidays with a laugh. Wishing everyone a relaxing and joyful break!

1. Ode to the PEEL Paragraph	2. The Secret Life of a School Bag
<p>Point, Evidence, Explanation, Link</p> <p>A day we all dread pens flowing with ink. PEEL paragraphs in an English Examination Spreads distraught throughout the whole nation. Some students prefer IDEAR</p> <p>"No, the PEEL paragraph won't get you far", Let's say, in a hypothetical situation... The one who won the battle would be a superior One on one boxing match, we'd use for that A clean punch to the face, with a sound like WHACK!! IDEAR stumbles back, PEEL seems on track to defeat his old enemy, with a final attack.</p> <p>PEEL began to charge the final blow, Giving the audience a climactic show. And with the last hit, their rival stood below A triumphant victory, over the other paragraphs</p>	<p>Day from day, being dragged and chucked Every day one of my threads began to pluck. My life as a bag - to serve and carry, Until the day came, my owner had ice cream topped with a cherry.</p> <p>From being carried on my owner's back, to being on the floor. I don't know, If I want to do this anymore.</p> <p>I still carry his books and pencils And sometimes his phone, But at the end of the day I am still lying here alone.</p> <p>After being disowned I feel like a stray, I felt unwanted as if</p>



PEEL secured its spot, in our English class.
This is the tale of two paragraphs
The ones who are in the test don't let us pass.
They cause confusion and fear
Whenever we see the PEEL paragraphs appear.

~Tyler Marker 9GR

I am a bad hair day.

I enjoyed wondering with him class to class
But now I realize that it will never last.
Until the day comes when my straps rip one by one

I want my owner to know I had loads of fun.

As my zipper broke, I knew it was time, time for the end. Time for me to finish this rhyme.
Though my time was great but limited,
I leave with a grin.
Owner, if you're reading this, know that
I'll be living the rest of my life in the bin.

~Zephaniah Tuumaialu
9GR

3. Ode to the PEEL Paragraph

PEEL paragraphs are so annoying and bad
That hearing the two words makes me sad.
Writing PEEL paragraphs is so treacherous,
That it feels like eating 34 uncooked asparagus.

It is tiring and awful, Ms. Vaid makes me think not writing them is unlawful.
Every mistake I make, feels like
Getting picked by a rusty metal steel.

If I were to write PEEL paragraph
And win a gold crown
I would pass and
Rather get clowned.

The English exam is a crisis
If I keep going on I might get arthritis.
My fingers are in pain

4. When My Phone Came to Life

When my phone came to life, it got me by surprise.
It started telling people all the things I do at night.
I ain't talking about no dirty things,
no weird things, or even the things I do.

It tells people about what my friends show me,
I like videos and not feuds.
Cancer is bad and my cancer is my phone
Cause it tried to kill me by sending the locations
Of where I'd go.

Now I am having beef with things that aren't even alive
My phone is now my Opps because it tried killing me multiple times.
I thought it was a wish come true, the first time it arrived
but when I asked Siri or Alexa to be my ally, it said No! I am an AI!

I have tried disabling my phone, it said to me, "Nice try!"
And if I did that again, it'll make sure I'd die.
Now I ain't no scientist but I collected some data
Cause how would AI know that I ain't had no father



<p>I would rather be slain.</p> <p>After all PEEL paragraphs aren't that bad.</p> <p>PEEL paragraphs didn't make me that sad.</p> <p>If I hear those two words again I won't be sad, but I might get mad.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">~Min Maung 9GR</p>	<p>Two weeks later, I was free and eating a feast Because I murdered my phone Said my prayers - Now, rest in peace.</p> <p>I think I am free even though deep down I am not Cause there's AI everywhere and I know that I might get shot.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">~Sione Ve'a 9 MA</p>
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<p>5. The Secret Life of a School Bag</p> <p>My school bag has the roughest job, It carries my books and pen. It has the hardest times Laughing at my non funny jokes.</p> <p>Even though I slam it on the floor, It is still my only friend. I carry my bag everywhere Even in my bathtub.</p> <p>My bag is my boyfriend and my girlfriend, I take it on dates, We stroll around the park Or kiss outside the school gates.</p> <p>We talk through our good times And our bad times My bag carries my dirty clothes And even my dirty boots.</p> <p>It suffers everyday but I always make it right Haters, may not agree, but my bag is so cool I take it everywhere Not only to school.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">~Tevita Tukumoeatu 9MA</p>	<p>6. When My Phone Came to Life</p> <p>Woke to my phone, standing on my face Saying, "I'm Late!"</p> <p>I raced to get ready, as steadily rushed down to eat My phone starts talking, Saying, "We're late, we gotta leave now!"</p> <p>I was shocked But also mocked How the phone spoke!</p> <p>As I was laughing, my phone ran to slap me Filled with anger, I wriggled and slapped it back.</p> <p>I lost track of time checking my phone It was quarter past nine. I ran to school with all my might Thank God! Made it just in time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">~ Fane Lasike 9MA</p>
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Senior School (Year 11-13)

South Auckland School's Career Expo

On Wednesday June 25, around 250 students attended the South Auckland School's Career Expo at the Dew Drop Events Centre in Manukau. This Expo is an annual event which brings together nearly all the schools in the South Auckland region.

This year's Expo had a high-energy, positive atmosphere featuring over 80 exhibitors, including universities, training providers and employers from a wide range of industries. Students were able to speak directly with the providers who shared valuable insights into career pathways, study options, and future opportunities.

Our students made the most of their allocated time at the Expo. They actively engaged with the providers, asked questions, and eagerly took part in the interactive activities available. This was a great opportunity for students to see what is possible for the future.

Thank you to all the students and staff who attended the expo and helped make it such a positive and successful experience.



International Refugee Week 2025 - hosted by Māngere College

Schools' Refugee Festival



June 19th 2025



Our Ōtāhuhu College group joining students from 5 local high schools in Māngere.

World Refugee Day

International Refugee Week in Aotearoa New Zealand is a celebration held annually around June 20th, which is also World Refugee Day. It is a time to acknowledge the contributions of refugees to New Zealand society and to show solidarity with those who have been forced to flee their homes.

Māngere College invited us to celebrate with them at their annual Festival Day and our ŌC Refugee Background group went along to meet and share stories, games, food and dancing - lots of dancing!! We had a wonderful time - and our Afghani girls are already planning their dances and speeches to perform next year in 2026!



Feeling worried about what's happening in the Middle East?

We are hosting a support morning during the holidays with our ŌC School Counsellor, Claudia Pezza and our Refugee Coordinator, Tim Blackman. Come and talk!



ŌC Guidance Centre ~ Tuesday July 1st at 11:00



TAKATĀPUI & DIVERSITY GROUP



Winter Holiday
Get-together

**THURSDAY
3rd JULY
@ 12 Noon
Guidance
Centre**

cpezza@otahuhucollege.school.nz





Sports News

This year, our Netball Director, Miss Pulusi, has expanded the netball Programme at Otahuhu College, providing more opportunities for our students. We now have two teams competing every Wednesday at Bruce Pulman Courts. Our Premier Netball Girls team continues to perform strongly, showing great teamwork and determination. Excitingly, for the first time, we also have a boys' team participating in the season competition. Both teams have made impressive progress so far and are doing exceptionally well in their respective sections. The development and dedication shown by the players reflect the hard work put in by both the students and coaching staff. It's encouraging to see the growth of netball at our school, and we are proud of the efforts being made by all involved. We look forward to seeing how the rest of the season unfolds and are confident our teams will continue to represent Otahuhu College with pride.













Staff and Year 13 Netball leadership students from Ōtāhuhu College proudly attended the Moana Pasifika Netball dress presentation to support our very own Promise To'a.



Our School **BOOKSHOP IS OPEN** 8.30 AM TO 1 PM
Monday to Thursday for students to buy stationery and
pay for trips, pay their sport fee etc.
The shop is **CLOSED EVERY FRIDAY.**

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