



Important Notices

Week 5- 14 th August 2025	Parent Tacher Meeting
Week 8 – 1 st Sep – 5 th Sep 2025	CAA Exams
Week 9 – 8 th Sep – 12 th Sep 2025	Derived Grade Exams



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Last week the Production and the efforts of our drama students was the focus of the week. This week it is the turn of our young entrepreneurs. Otahuhu College Business students have excelled this year, from being the top group in Auckland, to representing the region and earning a significant scholarship, we can say that our students will be outstanding business leaders in the future.

Term 3 is the time for students to be studying firstly for the derived grade exams which are held in the second to last week of term. Parents have asked what is required to pass a NCEA subject. In the old days passing a subject meant gaining 50% or more, these days it involves achieving 14 or more credits. To pass a subject, a student must achieve 14 or more credits at Achieved or Merit or Excellence within a single year, with a minimum of three of these credits from externally assessed standards, and three credits coming from internally assessed standards. (Courses comprising standards from Physical Education and Level 3 Visual Arts are exempt from the second requirement.) This highlights the importance of doing well in external exams at the end of the year.

Our Commitments

The behaviour focus for next week is on being supportive. This means more than just talking to our children about treating others like they would want to be treated. It also means being supportive in learning. School is, and should be challenging, the work must require thought, and mistakes must be made if learning is to happen. A key part of being supportive at Otahuhu College is based around supporting each other in our learning, making mistakes and working hard to do better next time.

Attendance

School starts promptly at 8:35 a.m., and being on time is essential for students to start their day on the right foot. Arriving late disrupts learning, both for the student and their classmates. At Otahuhu College, we emphasize the importance of punctuality as a key life skill that prepares students for success in both academics and future employment.

Families can help by ensuring students leave home with enough time to arrive before 8:35 a.m. If lateness becomes a habit, we recommend reaching out to whānau teachers or attendance staff for advice and support. Let's work together to make every morning count.

‘Oku mahu’inga ke kamata e akó ‘i he taimí. Kamata ‘i he 8:35 pongipongi.

E amata le aoga i le 8:35 i le taeao. Ia iai i le a'oga a'o le'i amataina lesona.

Study News

Term 3 Deadlines



Week 6	HISTORY internal due <i>Tongan Language week</i>
Week 7	ENG & LIT internals due SPC internal due
Week 8	CAA week – Reading, Writing & Numeracy
Week 9	NCEA Derived grade exams

Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy (CAAs)

Numeracy

Students require 10 Numeracy credits to complete their Level 1 Numeracy. 45 Year 11 students have entered for the assessment. The remaining students will hopefully achieve their remaining credits in the next Math internal due this term. Check in with your child to see which pathway they are taking to achieve this.

Literacy (Reading & Writing)

Year 11 students, who need to achieve Level 1 Reading and/or Writing, have been facilitated with practice task booklets to work through over the next few weeks. It is advised that students aim to complete 2 tasks a week in the run up to the assessments. The booklets are to be utilised in their own time or in CAA support sessions. Tasks completed should be handed to their English teacher for marking and feedback.

Year 11 additional support timetable



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whānau time	CAA Numeracy A10 CHN	CAA Numeracy A10 CHN		CAA Numeracy A10 CHN	CAA Numeracy A10 CHN
After school		3-4pm Math study support Next to room A17	3:15-4:30pm History tutorials Social Studies ABD	3-4pm CAA Reading and Writing M2 & M3 NGT & DNV	

Exam Preparation

Most students will start exam preparation about six weeks before exams:

Set your goals

In each subject, set a specific goal: a mark or class placing or both.

How much work, in what areas of the subject, will be necessary to achieve your goals?

Know the exam format

Examine previous exams. How are they organised? How are instructions and questions worded, what are the sections, and how are marks allocated? Find out if the format of this exam will be the same.

Don't take anything for granted. Check your understanding of the content and format of the exam with someone else in the class, preferably the teacher.

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



Curriculum News

BUSINESS STUDIES

The Commerce Department is proud to celebrate the outstanding achievement of Sonny Steward-Samuels, who was selected to represent South Auckland at the National Entrepreneurs in Action Programme held in Wellington during the Term Two holidays. This all-expenses-paid opportunity was highly competitive, with only 66 students chosen from over 5,000 nationwide — a remarkable accomplishment.



During the event, Sonny was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Massey Business School and received an additional \$3,000 scholarship through his team's winning presentation. These scholarships recognise Sonny as one of Aotearoa's most innovative secondary school problem solvers and can be used towards any undergraduate Programme at Massey Business School.

Ka rawe, Sonny, we are incredibly proud of you.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

On the 24th of July, the two Year 12 Religious Studies classes went down to Al-Mustafa Jamia Masjid. Iman Abdul told us in detail about their religion. When praying they face the front which means they are still praying for the one and only God Allah. There are 5 prayers a day but before prayer you must remain clean, which means washing your face, feet and hands. Men wear a thobe and cover their heads as a sign of respect and women wear hijabs and clothing coverage because only the husband, son and father are allowed to see the women's skin. We learnt that Ramadan for Muslims is a month of fasting, Iman Abdul told us that Muslims are allowed to eat after sunset until sunrise. He told us that women have a different space for prayer as in sign of respect for women and because the way they pray may lead to discomfort for women. We learnt a lot about religion itself and from all of us year 12 students we enjoyed meeting Iman Abdul and the two others who also taught us amazing things. It was a welcoming experience to sit and discuss the Muslim religion and be guided with a tour around the mosque. - Sharon, y12 student



Arts and Culture News

Mask Workshops for Drama Students



On Wednesday our Yr 10 and Yr 11 Drama classes had the opportunity to participate in a 90-minute workshop with a Master teacher. Jacob Rajan of Indian Ink Theatre company has studied, taught and performed mask theatre for the past 25 years. The workshops that he ran focused on the Balinese mask tradition which goes back centuries. Jacob introduced the protocols of mask performance, and he also taught some of the basic movement principles that allow the mask to come to life. These workshops took place across the road at our Pavilion. Many of these students had first met Jacob when he performed 'the brilliant 'Guru of Chai' at the Q Theatre in 2024. It was therefore great to continue this relationship with an artist who has an international reputation. The photo is of Jacob with the Yr 11 Drama class.

Street Light Stories - School Production 2025

Last week our school presented the highly anticipated new school production of 'Street Light Stories'. The show represents a new phase that our Drama dept is moving into where the focus is on 'student voice' and telling original stories that speak to the community. In keeping with our tradition, the production was a spectacular success featuring a cast of 25 talented students in drama, dance and music. The production was performed over 3 nights, and it also included 3 matinee shows to our Yr 9, Yr 10 and Yr 11 cohorts. Next week the 'Street Light Stories' journey continues with the cast travelling to the East Coast of the North Island to perform at a local high school over 4 exciting days.



Sports News

Junior Table Tennis Club

This week, the Junior Table Tennis Club marked the halfway point of the year by celebrating students who have not missed any training sessions. The club enjoyed a casual lunch with plenty of pizza and good conversation. This celebration recognized the dedication and commitment of the players, boosting team spirit and encouraging continued effort for the rest of the year.



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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