



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 8th August 2025

Important Notices

Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th August	Maths Week
Thursday 14 th August	Parent Teacher Meetings 2:00pm – 7:00pm (School finishes at 1:00pm)
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd August	Tongan Language Week
Monday 25 th – Wednesday 27 th August Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th August Friday 29 th – Sunday 31 st August	Basketball Northern Cup UNISS Netball Rugby League Nationals



From Our Principal

Kia Orana

The education news this week has been around the changes to the qualification system in New Zealand. These changes will have no impact on students currently in secondary school and will be phased in starting from the Year 9 cohort of 2026. Overall, the new system will be an improvement and will help our students be even more confident and competitive as they take their next steps after graduation Otago College.

Ōtāhuhu College takes great pride in the accomplishments of our students. The qualifications they achieve upon graduation place them among the most successful in our local area.

Highest Qualification Leaver Data

	Level 3	UE
Aorere	40.6%	16.6%
De La Selle	47.6%	25.9%
Mangere College	47.7%	23.2%
Manurewa	50.8%	19.0%
Ōtāhuhu College	59.4%	30.1%
Papatoetoe	58.5%	28.5%
PASS	33.3%	12.5%
Rosehill	39%	3.7%
Southern Cross	53.2%	16.1%
Tangaroa	40.8%	14.1%

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 being 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 five or more times in a term, they will be given a detention.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

On Thursday 14th of August 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 are 2.00pm to 7.00pm. *Note: All teachers are unavailable between 5:00pm and 5:30pm.*

Each meeting is scheduled to last for 5 minutes and will take place in A-Block and the Library. These are approximate times and assist teachers with preparation. We appreciate your patience.

- Click on this link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/yhbf4>



- Or scan this QR Code:

Attendance

Start the Day Right: Be On Time!

The school day begins at 8:35 a.m., and arriving on time ensures students don't miss critical announcements and lessons. Regular punctuality fosters responsibility and a sense of routine, both of which are essential for academic and personal success.

Parents can assist by setting consistent morning routines and ensuring students are prepared the night before. If your child is struggling with getting to school on time, contact our attendance team for support. Together, we can help every student succeed from the start of the school day.

Kamata e 'aho kotoa pē 'i he taimí! Kamata e akó 'i he 8:35 pongipongí.

E taua le auai i le aoga i le 8:35 ma tepana lelei ai mo le aso.

Study News



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	



Y11 CAA

support sessions

Check out where you can get support, when you can get support and your role in gaining Level 1 Literacy

Please, help me gain my Level 1 Literacy?!


Grab your CAA Practice booklet from your whānau teacher!

EVERY THURSDAY FROM WEEK 4

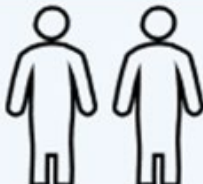
CLASSROOMS M2 AND M3

BRING YOUR PRACTICE BOOKLET FOR SUPPORT

Whether you complete the activities in the booklet at home, or with support in our help centre, you can get your efforts marked with feedback for the up and coming assessments.



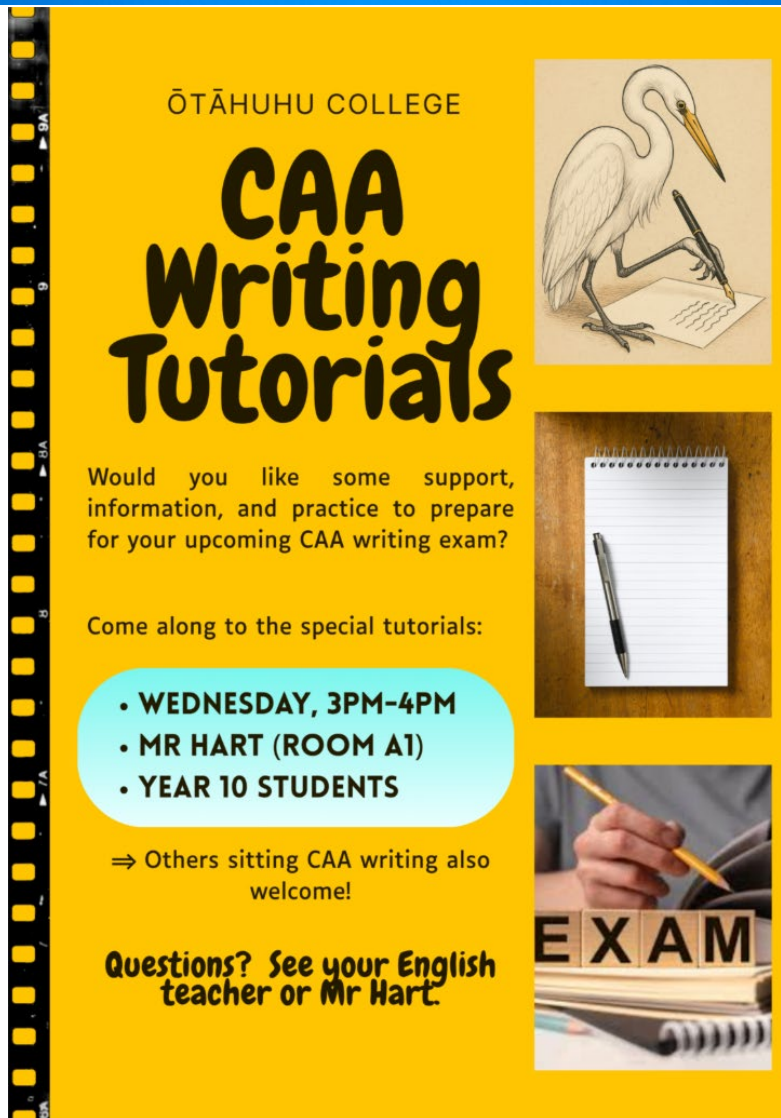
Pass complete tasks to your English teacher for marking and guidance



Still confused? Concerned? Need more support? Speak to Ms Norgate (Deans) or Ms Christensen (T1) for further guidance.

Year 10 CAA Tutorials

The next round of CAA (Common Assessment Activity) exams for reading, writing, and numeracy will take place in weeks 8 and 9 of this term. The English department is running after-school tutorials to help to prepare students for these tests. Details are below! If you have any questions, please contact your child's English teacher.



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

CAA Writing Tutorials




Would you like some support, information, and practice to prepare for your upcoming CAA writing exam?

Come along to the special tutorials:

- WEDNESDAY, 3PM-4PM
- MR HART (ROOM A1)
- YEAR 10 STUDENTS

⇒ Others sitting CAA writing also welcome!

Questions? See your English teacher or Mr Hart.



Junior School

Tiritiri Matangi Island

As so many places in the world suffer from famine, are menaced by climate change, or are torn asunder by crises like warfare, it is timely to remind ourselves of just how fortunate we are to live in a country as safe, scenic, and serene as New Zealand. To appreciate the magic of this land we are privileged enough to call home, few locations compare to the idyllic Tiritiri Matangi Island — a nature sanctuary home to over 70 species of native birds. The island is also rated number one in Auckland on Tripadvisor! This week marked the second annual Ōtāhuhu College trip to this island as an engagement and attendance reward for junior students, who gained a new appreciation of the island's ecology and of conservation efforts by observing these phenomena firsthand.

First, the students themselves are to be congratulated for being selected: out of a cohort of 523, only 40 spaces were available — less than 8 per cent! Therefore, the students very much had to distinguish



themselves in terms of their attendance, behaviour, and classroom effort in order to be nominated. In particular, to secure a place on the trip, students had to maintain an average effort grade of over 4.2/5 calculated across all subjects for the year — a clear example of how each day's classwork has long-term impacts throughout the year. Effort grades are emailed to families every two weeks, so caregivers can track how students are progressing in each subject class. As well as achieving outstanding effort grades throughout the year, the students selected for the Tiritiri trip also demonstrated the Ōtāhuhu College value of being on time: 40 out of 40 students successfully arrived at school by 6.45am on the morning of the trip for a prompt departure — despite the dark, the cold, and the wind, their spirits were high! They have set a fantastic example to their peers of how early starts are not only possible but maximise the amount achieved in a day.

Indeed, plenty was accomplished during the outing. After a bus trip to the CBD, students disembarked at the waterfront; for around a third of them, it was their very first time visiting this location. To sharpen their attentiveness to the city sights they were discovering, the students completed an “I Spy” challenge as they walked through Wynyard Quarter on the way to the ferry. Then came the ferry trip, a bumpier-than-expected ride during which many were grateful for the seasickness medication provided by the Health Centre! The ferry ride, generously funded by a Growing Minds grant, offered students a constantly-shifting panorama of the Hauraki Gulf's islands and coastlines, as well as a quiet place to complete a booklet of reading and writing exercises related to Tiritiri's birds and plants in preparation for their time on the island. The ferry ride also marked a first for many students who had not set foot in a large boat before — an excellent opportunity to learn about physics as they tried to keep their balance on the deck!

Upon arriving on the island, the group was placed into the extremely capable hands of Tiritiri's educators and volunteer guides. These inspirational individuals bestowed a wealth of knowledge, passion, and conservation skills upon our students. All these elements were packaged in an engaging, understandable way, with content learning always anchored in hands-on experimentation. For example, our group experienced binocular use, plant identification, map reading, a scavenger hunt, and plenty of bird spotting in the bush. In their tireless efforts to preserve and grow the island's bird population and to transmit these conservation values to the next generation, the Tiritiri guides and educators are an embodiment of *kaitiakitanga*. Our students proved to be a very receptive audience for all this wisdom; the guides made a point of complimenting how engaged and curious they found our students during the activities, as well as how politely they conducted themselves. Many students had absorbed an impressive volume of information from their written booklets during the ferry ride and were able to accurately recall names and information about the island's birds. Other adults, too, praised the students' attitudes, including the ferry crew expressing what a delightful group they were to have on board. Our Year 9 and Year 10 students represented Ōtāhuhu College magnificently, and we are proud of them.

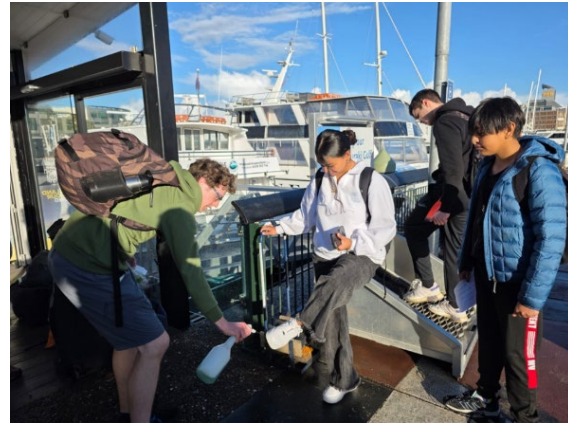
As well as the students, appreciation and acknowledgement are owed to many for making this trip a possibility and a success. The event was funded by way of the generosity of the Growing Minds programme, the Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi (SoTM) trust, and Otahuhu College's steadfast benefactor Mr John Boscawen. Thanks to the contributions of these donors to the ferry ride, the guided walk and education activities, and the bus journey, the trip was able to be offered at no cost to the students we were



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

aiming to reward. Given the many and varied benefits of the outing for the students, as outlined above, we are as grateful as ever for the ongoing support of these donors.

Now, our students return from being inspired by the *kaitiaki* (guardians) of Tiritiri to now be *kaitiaki* of our school — a great term lies ahead!





Senior School

Year 11 Commerce Trip to Chelsea Sugar Refinery

Last Thursday, our Year 11 Commerce students visited the Chelsea Sugar Refinery to apply their learning on interdependence for their external assessment. The day included a guided tour of the factory, product sampling, time in the museum, and a hands-on cookie baking session in the cooking school. Students engaged enthusiastically and represented Ōtāhuhu College with pride

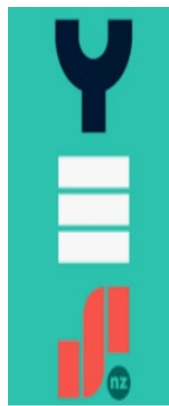




Level 3 Business Studies – Deloitte Workshop Success

Last Monday, 11 students from our Level 3 Business Studies class attended the Deloitte Business Challenge Workshop at Deloitte's Queen Street office. Students worked in teams, guided by Deloitte mentors, to solve a real-world business case and present their solutions to a panel of judges.

Congratulations to Anushka Chand, Akansha Devi, and Faria Nisha, who were part of the winning team! Their creativity, teamwork, and presentation skills stood out, and they represented Ōtāhuhu College with excellence.





PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS – Celebrating

Celebrating Innovation: Year 13 Young Enterprise Class

This year, our talented Year 13 Business Studies students have taken part in the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES), a dynamic, hands-on programme where students create and run their own businesses. From ideation to product development, marketing, and sales, these young entrepreneurs have shown incredible creativity, teamwork, and resilience.

Join us at the Parent-Teacher Interviews on Thursday, 14 August to celebrate their achievements and support their ventures! Our YES companies will be showcasing and selling their innovative products, perfect for gifts, personal use, or simply to admire the entrepreneurial spirit of our students.

Variety of exciting products, including:

- Poly Grips – non slips sports socks
- Cozy Candles – scented candles
- SAICO – Pasifika sports towels
- Ako Trop – Casual cross body sling bag

Your support means the world to these budding business leaders. Come along, be inspired, and take home something special!

Cozy Candles Sale




Priced \$16 each

Discounts:
Buy one get one half price

Scents available
Berry
Apple Cinnamon
Toffee
Lemon

We accept cash and bank transfers

Contact us on Instagram for any questions:
[Cozy_Candles_25](https://www.instagram.com/Cozy_Candles_25)




SAICO ENTERPRISE

REP YOUR CULTURE, REP YOUR WEIGHTS


About us

We, are SAICO Enterprise. We specialise in gym towels featuring Pasifika designs. Sized at 40cmx60cm, with a GSM of 400, our towels are the perfect staple to enhance your workouts coming in at \$20 a piece.




Maori Design Towel \$20

PRE-ORDER OUR TOWELS:
We'll be taking pre-orders for our towels at the parent teacher interviews on the 14th of August. We'll be accepting bank transfer and cash sales. Pre-orders will be delivered within 2 weeks of pre-order.



Samoan Design Towel \$20



\$5 RAFFLE

Join our \$5 raffle for a chance to win a towel of your choice! There will be 2 winners, both picked at random.




AKO TROPS

At Ako Trops, we create more than just accessories - we craft wearable culture. Our Polynesian-designed fanny packs blend traditional island motifs with a modern, multicultural edge, honoring the vibrant heritage of Māori, Samoan, Tongan, Hawaiian, and other Pacific peoples.

Each fanny pack tells a story of identity, pride, and unity. Designed with functionality in mind, they feature adjustable straps, durable materials, and multiple compartments - perfect for everyday wear, travel, or making a bold cultural statement wherever you go.

Whether you're reping your roots or showing love for Polynesian culture, Ako Trops fanny packs are a stylish way to connect, express, and carry your story with you.

[INSTAGRAM: @ako_trops_official](https://www.instagram.com/ako_trops_official)

\$20 Per bag





POLY GRIPS

+64 22 698 504
<https://polygrips.company.site/>
polygrips1@gmail.com
74-78 Mangere Road, Ōtāhuhu, Auckland 1062




COMPANY PROFILE

WE ARE A GROUP OF 6 PASIFIKA STUDENTS WHO PRODUCED A PRODUCT THAT IS ABLE TO ENHANCE OUR PERFORMANCE BY SHOWING OUR IDENTITY, WITH EACH STEP WE UNLOCK MORE POTENTIAL TO GROW.

\$20 ORIGINAL DESIGN **\$25 PREMIUM DESIGNS** **SIZES 9-11**

Community News



WE'RE HIRING

! به تیم ما در کالج اوتاھووھو پیوندید !

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

Bilingual Learning Assistant: Farsi and/or Arabic

We're looking for a passionate **Bilingual Learning Assistant** to support our diverse and vibrant school community. If you're **fluent in Farsi and/or Arabic** and want to help students succeed, this could be the perfect role for you!

What will I be doing?

- Assisting bilingual students with their learning and language development.
- Supporting teachers in creating an inclusive classroom environment.
- Helping students achieve their full potential by bridging language gaps.

What are we looking for?

- Proficiency in **Farsi and/or Arabic**.
- A friendly and approachable attitude.
- A passion for education and student success.
- Availability during **school term time only**.

Hours & Details:

- Monday to Friday
- 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- Based at Ōtāhuhu College

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

Please email your enquiries to kngauchun@otahuhucollege.school.nz

به ما پیوندید تا تفاوتی معنادار در زندگی دانش آموزانمان ایجاد کنیم.
مهارت های دوزبانه شما می توانند آینده های روشن تری بسازند! 😊

School Production Part 2: East Coast Tour

This week our production 'Street Light Stories' took to the roads of the beautiful East Coast of Aotearoa. From Monday to Thursday we stayed in two Maraes and performed to 4 schools. At each venue we were greeted by tangata whenua and we experienced either a powhiri or whakatau which is a shortened powhiri version. The exchange of waiata was a very important part of this exchange and the elders and teachers in each whare loved hearing our Pasifika voices. The Drama performances also continued this deep connection with all of the schools being both 'moved' and envious that in our school we can study



the performing arts. Our cast of 26 students were brilliant and radiant ambassadors for both South Auckland and Otahuhu College.

As the Head of our Department I am extremely proud of this bi-annual project, this unique cultural exchange between Maori and Pasifika is both rare and powerful. On behalf of Whaea Jude our Kaiawhina and Sean Kloppe our Tour Manager, a huge 'kapa' to you all. I am sure I speak on behalf of everyone when I say, our energy tanks are empty but our hearts are full.

Kia Tamatane – Kerry Lynch. HOD Dance and Drama.



Library News

Kia Orana! This week, our school proudly celebrated Cook Islands Language Week, a time to honour the rich culture, language, and traditions of the Cook Islands.

A huge meitaki ma'ata (thank you) to Alexis Fortes and Here Iakimo for leading the celebrations and bringing the spirit of the islands to life. Their dedication helped create a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for everyone.

One of the highlights was a hands-on activity in the library where students made their own sei—a small flower worn behind the ear. The workshop was a hit, with many students joining in and learning about the cultural significance of the sei while expressing their creativity.

We wrapped up the week with a beautiful shared meal, bringing people together to enjoy delicious Cook Islands cuisine and celebrate the sense of community that this special week inspires.

Cook Islands Language Week reminds us of the importance of preserving and celebrating Pacific languages and cultures. Kia Orana e Kia Manuia!



Thank you to our sponsors

