



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE



Ōtāhuhu College

Newsletter

Friday 05th September 2025

Important Notices

Monday 1 st – Friday 12 th September	CAA Assessments
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th September	Senior Derived Grade
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th September	Te Wiki o te Reo Maori
Friday 19 th September	Last Day of Term 3



From Our Principal

This week has been extremely busy here at the College as so many students have been sitting the CAA tests for literacy and numeracy. The effort put in by the students has been commendable and we look forward to the results being published. Next week our derived grade exams are being held and all students with exams next week should be using the weekend to study and revise thoroughly for them.

Thank you for all the families who have voted in the Board election and in particular to all our candidates. We look forward to our new Board steering Otahuhu College to even greater success.

For families with friends or relatives out of zone for Otahuhu College, applications need to be in before the end of the month.

Our Commitments

Our commitment for next week is to be on time. This means more than just being at school by 8:30am and moving quickly and quietly to class. Good time management is an important aspect of being successful. For our students they need to know when their assignments are due to be handed in. A good idea is 3 days before the due date for your children to show you their assignments, this way you can check if they have finished, or need to work hard to get the assignment finished by the due date. 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 Otahuhu College. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the principal.

Attendance

Punctuality matters. When students arrive at school by 8:35 a.m., they have time to prepare mentally and emotionally for the day ahead. Regular lateness disrupts learning and can make students feel out of place. At Otahuhu College, we encourage students to make punctuality a habit that will serve them throughout their lives.

Parents, you can support this by creating morning routines and teaching your child the value of timeliness. Let's ensure that all students are set up for success by starting each day on time.

‘Oku mahu’inga ke kamata ma’u pē e akó ‘aki ha ‘aho ‘oku fo’ou. Fiema’u ke ke ‘i ai ‘i he 8:35 pongipongi.

Aua le tuai i le aoga i le taeao. O le taimi 8:35 e amata ai galuega a le fanau.

Enrolment

We have had a few issues with our online enrolment form but it's back up and running.

We are welcoming all Year 9 enrolments for 2026 if you would like to enrol please visit the site below!

<https://otahuhucollege.school.kiwi/enrolment>

Study News



Next week, our Year 11 students will sit their derived grade exams. These assessments are essential for securing derived grades should they be needed for end-of-year NCEA examinations. They also serve as vital preparation and practice for formal exams in November.

This will be the first time this cohort sits formal examinations. As such, it is important that they begin to develop the necessary examination skills and familiarity with the strict rules, regulations, and procedures that govern external assessments. Practicing these now will help ensure they are well prepared and confident later in the year.

	Monday 8 th September	Tuesday 9 th September	Wednesday 10 th September	Thursday 12 th September	Friday 13 th September
Periods 1 & 2	11MAO	11HIS	11COM	11GEO 11DRA	11PE
Periods 3, 4 & 5					11ENG - Hall 11LIT - M7/M8

CAA review

This week's Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy assessments have highlighted the incredible dedication shown by our students and their whānau. The first step toward achievement is simply being present, and we deeply appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school. Your ongoing encouragement plays a vital role in their success, and we thank you for being part of their learning journey.

Subject Selection for 2026

Y10, Y11 and Y12 students will be able to start making their subject selection for 2026 from next week. On Monday, Students will be emailed the instructions on how to make subject selections on the Portal. They will have until the end of September to finalize their selections.

Outdoor Education

Duke of Edinburgh Trip to Cape Brett

Over 40 kilometers of walking with a heavy pack, 1791 meters of elevation, and relentlessly undulating and muddy terrain were no match for the six Duke of Edinburgh bronze and silver candidates who successfully completed the Cape Brett Walk last weekend. Throughout this endeavor, the students carried themselves (and their weighty equipment!) with exemplary integrity, maturity, and tenacity. As the physical challenges of the walk pushed the boundaries of their endurance, they found methods to continue by supporting each other's morale, strategically sequencing their food and water breaks, making mini pauses to regain muscle energy, and placing those who needed support in the middle of the walking group. Impressively, not one single complaint or grumble was uttered at any point during the walk, despite various adversities including rain, sticky mud, and of course steep slopes.







Stem News

Otago College Celebrates EPro8 Challenge Success

During July and August, 16 of our amazing students proudly represented Otago College at the EPro8 Challenge Auckland competitions. This hands-on, engaging event tested their engineering, problem solving and teamwork skills in a fun and challenging environment.

We are incredibly proud of both our Junior and Senior Teams, who gave it their all and showed an outstanding effort. For many of them, it was their first time competing to represent the school, and they demonstrated resilience, courage and strong support for one another throughout.

Results:

- Year 11 team: 12th place in the Auckland Qualifiers
- Year 10 teams: 4th and 5th place in the Auckland Qualifiers
- Year 12 team: 12th place out of 94 teams in the Auckland Finals

While the results varied, every team showed great spirit, determination and growth. The experience was a valuable opportunity for learning, and we are so proud of how our students rose to the challenge.

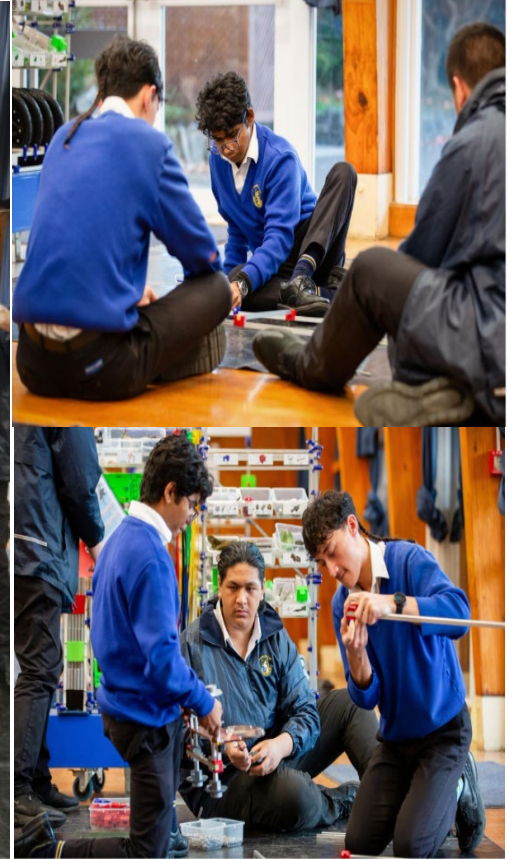
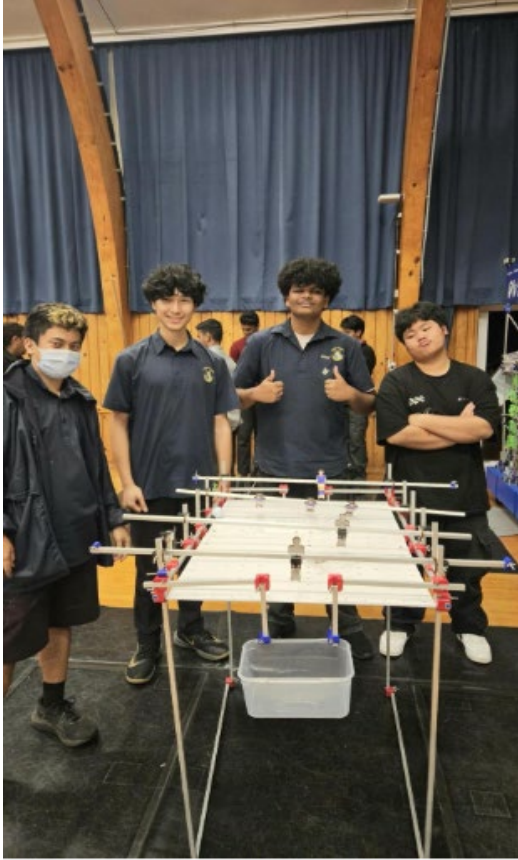
A special and heartfelt congratulations to our Year 12 team who made history by reaching the Auckland finals. This is the first time Otago College has ever reached this stage of the competition.

Even more inspiring, they were:

- The only team from South Auckland
- The only team with Māori and Pasifika students
- The only team from a low decile school in the finals

They have truly set a new benchmark for excellence and have made our school community incredibly proud.

Congratulations to these outstanding students: **Colenso King, Rahil Singh, Wilfred Antonio and Brian Wilson.**



Sports News

This year, our Premier Netball girls competed in the UNISS Netball Tournament, one of the largest and most competitive tournaments in Auckland. They faced strong teams from schools in the Northland and Waikato regions. Despite tough competition, they performed admirably and finished in 16th place. At Otahuhu College, our netball program is currently in a rebuilding phase, and we are very excited about the progress our team is making. We want to extend a big thank you to Ms. Pulusi, our Netball Director and Premier coach, and to our Manager, Mr. Finau, for their dedication and hard work throughout the tournament and the entire season. Their leadership has been invaluable to the team's development.

