



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 12th September 2025

Important Notices

Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th September	Te Wiki o te Reo Maori
Friday 19 th September	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 6 th October	First Day of Term 4
Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th October	Fijian Language Week



From Our Principal

Congratulations to all our senior students for their efforts over this last week with exams. Over the next week students will be getting their results back, this is an important time for both students and for their families. Some students will be pleased with their results, others will be disappointed, that is the nature of these exams at this time of year. The key is not to be satisfied and to look at ways to improve. As parents it is very easy to focus on the marks our children got, and to talk to our daughters and sons about the need to improve. The better way to help our children is to talk about their preparation for the exams. How can they improve their preparation? Areas to talk about will be attending the tutorials, studying at home and making sure your son or daughter knows from their teachers which particular area they need to work on to get better.

Staff have been told that all classes throughout the last week including the last day must be used for productive and challenging learning, with students working right through to the end of the last teaching period. Your support in getting your child to school every day is essential.

Industrial Action

Unfortunately, the last week of term will be disrupted by industrial action. The teachers' union have indicated they will take strike action where union members will not teach the following year levels on the following days between 9am and 3.15pm.

Date	Year Levels
Monday 15 September	Years 12 and 13
Tuesday 16 September	Year 11
Wednesday 17 September	Year 10
Thursday 18 September	Year 9

Supervision will be provided for the above year groups on the above dates if needed. We apologise for the inconvenience, and hope both parties can negotiate a solution.

Our Commitments

Our commitment this week is to be respectful. There are simple ways in which we can encourage our children to be respectful. Using more formal language when talking to adults and in particular staff and visitors to Otago College demonstrates respect. Saying 'Yes' instead of 'yeah', making sure we use please and thank you regularly. Holding doors open for others to walk through. Wearing the uniform correctly to and from school. All these demonstrate respectful behaviours.

Attendance

Did you know that chronically absent students, by the time they are 25 years old, earn an average of \$40,000 less per year than their peers who regularly attended school? Missing school doesn't just affect students' academic progress—it impacts their long-term career opportunities and financial stability.

At Otago College, we take absenteeism seriously and intervene early to prevent long-term consequences. Students who miss 10-15 days in a term are referred to Attendance Services, while those with 15 or more days absent are reported to Oranga Tamariki. These measures ensure that students and their families get the support they need to prioritize attendance. Let's work together to secure brighter futures for our students.

Ko e fānau 'oku nau nofo mei he akó, ko e ki'i pa'anga si'isi'i pē 'oku nau ma'ú, \$40,000 'o a'u ki he'enau ta'u 25. Koia ai, ma'u ako 'i he 'aho kotoa pē ke ma'u ha kaha'u 'oku lelei.

Ua fa'amaonia i su'esu'ega o tamaiti e le to'a'aga i le a'oga e maua se tupe itiiti e \$40,000 i le tausaga i le taimi e 25 ai tausaga le matua. E fa'aluaaina ma fa'atoluina lea seleni pe'a to'aga i le a'oga i le taimi e aulia ai le 25 tausaga. To'aga i le aoga i aso uma mo se lumana'i manuia.

Enrolment

We are encouraging all families for Year 9 students of 2026 to enrol now!

You can do so via our website or come into the school office to collect an enrolment form.

Study News

Congratulations to our Year 11 cohort for their outstanding effort and engagement in recent assessments. Their commitment to achieving Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy, and working toward Level 2 NCEA in 2026, is truly commendable.



As we approach the holiday break, it's important that students take time to rest and recharge. However, we also strongly encourage them to build in short, daily study sessions to prepare for their Level 1 NCEA exams in November. Teachers will be supporting students with revision strategies and resources, which are expected to be used outside of class time. Keep up the fantastic work, Year 11!



Phones away for the Day!

As per government regulations, all state and state-integrated schools must enforce a **ban on student mobile phone use during school hours**, including break times and school trips. This is part of the nationwide **"Phones Away for the Day"** policy.



In Y11, we are currently seeing an increase in misuse of devices and instances of disrespect toward staff who are working to uphold these rules. We kindly ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home and, where possible, encouraging students to leave their devices at home. Thank you for your continued support in creating a focused and respectful learning environment.

Community News

Pāparakuihi - Breakfast Club

I would like to take this opportunity to thank sponsors who have been supporting our breakfast initiative at school. It has been hugely successful and will continue running next term. We offer a range cereals and fruit when it is available and know with the warmer months coming we hope to be getting more.

Curriculum News

Year 11 Physical Education Competition

Last week all of our year 11 PE students competed in a Tough team competition which challenged their fitness across cardio, muscular strength and endurance, agility and speed. It was a great day in which we were proud to see how the students stepped up to the challenge and pushed themselves throughout the day. Special thanks to the year 12 PE leaders who ran the event as part of their assessment. A massive congratulations to the winning team- Sione Latai, Steward Tuivailala, Ulise Fonokalafi, Sione Malaesala Moleu, Zealand Moenoa and Austin Luamanuvae.





Sports News

2025 Junior Netball Winners!



What an incredible way to finish the season, all three of our Junior Teams (9A, 9B, and 10A) have placed 1st in their respective grades at Auckland Netball!

The Championship Round saw dominant performances, 9A and 10A went undefeated, showcasing consistency.

9B recorded only one loss but finished with an outstanding 385% goal difference shooting percentage a reflection of their relentless attacking pressure.

Some of our scorelines even reached goal margins as high as 40, an incredible feat!

We're immensely proud of the growth and development shown by our junior players this season. A key focus of our Netball Academy has been instilling accountability and ownership, both on and off the court. The results speak volumes.

This Saturday, our teams will attend the Auckland Netball Prizegiving, where they'll be officially recognised for their success. A huge [congratulations](#) to all players. This achievement is a testament to your hard work, discipline, and dedication in our Netball Academy Programme.

Well done, girls! It's been a tough season filled with growth, resilience, and learning. We can't wait to go again in 2026 stronger, smarter, and hungrier.

"It's not just about the wins – it's the type of netball we put out on and off court. The wins are a bonus."



Kotuku News

Kotuku class attended the Special Olympics Basketball tournament on Thursday 11th September. They played excellent basketball and represented Otago College with pride and discipline. They showed sportsmanship, teamwork, passion and perseverance. Well done Kotuku!!

