



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 17th October 2025

### *Important Notices*

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Opening of Whareniui
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Sports Awards
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Labour Day



## *From Our Principal*

This week has been a showcase of the hard work and dedication of many of our students here at Otago College. Firstly, being Arts week so much talent has been on display and this culminated in a very successful Arts Awards ceremony on Thursday. Earlier in the week our Sevens team came second in their competition. Our MATES Year 13 students celebrated and stood out in their Graduation ceremony amongst other Auckland schools. Most impressively our Robotics team finished second in Auckland an outstanding effort which is reflected in their hard work and dedication.

Our Year 10 students significantly improved their performance with the national Literacy test. The work that has gone into classes and homework has been rewarded. Our students commitment was also highlighted by the large numbers of Year 12 and 13 students who turned up on Thursday and Friday when in most other schools they were rostered home as part of the ongoing industrial action.

We can be very proud of the achievements of our students, and the hard work and support of students, staff and families that create the environment and culture for our students to shine.

On Monday we have the opening of our whareni Te Tāhuhu. This special whare will serve as a place of learning, a place of hospitality, and a place of spirit for our students, their families, and our wider community. The opening will be at 5:30am.

## *Our Commitments*

Each week our students receive an engagement grade based on a 1 to 5 scale. To get a 5, students need to attempt all classwork and homework and consistently strive to produce work at or above the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic results. You can help by encouraging your child to do homework work, and independent study. Encourage your child to always participate in class discussions, by volunteering to ask and answer questions.

## *Attendance*

Every day missed from school is a missed opportunity to learn, grow, and prepare for the future. Chronically absent students are significantly less likely to earn qualifications and, by age 25, they earn on average \$40,000 less annually than their regularly attending peers.

To support our students, Otago College monitors absences closely. Students with 10-15 days absent per term are referred to Attendance Services, while those missing 15 or more days may be referred to Oranga Tamariki. These systems ensure students get the help they need to stay in school and secure better futures.





‘Oku mahu’inga ke ma’u ako ‘i he taimi kotoa pē, ke ma’u ha ngāue lelei mo ha kaha’u ‘oku lelei. O le masani i le alu i le aoga i aso uma e fesoasoani i tamaiti i galuega ma fa'ai'uga fai i le lumana'i .

## Study News

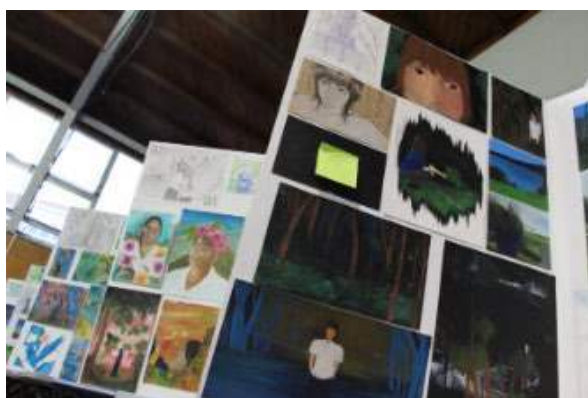


We are now just three weeks away from the start of the Year 11 NCEA exams. This is a critical period for our students to be present in class, working closely with their teachers to revise, consolidate their learning, and complete any outstanding internal assessments. These final weeks are essential to ensure they are well-prepared and in the best position to progress into Year 12.

On Monday, the next round of CAA Writing and Numeracy results will be released. We are hopeful that these results will see a significant number of our Year 11 students achieving the required standards for Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy. This will be a key milestone in supporting their successful transition into the next stage of their education.

## Arts and culture News

Our Visual art department displayed some of the wonderful work our pupils created during the year. Congratulations to all pupils who displayed the resilience required to complete an artwork with significant effort.





## KAPA HAKA

Our goals, first and foremost, was to stand in both Polyfest and Ahurea. We can tick both of those off our list and move forward knowing we have covered some milestones in performance.

Huge congratulations to our leaders and our roopu. The time and effort put into learning continues to improve. With whānau support our journey is easier. Looking forward to Polyfest and Ahurea 2026.



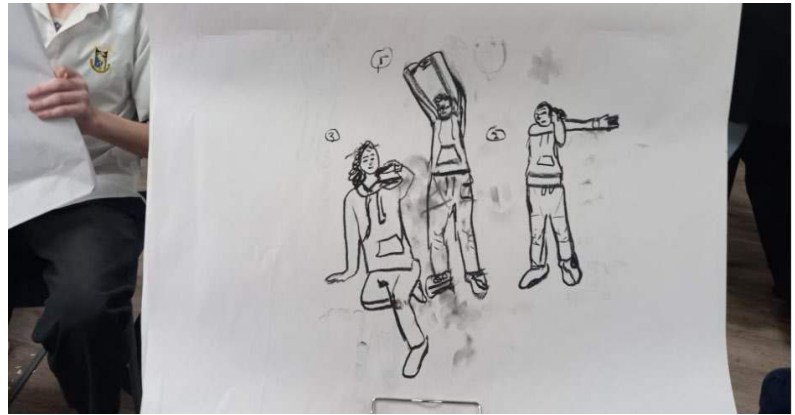


## Digital Technologies Students Visit Yoobee Studios

Our Digital Technologies students recently had the exciting opportunity to visit Yoobee Studios, where they explored the world of animation, design, and digital art. The visit offered an inspiring glimpse into the creative industries and gave students a chance to see how professional artists bring ideas to life using modern tools and techniques.

During the day, students participated in hands-on workshops focused on animation and digital production. They experimented with character design, explored visual storytelling, and learned about the creative process behind digital media. It was a fantastic experience, and students were fully engaged throughout the visit—asking questions, sharing ideas, and discovering new career pathways in the digital arts.





## Robotics Team

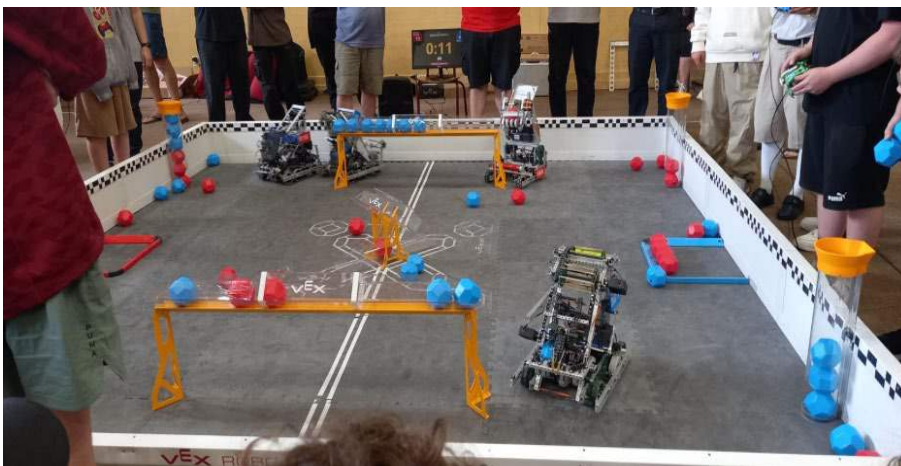
Last Saturday, our Robotics Team proudly made it to the finals at the VEX Robotics Tournament! The students showcased not only their engineering skills and creative problem-solving, but also their resilience and teamwork throughout the event. From building and coding their robots to developing game strategies, the team demonstrated dedication, innovation, and a true passion for robotics.





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This achievement is the result of months of hard work, lunchtime practices, and after-school sessions. Their journey reflects the spirit of perseverance and collaboration that defines our students. Congratulations to all team members for their outstanding effort and commitment.



## Sports News

Junior Zone Volleyball began on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of October at Bruce Pulman Arena. This year we have 2 girls teams competing in the Southern zone and 1 team competing in the South East Zone. We also have a boys team competing in the Southern Zone. All our teams have made a great start to the season with Our OC Gold girls team winning both their opening games and the OC Blue team winning one of their two opening games.

Our South East girls team also winning one of their two opening games. The Boys team also pulled off a good win in their opening game. This week will our OC Blue and Gold teams and Boys team compete in Round 2 at Bruce Pulman Arena. Our South East Girls team now move to Friday games. This week they will play their first home game.

