



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 24th October 2025

Important Notices

Monday 27th October 2025	Labour Day (Public holiday)
Thursday 30 th – Friday 31 st	Spirit days (Led by prefects)
Tuesday November 4 th	NZQA Exams Start

From Our Principal

Monday witnessed the dawn opening of our whareni Ta Tahuu. It is the only whareni in the country which has been carved by staff and students. We are grateful for the blessing by Tainui and for all those who turned out at dawn to be part of this special occasion. The amount of work and aroha that has gone into this building will greatly benefit our college and our community for years to come.

Unfortunately, the week was further disrupted by the ongoing industrial action. However a large number of Year 12 and 13 students attended on Thursday to benefit from both the expertise of teachers and the support which is available here at Otago College.

Thursday night saw our annual celebration of sporting excellence and it was great to see so many families present. Each year our sports teams work hard to improve and compete against the other top schools in Auckland.

All students need to be studying each day for their upcoming exams. Our recommendation is that students do a minimum of thirty minutes study for each subject that they have an examination.



Our Commitments

Our commitment focus for next week is on being supportive. Classrooms where students support and pay attention to each other's thoughts, and feel safe to express their own thoughts, are more productive for learning. Where students support each other effectively, they are able to benefit from learning interactions with their classmates.

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 Otago 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



As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, we want to acknowledge the hard work and resilience of our Year 11 students. With NCEA exams just around the corner, now is the time to stay focused, stay connected, and stay strong.

Success in these exams is not just about what happens in the classroom—it's also about the preparation done at home. Setting aside time each day for revision, attending tutorials, and asking for help when needed will make a big difference.

Success is a reflection of dedication, family, and community. Let's finish strong together!

Ia manuia le taumafai – All the best with your studies!

Arts and Culture News

Otago College Annual Arts Awards.

Last Thursday night, our school hosted its annual Arts Awards. The purpose of this evening was to celebrate student excellence in Music, Dance, Drama, Whakairo and the Visual Arts. The kaupapa of this event was to also acknowledge the contribution that our young artists make to our school and wider community.

The evening commenced with the Art Department displaying portfolio work by all of its year levels featuring painting and print making. This was followed by our ceremony which was attended by a large audience comprising of whanau, students and staff. In between the awarding of the badges and major trophies to our top students there was a range of memorable and entertaining performances. Among the highlights, one of the stand out moments was a musical performance by Year 12 student Joel Taime.

The Arts Faculty wish to congratulate all of the junior and senior students who received either a badge or personally engraved trophy. Our Faculty also wish to thank everyone who contributed to making this a rewarding night. We would also like to congratulate our 5 Supreme winners ...

SUPREME AWARDS	
2025 Supreme Award - Visual Arts	Shanaya Verma
2025 Supreme Award - Dance	Nardia Dawson
2025 Supreme Award - Drama	Oceania Collier
2025 Supreme Award - Music	Nio Soo Choon
2025 Supreme Award - Whakairo	Beauty Tuakalau





Curriculum News

Year 12 PE Adventure Day – Wero Climb & Kayak

Our Year 12 PE students took on an exciting challenge at Wero Whitewater Park, spending the day on the high ropes course and out on the water kayaking. The activities tested their teamwork, communication, and confidence while providing plenty of fun and laughter along the way. It was fantastic to see students stepping outside their comfort zones and encouraging one another throughout the day.

Kia Tamatane, Mr Luteru.



