



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

### Important Dates

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 9 Maths Exam (Periods 3 and 4)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 10 Maths Exam (Periods 3 and 4)
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 9 English Exam (Periods 1 and 2) Year 10 Social Studies Exam (Periods 1 and 2)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 9 Social Studies Exam (Periods 1 and 2) Year 10 English Exam (Periods 1 and 2)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 11 and Year 12 Prizegiving 1pm Year 9 and Year 10 students dismissed at 12.20pm
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 13 Graduation and Prizegiving 10am



## End of Year Prizegiving's

Otago College welcomes all Parents, Caregivers and Whanau to our end of year Prizegiving's to celebrate student achievement and success throughout 2025.

**Y11 and Y12 Prizegiving** - Friday 28th November 1:00pm start  
(Y9 and Y10 students will be dismissed at 12:20pm)

**Y13 Graduation and Prizegiving** - Saturday 29th November 10:00am start  
(Gates will open from 8:30am)

**Y9 and Y10 Prizegiving** - Friday 5th December 9:30am start  
(Students will be dismissed for the year at the conclusion of Prizegiving approx. 11am)  
All students should attend in correct school uniform.

Families of Prize winners will be informed via email.

## From Our Principal

The Year 9 and 10 exams are going well, and it was good to see the preparation and effort which your sons and daughters applied to them. Next week sees the final NCEA exams and our senior students are to be congratulated on their maturity and dedication to their studies during this time.

In particular, I would like to thank the teachers and all the staff for their hard work. In most schools senior students finish classes a month earlier, but here at Otago College, our staff are committed to helping our students do the very best they can. It is a privilege to work with such dedicated staff who provide tutorials, workshops and give up their time to help our students succeed.

If you know of people wanting to enroll at Otago College next year, enrolments are still open for both in zone and out of zone students. All applications for enrolment can be done through the office.

## Our Commitments

Our commitment next week is to be supportive. We must all be aware that we don't know what's going on in the lives of those we pass and, more than anything else, no matter where they may be, a smile and greeting is much the better engagement than to look away or at the pavement with detachment.

We reap what we sow. Therefore, if we want our day to be filled with enthusiasm, logically we should be enthusiastic. If we want our day to be joyful, then we must reflect just that.





This references, of course, our inner state of mind and how we choose to present ourselves to the world – something that we completely control. We encourage each other here at Otahuhu College to greet and acknowledge each other with interest, putting in mind the needs of the other rather than oneself.

It is good to remember when we help others, we help ourselves

## Attendance

When students miss school, it's vital for parents to provide a written note explaining the absence. This ensures the school can record the absence accurately and identify any ongoing issues that might affect your child's ability to attend regularly.

At Otahuhu College, we encourage parents to notify the school as soon as possible, either by phone, email, or a handwritten note. Together, we can support students to overcome barriers to attendance and ensure they don't fall behind.

‘Oku mahu’inga ke faka-fetu’utaki mai ki he ‘apiakó ‘a e ‘uhinga ‘oku ‘ikai ma’u ako ai ‘a e fānaú.  
O le tusi o faamatalaga e fesoasoani i le aoga e fesoasoani ai i le fanau.

## Curriculum News

### ***Academic Accolades for French Students in International DELF Exam***

On Saturday 23 August, four committed French Club students from Ōtāhuhu College sat the prestigious international Diplôme d'études en langue française (DELF), a globally recognised diploma in French language.

Only seven schools entered candidates, with Ōtāhuhu College being one of only two co-ed public schools and the only South Auckland school. Students had to sit a four-part examination run throughout the day: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The speaking examination in particular was a formidable task, with our students having to perform impromptu spoken tasks in front of native French examiners.

The results for the DELF examination were released recently and proved to be excellent news for our students. All passed with flying colours, gaining marks between 85.5% and 92%. The Alliance Française, the organisation which administers the examination, was so impressed with Ōtāhuhu College students' performance that our students are shortly going to feature in an article. Watch this space!

Photos: our students pictured at the Alliance Française premises in Auckland shortly before their examination in August, then at Ōtāhuhu College and St Cuthbert's College on the day of the DELF examination.





## Arts and Culture News



Cynthia Taylor, Earth Elementals, etching on paper

Thank you to the renowned New Zealand artist, Cynthia Taylor, for her kind donation of a superb printing press. This specialised piece of equipment will assist all our printmakers when creating wonderful images for many years to come.

Thank you to JJ's maintenance for the many hours he spent disassembling, transporting and reassembling the entire press. We are so grateful to everyone in the wider community who assists us with donations. These donations will improve the quality of work our students produce.

## Stationery

Stationery can be purchased from the **Book Shop / Student Services in A Block**. Year 9 & 10 Stationery Packs are now available and covers most of their subjects.