



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 13th February 2026

Important Dates

Monday 16 th February	Haka-Waiata Competition
Wednesday 18 th February	Head Prefect Speeches/Voting
Thursday 19 th February	Sports Day
Friday 20 th February	Prefect Assembly (School prefect team and Head Prefects announced)



From Our Principal

Preparations are well underway for our annual Haka Waiata competition, which is being held on Monday at 1:30pm. The Houses have been hard at work, and it promises to be a tight competition. We are looking forward to seeing family and old students in support. Next week, on Thursday, we will see the whole College sports day, where once again the Houses will be in competition.

It was great to see so many students and subjects having a go at the 2025 scholarship exams, and congratulations to the six subjects who had students attempt the exams. Well done in particular to English and Brian Wilson who gained a scholarship from Year 12.

Haka-Waiata Competition

Ka pai te mahi to all staff and students for their continued efforts during their Houses' Haka-Waiata Practices. Year 13 Leaders have done a wonderful job following our school traditions and culture while preparing the students for the competition on Monday 16th February.

The competition will take place on the lower field and will start promptly at 1:30pm. Family and friends that wish to come and watch should enter the school grounds from 1:00pm using the Golf Ave entrance. Limited seating is available for all our guests on the grass banks and driveway area.

Any students that are not participating will be escorted to the Hall where they will be supervised until the conclusion of the competition. Also, a reminder that Otago College school grounds are smoke free and vape free.

Our Commitments

The behaviour focus for next week is on being supportive. This means more than just talking to our children about treating others like they would want to be treated. It also means being supportive in learning. School is, and should be challenging, the work must require thought, and mistakes have to be made if learning is to happen.

A key part of being supportive at Otago College is based around supporting each other in our learning, making mistakes and working hard to do better next time.



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



In the first few weeks of term, all Year 11 students have been reviewing their performance and progress as Year 10s in 2025.

From this reflection, each student has set an individual target to work toward during Term 1 within their whānau class. When asked, students should now be able to share their target—likely relating to attendance, engagement, or achievement.

We encourage you to have regular conversations at home about these goals to help support your young person in staying focused and on track to achieving their Term 1 target.



Sports News

Sports Fees

This year, we are introducing a \$20 sports fee for all students participating in school sports. In previous years, we were fortunate to receive funding that covered many expenses, including transport, uniforms, entry fees, laundry, and new sports gear. Unfortunately, that funding is no longer available, so we need to implement this fee to help cover these costs. The \$20 fee is a one-time payment, allowing students to participate in as many sports as they choose throughout the year. This contribution will go towards all expenses related to school sports, ensuring we can continue offering a variety of athletic opportunities for our students. We greatly appreciate your understanding and support as we work to maintain a strong sports program. Thank you for helping us keep sports accessible and enjoyable for our students.

Sports fees can be paid to the student centre, or you can pay online

Otago College
ASB12-3018-0190563-00

Please put the student's name as reference and put the Particulars as sports.

Yours in Sport
L.Tamati

Stationary

