



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 20th February 2026

Important Dates

18 th – 20 th March	Polyfest Fiafia nights
Thursday March 19 th	ID Photos
30 th March – 2 nd April	ASB Polyfest



From Our Principal

Congratulations on what has been a very busy week for Otahuhu College.

Haka Waiata on Monday witnessed the tightest competition we have seen in years with Hobson emerging victorious. On Thursday we had our annual sports day, and it was great to see so many dressing up in their house colours or as their favourite dinosaur.

Well done to our Head students Meliame Mafoa and Brian Wilson who will be supported by their deputies Narason Nemani and O'Rylee Aki, their prefects and an outstanding group of young men and women who make up our Year 13 cohort.

Our Commitments

Our commitment for next week is to be on time.

This means more than just being at school by 8:35am and moving quickly and quietly to class. Good time management is an important aspect of being successful. For our students they need to know when their assignments are due to be handed in. A good idea is 3 days before the due date for your children to show you their assignments, this way you can check if they have finished, or need to work hard to get the assignment finished by the due date. From time-to-time students may not have finished all the expected work during class time, when this happens in the last period of the day, your child will likely be required to stay behind 5-10 minutes to complete the work to a standard expected at Otahuhu College.

If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact the Principal.

Attendance

The school day begins at 8:35 a.m., and arriving on time ensures students don't miss critical announcements and lessons. Regular punctuality fosters responsibility and a sense of routine, both of which are essential for academic and personal success.

Parents can assist by setting consistent morning routines and ensuring students are prepared the night before. If your child is struggling with getting to school on time, contact our attendance team for support. Together, we can help every student succeed from the start of the school day.

Kamata e 'aho kotoa pē 'i he taimí! Kamata e akó 'i he 8:35 pongipongi.

E taua le auai i le aoga i le 8:35 ma tepana lelei ai mo le aso.

Haka Waiata Competition

Congratulations to all students that participated in our annual Haka-Waiata Competition. The performances, and results indicated that it was one of the closest competitions in many years.

Well done to Hobson House for being the Haka-Waiata Champions for 2026.

Final Placings: **1st** Hobson **2nd** Seddon **3rd** Massey **4th** Grey





Engagement Grade Reports

This Friday, Parents/caregivers should receive, via email, the first of our Fortnightly Engagement Reports. These reports indicate how the student is progressing for that period of time in each particular subject and their attendance in that subject. Students are graded on a scale of 1 to 5 using the criteria below:

5	Exceptionally Engaged	Attempts all classwork and homework, and consistently strives to produce work at or above the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic records and target grades/levels. Work consistently demonstrates some sign of individual research or thinking. Always participates in class discussions, consistently volunteering to answer questions. Shows a very positive interest in the lesson. Overall behaviour excellent.
4	Engaged	Attempts all classwork and homework, often striving to produce work at or above the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic. Work also occasionally demonstrates some sign of individual research or thinking. Participates freely in class discussions, frequently volunteering to answer questions. Shows positive interest in the lesson. Overall behaviour very good.
3	Acceptable Standard	Attempts classwork and homework, producing work to the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic records. Participates in class discussions when asked a direct question, but rarely volunteers answers. Shows a reasonable interest in the lesson. Overall behaviour is good.
1-2	Not Engaged	Frequently requires pressure from staff to work at expected effort levels. Independently attempts too few classwork and homework tasks, or produces work below the level expected from this pupil as indicated by previous academic performance indicators or target grades. Work may show lack of interest, is rushed and is frequently incomplete. Work demonstrates no individual research or thinking and is often poorly presented. Rarely participates in class discussion. Shows little interest in the lesson. Behaviour may be unacceptable.

Any questions regarding Engagement Reports should be directed to your child's Whanau teacher in the first instance.



Study News

English Help Centre

HELP CENTRE AND HOMEWORK CLUB



ENGLISH

HOMEWORK HELP

**ASSESSMENT
SUPPORT**

**LITERACY SKILLS
PRACTICE**

CAA PREP

This is a study space where you can get extra help, more practice, and additional time to work on skills, homework, and assessments.

This is an opportunity for students of all year levels to get extra guidance and support to help them achieve to the best of their ability.

DETAILS:

Day: Every Thursday

Time: 3pm-4pm

Location: OC Library





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
ASB 12-3018-0190563-00

Please put the students' name as reference and put the Particulars as sports.

Yours in Sport,
L.Tamati

Sports Day 2026





ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE



Friday 20th February