



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026

Important Dates

Thursday March 19 th	ID Photos
30 th March – 2 nd April	ASB Polyfest



From Our Principal

It has been an eventful week, with Polyfest practices in full swing and for many of our senior students finishing their first assessments. For some of our Year 9 and 10 students there is a growing realisation of the higher standards required at Otahuhu College than most schools.

In 2025 Ōtāhuhu College achieved its highest ever UE pass rate. This is important for a number of reasons:

- It is the highest qualification you can gain at secondary school.*
- It provides students the opportunity and choice to go onto degree level study.*
- Students who gain UE who do not go on to University earn on average \$6000 more per year than those who leave school just with Level 3.*

Our Pacific students did significantly better than other Pacific students nationally. This year we are working even harder to ensure further success and greater opportunities and a brighter future for our students and families.

For our students to continue to meet the high academic expectations at Otahuhu College, they must be encouraged to read, ask questions, actively engage in discussions, write and learn to think critically about challenging material. Every mistake our students make, every question they ask, and every time they successfully struggle with a concept, their brain grows a little bit stronger and smarter.

Our Commitments

Our commitment next week is to be respectful. Being respectful includes being aware of the language we use both at school and to and from school. Swearing is not acceptable, and can often make situations worse than they need to be.

A key to success is keeping calm under pressure. Students also demonstrate respect by the way they wear their uniforms, again this is both to and from school. The vast majority of students look well dressed as they come to school and thanks to all the families for your hard work which makes this possible. Just a reminder that our young men should be in school socks, or plain black socks.



2026 School Prefects



Wilson, Brian
Head Boy



Mafoa, Meliame
Head Girl



Nemani, Narason
Deputy



Aki, O'Rylee
Deputy



Bennett, Chance



Eli, Blessing



King, Colenso



Lai, Kristian



Latu, Danyal



Lutu, Manako



Muavaa, Sorenson



Naidiri, Rokara



'Otuhouma, Mele



Prasad, Shreya



Puroti, Pali



Taalo, Ikapoti



Taavii, Drizella



Tuakalau, Beauty



Tui, Sivaenah



Wolfgramm, Tu'uaki

Attendance

Providing Notes for Absences: A Simple but Vital Step

If your child is absent from school, providing a written note explaining the reason is critical. This simple act helps Otahuhu College maintain accurate attendance records and ensures that absences are justified. Whether due to illness or unavoidable family matters, a clear explanation helps us identify patterns and provide the necessary support for students.

Parents and caregivers can email, call, or send a written note with their child. Let's work together to maintain open communication and address any attendance challenges promptly.

Kātaki 'o 'omai ha tohi fekau'aki mo e 'uhinga na'e nofo ai ho'o tamá 'i he akó.
Faamolemole, aumai se tusi e faamalamalama ai pe'a le alu le tamaititi i le aoga.





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



Junior School (Year 9-10)

Our junior students have continued to settle well into the rhythm and expectations of college life. It has been pleasing to see the majority of students engaging positively in their learning, building relationships with their teachers, and taking pride in their classes. As always, we continue to reinforce our school values and high expectations so that every student has the best opportunity to succeed.

To support this, we run Junior after school dean's detentions every Wednesday from 3pm-4pm. These detentions are in place to address ongoing behavior/attendance concerns and are part of helping students learn accountability and responsibility.

If your child receives a detention and you would like clarification, please feel free to contact the relevant dean. We are always happy to discuss any concerns and work together to support your child.

Year 9 Dean - Ms S Ofanoa. Email: sofanoa@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Year 10 Dean - Ms L Clarcken. Email: lclarcken@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Asst. Dean - Mr D Havemann. Email dhavemann@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Junior sporting opportunities

There are a number of sporting opportunities available for students this term and we strongly encourage our juniors to consider getting involved. Participation in sport plays an important role in building confidence, resilience, teamwork and creating a sense of belonging within the College. It also provides students with a positive outlet outside of the classroom and strengthens their connection to school life.

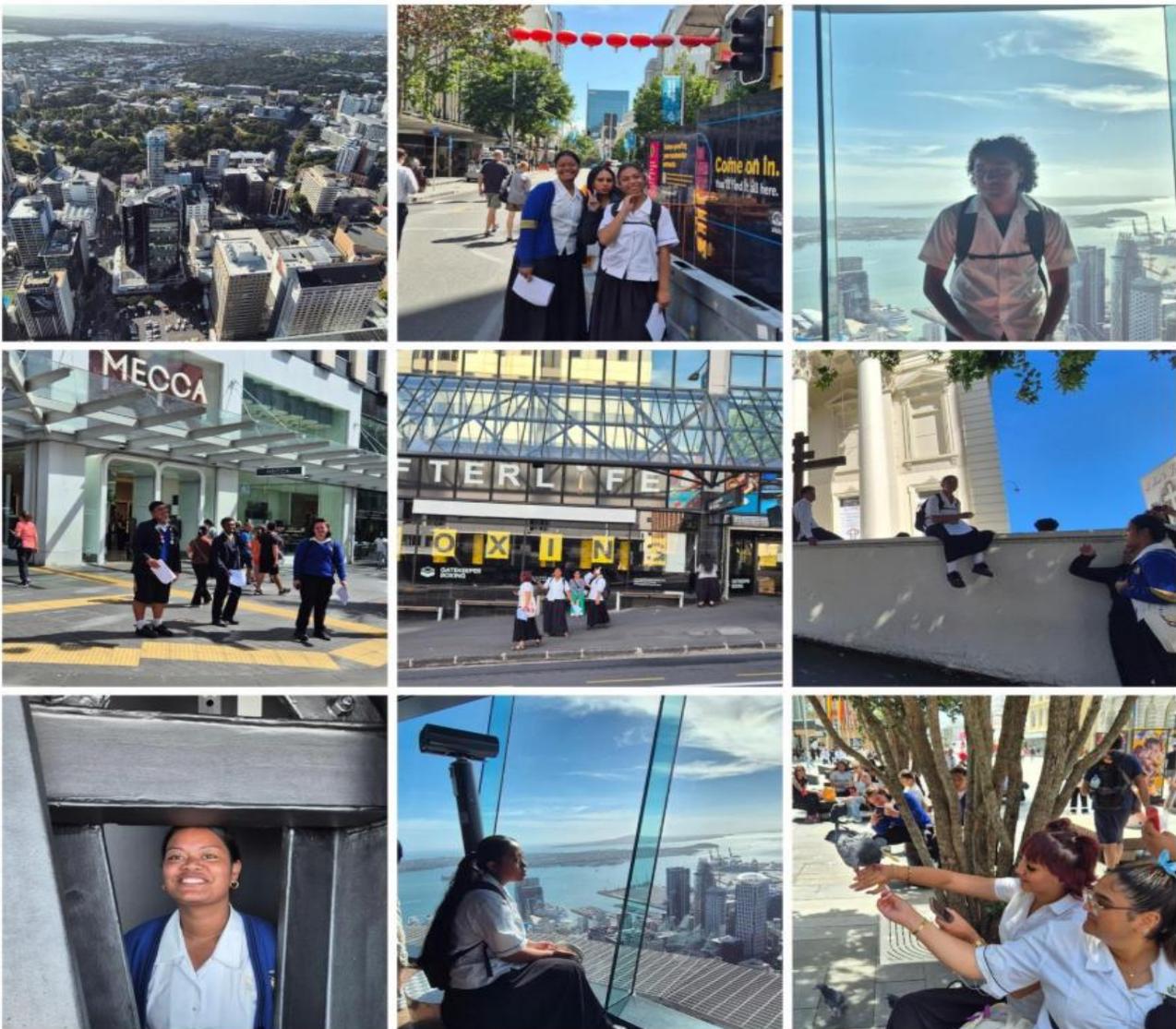
Below lists the sports on offer for Term 1 at Otago College. If your child is interested in any of the sports listed, please encourage them to speak directly with the Teacher in Charge.

Sport	Teacher in Charge
Waka Ama	Mr. M McAllister
Senior Boys Volleyball	Ms. S Ofanoa
Senior Girls Volleyball	Mr. L Tamati
Senior Boys Tag Football	Mr. V Falealii, Mr. F Fulton
Senior Girls Tag Football	Ms. D Pulusi
Tennis	To be confirmed
Senior Kilikiti Girls	Ms. L Tuialii and Ms. D Pulusi,
Senior Kilikiti Boys	Mr. P Johnson
3v3 Basketball Girls	Ms. P Robati
3v3 Basketball Boys	Mr. J Parsons
Learn to Row	Mr. N Watson
Badminton (Term 2)	Mr. A Morales

Curriculum News

GEO3U Field Trip: Auckland CBD

Our Year 13 Geography students recently traded the classroom for the city streets to investigate urban rejuvenation and decay within the Auckland CBD. Starting at the Sky Tower, the group used the bird-eye view to see the city's layout before heading down to Queen Street to gather primary data. Students conducted environmental audits and land-use surveys, identifying the "scars" of urban decay alongside the polished evidence of new rejuvenation. It was a fantastic day out, with the students collecting high-quality data that will be crucial for their upcoming internal assessment. This hands-on experience allowed the students to see geographic theory in action, and they had a great time engaging with the research of our own city.





Community News

Otago College will be a part of the Otago Family Fun Day this year.

We are fortunate to be sponsored by Kindness Collective who have kindly donated towards our sausage sizzle and burger stand – which we are giving out for FREE!!! Mark your calendars for Saturday 7th March from 10am to 2pm.

It's a free event for the whole community.



Sports News

The Senior Boys and Girls Tag teams competed in the one-day Southern Zone tournament. Both teams played very well and showed great effort throughout the day. The boys performed strongly and finished in the top eight overall. The girls team, made up of junior players, did an excellent job and finished in the top six. We are proud of both teams and look forward to seeing their continued improvement.





Our Senior Volleyball teams are currently involved in two competitions. Our Senior Boys team and Senior B Girls team compete in the Southern Zone competition which runs on a Thursday afternoon at Bruce Pulman. Both teams currently are currently placed 2nd in their respective grades. This is a good test for our Senior Boys team who are working towards the upcoming Auckland Secondary Schools Championship and the North Island Satellite Cup Championship. Our Senior A girls are competing in the South East competition and are currently placed 4th in their competition. They too are working towards the Auckland Secondary Schools Championship and the North Island Satellite Cup Championship. Our teams have one more week of games in their respective competitions.

