



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 24th April

Important Dates

Monday 27 April	ANZAC Day (School closed)
Thursday 30 th April	Parent/Teacher Meetings
May 5 th	Japan Trip 2026 meeting for parents and students coming on the trip covering, the itinerary, logistics, expectations and rules on the trip and meeting the teachers.
May 6 th – 7 th	Year 9 Vision Testing
May 6 th	Kelly Tarlton trip for GEO3U 11:30am-3:00pm \$30



From Our Principal

The second term has started well, even with the onset of this colder weather reminding us that winter is just around the corner. As a community we have a lot of work to do to make sure we continue to do better and have more and more of our students graduating with university entrance.

Family life can be very busy with a lot of commitments, so establishing routines together can make sure that your child is best prepared for success.

- *Study every day, from the start of each year. This can be as simple as reviewing what was learnt during the day and coming up with good questions to ask the next day.*
- *Start studying with your difficult subjects first, then move onto your more enjoyable subjects.*
- *Study in 20-30 minute blocks having a break between each one.*
- *Phones and other devices should be charged in a common area, so they are not used to distract from study or late at night.*
- *Get a good night's sleep, teenagers generally need 8–10 hours sleep a night.*

Getting into routines at home for study will help your child succeed

Our Commitments

Anzac Day is an important commemoration of all those who have served and sacrificed for our country. On Wednesday next week we will be having our traditional assembly to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Attendance

Did you know that chronically absent students, by the time they are 25 years old, earn an average of \$40,000 less per year than their peers who regularly attended school? Missing school doesn't just affect students' academic progress—it impacts their long-term career opportunities and financial stability.

At Otago College, we take absenteeism seriously and intervene early to prevent long-term consequences. Students who miss 10-15 days in a term are referred to Attendance Services, while those with 15 or more days absent are reported to Oranga Tamariki. These measures ensure that students and their families get the support they need to prioritize attendance. Let's work together to secure brighter futures for our students.

Ko e fānau 'oku nau nofo mei he akó, ko e ki'i pa'anga si'isi'i pē 'oku nau ma'ú, \$40,000 'o a'u ki he'enau ta'u 25. Koia ai, ma'u ako 'i he 'aho kotoa pē ke ma'u ha kaha'u 'oku lelei.

Ua fa'amaonia i su'esu'ega o tamaiti e le to'a'aga i le a'oga e maua se tupe itiiti e \$40,000 i le tausaga i le taimi e 25 ai tausaga le matua. E fa'aluaia ma fa'atoluina lea seleni pe'a to'aga i le a'oga i le taimi e aulia ai le 25 tausaga. To'aga i le aoga i aso uma mo se lumana'i manuia.





Our Commitments

Our commitment is to be respectful. A key part of being respectful is using appropriate language. Learning what words, and indeed the volume, you use in different circumstances is one of the challenges of growing up into young men and women. Teenagers find this hard to do, so talking to them and explaining how different situations require the use of different words and mannerisms is a great step on developing articulate respectful young men and women.

Parent-Teacher Meetings

On Thursday 30th April school will finish at 1.00pm.

Parents/caregivers are invited to come into school to discuss your child's progress with each of their subject teachers.

Meeting times available are:

✓ 2.00pm to 7.00pm

Note: All teachers are unavailable between 5:00pm and 5:30pm

Each meeting is scheduled to last for 5 minutes and will take place in A-Block and the Library. These are approximate times and assist teachers with preparation.

To make appointments:

✓ Click on this link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/kzm8z>

- Or scan this QR Code



We appreciate your patience during the evening.



Study News

Academic Navigator Support – Parent Teacher Meetings

This is an ideal opportunity for students and whānau to get a clear idea of academic progress and next steps, towards achieving NCEA. I work with Year 11 – Year 13 students and parents in my role as Academic Navigator, to help make sense of NCEA pathways and build practical plans for success.

My focus is on giving students clarity, direction, and strategies to stay on track and achieve their qualifications. Parents and caregivers are welcome to book a session with me to discuss their child’s overall academic progress and pathway towards achieving NCEA, in more detail. These conversations are helpful for gaining a clearer understanding of where a student is currently at, what their goals are, and what

practical steps will support them to move forward with confidence.

If you would like to book a time, please include me in your Parent Teacher Meeting bookings, and I look forward to working with you to support your young person’s academic journey.

Melinda Christensen | Academic Navigator – Senior School | mchristensen@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Break Time and After School Study Support Sessions

Teachers are available in breaks and after school, as per the timetable below, to support students when they need extra time, and a small group environment, to master their learning and / or complete work. Please discuss with your child and encourage them to attend if needed.

2026 Term 2 Study Support Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school					
Break 1	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11SBC, Ms Ngai, L8	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11SBC, Ms Ngai, L8
Break 2	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11SBC, Ms Jones, L6	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11SBC, Ms Ngai, L8 CHE3U, Ms Timu, L10	11COM, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11SBC, Ms Ngai, L8
After school 3-4pm	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11ART, ART2U, ART3U, Ms Birch, M1 PHY2U & PHY3U, Ms Acosta, L7 Math, Library	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11ART, ART2U, ART3U, Ms Theunissen, M28	11COM, ECO2U, ECO3U, BUS3U, Ms Ellis-Smith Mr Hart, M11 M13 11ART, ART2U, ART3U, Ms Corin, M27 English, Years 11, 12 & 13, Library	

- Social Sciences (GEO, HIS, RES) in breaks and after school **by prior arrangement** with GEO: Ms Lees-Green M21, Ms [Mharakurwa](#) M26, Mr Havemann M24 HIS: Ms Booth M4, Ms Rushwaya M25 RES: Ms [Bulteel](#) M17.
- Math students are welcome to come for 15 minutes or stay for the hour. This can be used for getting help, revision, homework, or anything else maths related.
- On English assessment deadline days: Fridays (to be confirmed by English teacher) M3 or A1, 3-5pm.





Junior School (Year 9-10)

Welcome back to school Year 9 and 10s we are looking forward to a great Term 2.

We would like to inform parents and whānau of some staff position changes within the school. We are pleased to announce that Duncan Havemann has been appointed as the new Year 9 Dean, Skye Gifford will be taking on the role of Year 10 Dean, Livia-Kate Clarcken will now be the Year 11 Dean.

Ms Ofanoa and Mrs Clarcken would like to sincerely thank our Year 9 and Year 10 cohorts and their Whānau for their support and commitment so far this year. They wish all students every success for the remainder of the academic year as they continue their learning journey.

Contact Details:

Year 9 Dean: Mr Havemann: DHavemann@otahuhucollege.school.nz

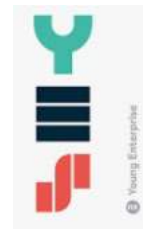
Year 10 Dean: Mrs Gifford: SGifford@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Year 11 Dean: Mrs Clarcken: LClarcken@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Curriculum News

YEAR 13 BUSINESS STUDIES

During the upcoming Parent/Teacher Evening, two Business Studies student enterprises will be selling their products as part of their Young Enterprise Scheme assessment. We encourage you to bring some cash and support these fantastic young entrepreneurs as they put their business skills into action.



HAIR & BEYOND

Protect your curls and wake up to smoother, healthier-looking hair with our satin bonnets which are going to help you prevent frizz and messy hair days. We are also selling stylish ribbon hair bows and scrunchies, perfect for adding a fashionable touch to any hairstyle.

Location: Otahuhu College Hall – Thursday 30th May – 2pm to 4pm.

Prices:

- Bonnets - \$10
- Scrunchies - \$5
- Ribbon Hair Bows - \$8





SMASH

LEMEA

THURSDAY 30TH OF APRIL
AT THE OTAHUHU COLLEGE
NEAR THE TUCK SHOP

SMASH BURGER - \$15
SODA - \$2
SMASH IT. EAT IT.



Community News





Sports News

Sports Fees

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This year, we have introduced a \$20 sports fee for all students participating in school sports. In previous years, we were fortunate to receive funding that helped cover many of the costs associated with sport, including transport, uniforms, entry fees, laundry, and new equipment. Unfortunately, this funding is no longer available, and we now need to introduce this fee to help meet these expenses.

The \$20 fee is a one-time payment for the year and allows students to participate in as many sports as they wish. This contribution will support all aspects of our sports programme and help ensure we can continue to offer a wide range of opportunities for our students.

We appreciate your understanding and ongoing support as we work to maintain a strong and accessible sports programme.

Payments can be made at the Student Centre or online.

Thank you for your support.

Otago College

ASB: 12-3018-0190563-00

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

Yours in Sport,
L.Tamati