



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 1st May

Important Dates

May 5th	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 6th – 7th	Year 9 Vision Testing
May 6th	Kelly Tarlton trip for GEO3U 11:30am-3:00pm \$30



From Our Principal

ANZAC Day was commemorated on Wednesday in assembly and as we have every year since 1946 we paused to reflect on the lives sacrificed by young people not much older than our current students 80 years ago. I would like to thank the Prefect team and all our students for their remembrance of our former students who paid the ultimate price.

Thursday evening was an important event in our year and it was great to see so many families taking advantage of the parent teacher interviews. Being able to talk face to face with each other was a great opportunity for both teachers and parents as they work together to get the best possible outcomes for our children.

Our Commitments

Each week our students receive an engagement grade based on a 1 to 5 scale. To get a 5, students need to attempt all classwork and homework, and consistently strive to produce work at or above the level expected from this pupil as indicated by past academic results. You can help by encouraging your child to do homework work, and independent study. Encourage your child to always participate in class discussions, by volunteering to ask and answer questions.

Attendance

Chronic absenteeism has a lifelong impact. Research shows that chronically absent students are far less likely to achieve qualifications and, as adults, earn \$40,000 less annually by age 25. This income gap highlights the importance of addressing absenteeism early.

At Otago College, students who miss 10-15 days in a term are referred to Attendance Services for additional support, while those who miss 15 or more days trigger a referral to Oranga Tamariki. These steps are designed to identify and eliminate the barriers preventing students from attending school. Let's make attendance a priority to safeguard our students' futures.

Ko e fānau 'oku nau li'aki ako ma'u peé 'oku mole honau faingamālie ke ma'u ha pa'anga 'oku lahi.

E a'afia le lumana'i o tamaiti pe'a le auai i le aoga. E le tutusa tupe e maua a tamaiti e le to'a'aga i le a'oga ma tamaiti e 'auai i a'oga i aso uma pe'a matutua e tusa ma su'esu'ega a le matagaluega.

Community News

Term 1 Fishing Holiday Program

Students gained a range of valuable skills and insights through their participation in the 3-day Fishing Club. Despite challenging weather conditions, the experience was highly enjoyable, and students remained actively engaged throughout.

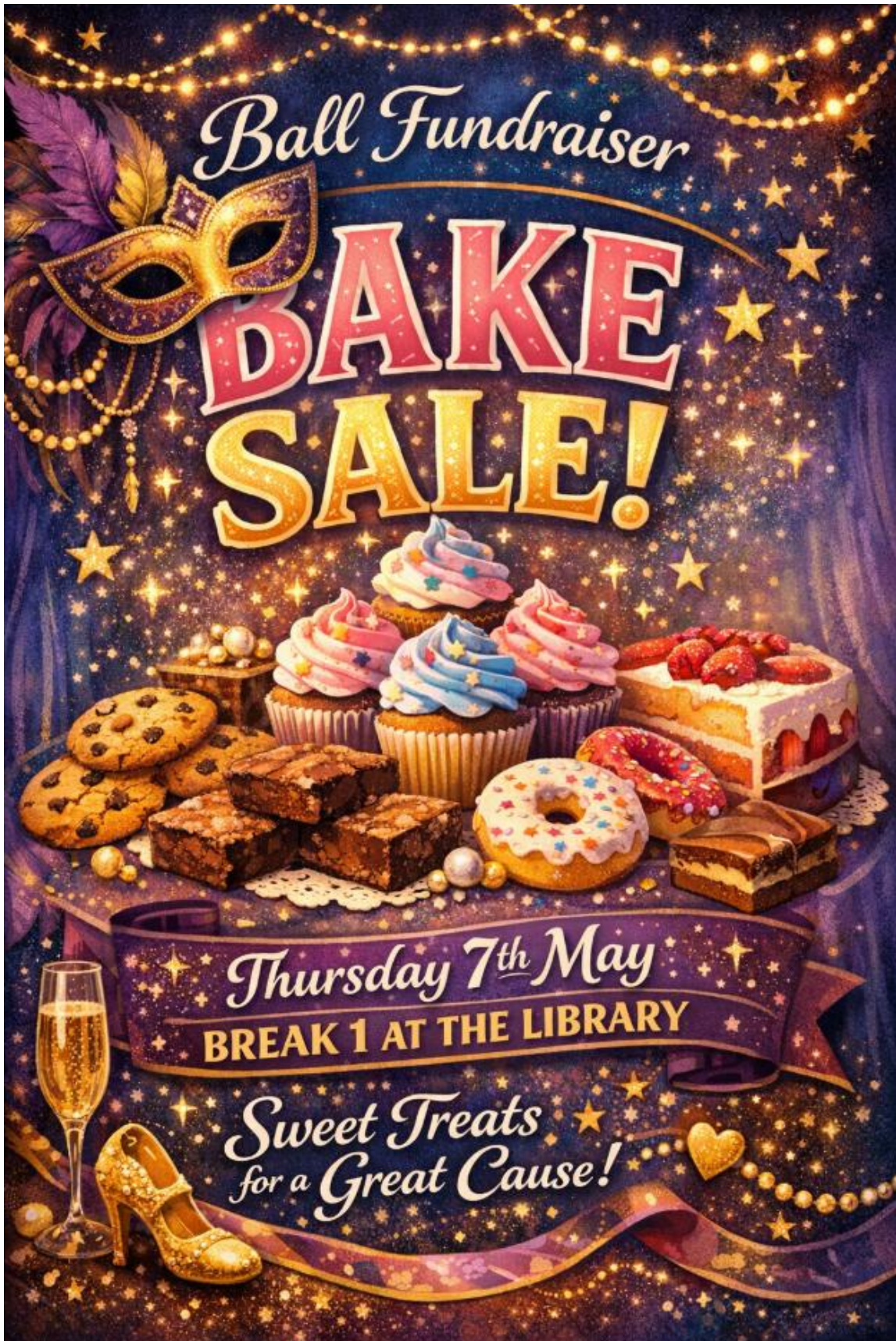
Time spent outdoors supported students to develop a deeper appreciation for nature as a space for wellbeing, reflection, and emotional regulation. Increased confidence and engagement were evident, contributing to stronger, more supportive group dynamics and friendships.

Over the three days, students also participated in daily circuit workouts in the school gym, promoting physical wellbeing and discipline. One day included an outing, where students completed a mountain walk in the Auckland region, selected a movie to watch together, and managed a budget to purchase lunch.

The fishing component was particularly successful, with both groups demonstrating enthusiasm and skill. The boys caught two snappers, while the girls had an outstanding result, catching eight snappers. Overall, the programme provided a well-rounded experience for them all.









Sports News

With the start of the Winter Sport season, we just want to remind all student athletes and spectators of our schools' expectations:

Sports Behaviour Expectations

1. **Positive Representation:** Represent Otago College with dignity and sportsmanship.
2. **Respect for Officials:** Speaking to them respectfully reflects the values of Otago College and sets a great example for others.
3. **Teamwork and Discipline:** Supporting teammates and following the rules
4. **Learning Moments:** Challenges during a match are opportunities to grow as athletes and individuals.
5. **Pride in our Conduct:** Displaying positive behaviour before, during and after matches enhances the reputation of Otago College.

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.

SPORTS DRAW FOR THE WEEK



MON 04/05	GIRLS RUGBY 10'S	SISTER UNITED	OC PAVILION	4.15PM
TUE 05/05	OPEN A BOY BBALL OPEN B BOY BBALL U17A BOY BASKETBALL U17B BOY BASKETBALL OPEN GIRL BBALL U17A GIRL BASKETBALL U17B GIRL BASKETBALL	PAPATOETOE SANCTA MARIA PAPAKURA JAMES COOK U17A OC SNR GIRLS OC ALFRISTON	PULMAN 2 PULMAN 5 PULMAN 5 PULMAN 3 PULMAN 4 PULMAN 4 PULMAN 4	7.00PM 6.00PM 5.00PM 4.15PM 7.00PM 7.00PM 8.00PM
WED 06/05	SNR BOYS SOCCER NETBALL Y9 WHITE Y10 WHITE Y10 GOLD Y10 BLUE SENIOR BLUE SENIOR WHITE PREMIER BOYS	ORMISTON MANGERE TUAKAU MANUREWA MANGERE AORERE WAIUKU JAMES COOK JAMES COOK	BARRY CURTIS PULMAN 19 PULMAN 25 PULMAN 18 PULMAN 11 PULMAN 10 PULMAN 11 PULMAN 4 PULMAN 12	4.00PM 4.10PM 5.10PM 5.10PM 6.10PM 6.10PM 6.10PM 6.10PM 5.10PM
THUR 07/05				
FRI 08/05	TABLE TENNIS OC 1 TABLE TENNIS OC 2 1ST XV RUGBY BOYS	MACLEANS AORERE AORERE	ST KENTS ST KENTS PAP RUGBY CLUB	3.45pm 3.45PM 6.00PM
SAT 09/05	1ST XV RUGBY BOYS 2B RUGBY BOYS U15 RUGBY BOYS JUNIOR BOY SOCCER SNR GIRLS NETBALL Y10 WHITE NETBALL Y10 BLUE NETBALL	PLAYING FRIDAY TBC TBC TBC TBC	NO GAME TBC TBC AUCK COURT AUCK COURT AUCK COURT	NO GAME TBC TBC TBC



Health and Wellness Centre

Vision Testing for Year 9 Students – Auckland University Vision Screening Team

We would like to inform all parents and guardians that free vision testing will be conducted for all Year 9 students at school on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th May through the *Vision Bus* service.

The students who don't pass the vision test get seen by optometrists here at school and if they need glasses, they are free.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact us on ph 09 9634081

Reminder to Update Contact Details

Accurate contact information is essential for staying connected with our school community. If your address, phone number, or email has changed recently, please take a moment to let the school office know.

Keeping our records current ensures we can contact you quickly when needed. We appreciate your cooperation.