



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 15th May 2026

Important Dates

May 18 th – 29 th	CAAs Literacy/Numeracy
Monday June 1 st	Kings Birthday (school closed) Samoan Language Week
June 22 nd – 26 th	Assessment Week



From Our Principal

Next week is an important week for many of our students, in particular our Year 10s, as they do the Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) for Literacy and in some cases numeracy. We wish each student all the best for these assessments.

Equally important is recognising that none of us performs at our best in isolation. We achieve more when we work together, supporting one another and lifting the standard across the school. That shared responsibility will make the difference this term.

At Ōtāhuhu College, we ask one simple thing of our students: that they try their best. Whether on the sports field, on stage, or in the classroom, if they give their best, they will be proud of their time here. And if we all commit to that, we will lift the standard across the College and create an environment that challenges us, supports us, and, ultimately, brings out the best in each of us.

Our Commitments

Please remind your child that they need to move to class as soon as the first bell goes, and they should be seated, with their books out and bags on the floor ready to learn by the second bell. 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

Every day missed from school is a missed opportunity to learn, grow, and prepare for the future. Chronically absent students are significantly less likely to earn qualifications and, by age 25, they earn on average \$40,000 less annually than their regularly attending peers.

To support our students, Otahuhu College monitors absences closely. Students with 10-15 days absent per term are referred to Attendance Services, while those missing 15 or more days may be referred to Oranga Tamariki. These systems ensure students get the help they need to stay in school and secure better futures.

‘Oku mahu’inga ke ma’u ako ‘i he taimi kotoa pē, ke ma’u ha ngāue lelei mo ha kaha’u ‘oku lelei.

O le masani i le alu i le aoga i aso uma e fesoasoani i tamaiti i galuega ma fa'ai'uga fai i le lumana'i .



Study News

Students sitting CAAs are encouraged to practice past papers online, so they become familiar with the format and types of questions used in the assessments.

How to Access Past CAA Papers for Practice:

- Go to MyNZQA: <https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/login/>
- Click on “Learner login” (on the left).
- Select the “External Assessments” section.
- Click on “Practice Past Assessments”.
- In the “Select a subject” dropdown menu, choose:
Literacy (Reading | Writing) and/or Numeracy.
- Practice assessments are available for:
Literacy (32403, 32405) and Numeracy (32406).
- Click on “Level 1”, then follow the prompts to begin.

If students are unsure why they received an incorrect answer during practice, they are encouraged to attend the after-school study sessions in the library; Maths on Tuesdays and English on Thursdays, where they can seek feedback and support from our Maths and English teachers.



Common Assessment Activities (CAA's)

Next week, throughout New Zealand, many students will be sitting the CAA Digital Literacy and Numeracy Assessments. The Timetable for Otahuhu College is below. All students will sit their Assessment in T13 using a laptop. Students that do not pass these Assessments will need to re-sit them in September. Please direct any questions regarding the CAA's to Mr. Roberts, Deputy Principal.

OTAHUHU COLLEGE CAA Literacy and Numeracy TIMETABLE TERM 2 2026																					
		Monday 18th May				Tuesday 19th May				Wednesday 20th May				Thursday 21st May				Friday 22nd May			
Time	CAA	Year Level	Class	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Class	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	
Periods 1 & 2		10	MA ON	26 27		10	SD RY	27 29													
Periods 3 & 4		10	GR HB	30 27		10	EY FM	26 27		11	H1 H2	19 16		11	M1 M2	19 11		11	S1 S2	17 23	
		Monday 25th May				Tuesday 26th May				Wednesday 27th May				Thursday 28th May				Friday 29th May			
Time	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	CAA	Year Level	Whanau	Student numbers	
Periods 1 & 2		11	G1 G2	17 17		11	H11 TTR2 KTK	14 9 2		12	G3 G4 H3 H4 M3 M4 S3 S4	8 5 4 6 9 3 4 8		13	G6 H6 M5 M6 S6	2 3 1 4 1	Catch up day (if required)				
Periods 3 & 4																					

Key	32403 Reading	32405 Writing	32406 Numeracy
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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



Year 13 Geography: Field Trip to Kelly Tarlton

Year 13 Geography students went on a field trip to explore the sea life that we find around coral reefs as part of their studies, looking at tropical reefs around the world. Students also got to explore the replica of Scott Base, see penguins, sharks, stingrays and turtles. The experience was great to be able to see coral and draw connections to how coral is important as part of the marine ecosystem.





Year 12 Geography Trip to Newmarket

The Year 12 Geography students travelled to Newmarket to explore how the development of shopping malls can have an impact on the surrounding area. Students spent the day collecting data, counting people, taking photographs and exploring the types of shops on the street as well as inside the mall. The students returned to class with field booklets full of data and were ready to write up their assessment over the next two weeks.



Y13 Religious Studies trip to Sikh temple

The RES3U classes (year 13 students who take religious as a subject) were given the opportunity to visit a Sikh Temple in Otago, Gurdwara Otago (Guru Nanak Sikh Sangat Gurdwara Sahib). We (RES3U) are currently studying about the religious belief of Sikh. We learn how they adapt and behave in our modern life while still maintaining to live a righteous life.

When we arrived to Gurdwara we were informed by the members of the temple that we were required to remove our shoes and socks.

After we did so, we were provided with scarfs which both female and males must cover their hair. When we entered their place of worship we were ordered to walk up the two stairs by gender (male on one side, female on the other), from here we witnessed the members of the church perform their religious prayer.

They read from their scriptures which they refer to as the Guru Granth Sahib. Sikhs treat the Guru Granth Sahib with respect as they view it as their supreme guide which they bow before it which is also the reason why they remove their socks and shoes. After this session we were provided with food and drinks in their dining hall, the Langar.

Here we ate traditional Sikh meals and were also able to take a group photo with us students and the members of the temple. The RES3U classes of Otago College are very honored to be given an opportunity like this to learn more about religious beliefs but to also discover new things about the Sikh religion which could help us with our term 2 assessment.

—Ana Mosati, y13



Philosophy Club

This week, Philosophy Club attained a record number of participants: twenty-three young people from all year levels and seven different cultures met to contemplate what matters more in life: human beings, the natural world, or spirituality. Our club is predominantly student-led by Rahil Singh, who develops informative content, lively activities, and memorable debating questions for each session.

Several of our young philosophers are finding that their learning from Philosophy Club is applicable to their classwork; for example, some are incorporating philosophical concepts learnt during club sessions into their English essays, which is helping them to achieve the originality and perceptiveness which elevates their answers to Excellence level.

Our topics for the rest of the term are:

- Week 5: Hobbes vs. Rousseau — does society protect us or corrupt us?
- Week 6: The ethics of prisons and punishment
- Week 7: Machiavelli — do the ends justify the means?
- Week 8: Immanuel Kant and the ethics of lying
- Week 9: The purpose of friendship
- Week 10: Plato — justice, Platonic love, and the cave
- Week 11: conspiracy theories — do they ever have merit?
- If you would like to join Philosophy Club, our sessions are held weekly in A1 on Thursday afternoons. Home baking is always present, and you should be too!





S.T.E.M

EPro8 Challenge Competition 2026

For the first two weeks of Term 2, Ms Qistina, the S.T.E.M Navigator, has been hosting the EPro8 Challenge Competition for the junior and senior science teachers.

The EPro8 Challenge is a team competition where students build hands-on solutions to practical challenges. This year's competition had a strong focus on maths concepts, which required students to clearly show their workings as part of their designs.

Students completed three challenges which included Paint the Room, Swing Carousel and a Pedestal Fan. Although 2 hours and 30 minutes flew by quickly, students worked well together and did a great job.

Below is a list of the winners for the junior and senior weeks, including the amount of points each team acquired.

Thank you so much to every student who participated in the EPro8 Challenge for the first time and to those who keep returning every year.



SENIOR WEEK - Y11, Y12 AND Y13 TEAMS

Monday 20 April	Tuesday 21 April	Wednesday 22 April
POOP SQUAD - Y11 205 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessie Cassidy Ayesha Cruz Dayzha Harema Amadea Lal 	The Last - Y11 190 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lucas Tekeu Meleane Fakai Ana Pau'u Mya-Angel Blair 	Psych 3.0 - Y13 385 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Wilson Colenso King Rahil Singh Kreesh Sharma
Smash Bros - Y11 165 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arav Kumar Jerome Tom Louis Blasi Tevita Masima 	Team 3 - Y11 100 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zameel Ali Maruf Hossain Abul Nawrozi Derick De Castro 	Tupu - Y12 285 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanish Thakur Hamid Maqsudi Tupuhelotu Molia Cypress Chang Wai
Oreo - Y11 70 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nojan Tabanao Vikeel Prasad Mohammed J Khan 	Organisation XIII - Y11 125 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eco Seik Faigaluega Nuusila Galuvaa Neihana Smith 	Megatronz - Y13 215 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morina Kaikura Ryan Kumar Savanah Ofahengaue Mele Otuhouma
Stay Hungry - Y11 30 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rayan Maharaj Aarav Kishore Ryan Prasad Risay Raju 	Reeree - Y12 195 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avantika Naidu Sarah Fedae Anaisha Raj Alisha Singh 	MAT.G - Y13 205 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ginny Oakelin Victoria Heffernan Metanoia Falevaai Tu'uaki Wolfgramm
	Teletubbies - Y12 160 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rishika Prasad Zayley Maeva Bless Codiz Malyashni Venkateshni 	



PSYCH 3.0 - 385 POINTS

- BRIAN WILSON
- COLENZO KING
- RAHIL SINGH
- KREESH SHARMA



TUPU - 285 POINTS

- TANISH THAKUR
- HAMID MAQSUDI
- TUPUHELOTU MOLIA
- CYPRESS CHANG WAI



MEGATRONZ - 215 POINTS

- MORINA KAIKURA
- RYAN KUMAR
- SAVANAH OFAHENGAUE
- MELE OTUHOUMA

EPro8 Challenge

Engineer Problem Solve Innovate

JUNIOR WEEKS - Y9 AND Y10 TEAMS

Thursday 23 April	Tuesday 28 April	Wednesday 29 April	Friday 1 May
Baby Pandas 60 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daania Ahmad - 9MA Aayat Ali - 9MA Zahra Nawrozi - 9MA Zoya Sharma - 9FM 	K.T.M.Z - 10GR 155 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min Maung Kent Anderson Dagpin Zephaniah Afoa-Tuumaialu Tyler Marker 	Siu's Minions - 10FM 70 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mackenzie Va'aelua Kaitlin Tatolu Falesiu Filiahefanga 	L'amour - 10FM 70 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Krystal Heke-Mugridge Naailah Nisa Joel Kiliata Anastacia Sione
4 Muskateers 100 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shihaniya Prasad - 9RY Essence Terepai - 9GR Monalshi Sen - 9MA Umaiza Ali - 9ON 	Tung Tung - 10ON 130 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoey Amituanai Andantae Penala Mo'unga Fononga Shar Solomona 	Quatro 110 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sophia Nunaes - 10FM Danieza Calinaya - 10FM Jane Cajayon - 9MA Ayesha Tailer - 10FM 	Y.D.B Kids - 10GR 180 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manea Tangimai Pennie Takiari Tala Taito Luse Nielsen
The EY Builders - 9EY 100 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arsh Hussain Aaqib Mohammed Mataio Tamua William Robertson 	Team K.I.D.S 80 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illysiyah Faitele - 9SD Krishna Kumar - 9RY Daezharay Stanley - 9FM Ina Fauolo - 9SD 	Future Window Washers - 10ON 70 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wesley Tupua Opeti Prescott Kaylin Moeareauri Aiden Autaus 	Bob the Builder - 10ON 100 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avani Prasad Malika Iqbal Lepeka Faingaanuku Nabeela Shabnam
9GR Girlz - 9GR 145 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samarah Aania Aliyah Naaz Rachel Romero Zsabrina Urbino 		Team Sloth - 10GR 135 POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeremiah Havili Francis Clarke Tetaunga Marukore Taus Wight 	

1 **Y.D.B KIDS - 180 POINTS**

- MANEA TANGIMAI
- PENNIE TAKIARI
- TALA TAITO
- LUSE NIELSEN

2 **K.T.M.Z - 155 POINTS**

- MIN MAUNG
- KENT ANDERSON DAGPIN
- ZEPHANIAH AFOA-TUUMAIALU
- TYLER MARKER

3 **9GR GIRLZ - 145 POINTS**

- SAMARAH AANIA
- ALIYAH NAAZ
- RACHEL ROMERO
- ZSABRINA URBINO









Year 13 Chemistry Students Explore Water Treatment at Ardmore

On Wednesday 13 May, our Year 13 Chemistry students had the unique opportunity to visit the Ardmore Water Treatment Plant, hosted by Watercare. This engaging and educational trip gave students a firsthand look at the complex chemical, engineering, and quality assurance processes that ensure Auckland’s water supply remains clean and safe.

Watercare staff shared their expertise and enthusiasm as they guided students through each stage of the treatment process. They highlighted the important role of chemical engineers working both on site and in laboratory environments. The visit provided valuable real world context for the students’ Level 3 Internal Assessment and deepened their understanding of water chemistry and the importance of rigorous testing and review. It was an inspiring day that enriched classroom learning and showcased the dedication behind one of our most vital resources, clean water.

A huge thank you to Watercare for their outstanding hospitality and for organising such an insightful and memorable experience for our students.

