



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 24th July 2026

Important Dates

July 27 th – July 31 st	Mid - Year Reports emailed to caregivers
August 3 rd	Cook Island Language week
August 17 th	Tongan Language week



From Our Principal

The third term has started well. Our Japanese tourists returned from what was a fantastic trip, our Bollywood group celebrated being one of the top groups in Auckland and our Year 13s had a fantastic ball during the holidays.

Looking ahead, Term 3 will be an important one academically. School examinations will provide students with valuable opportunities to assess their progress and prepare for the challenges ahead. For our senior students, these examinations are an important stepping stone towards the NCEA external examinations in Term 4. For Year 10 students the CAAs occur at the end of the term for both writing and numeracy. Our junior students should be doing homework every school night and our seniors studying and working on their upcoming assessments and examinations.

Our Commitments

Our focus for next week is being engaged in lessons. On the basic level it is making sure that every student takes individual responsibility to have their books and pens. To make sure that as soon as they get into class that they have their books out, bags on the floor, and they are ready to learn. 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 .

Community News

Serving With Heart: Our 2024 Chosen Organisation – Keysar Rescue

This year, our team had the privilege of serving Keysar Rescue as our chosen organisation — a beautiful, dedicated non-profit committed to saving abused and neglected dogs across our community. For five years, Keysar has been a lifeline for vulnerable animals, providing safety, rehabilitation, and the chance to find a forever home.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Nathaniel Pukeiti, Lafi Kelemete, Robin Uolo, Kesi Oneone, and Cardo Tahere-Senio for their time, energy, and compassion. Your service made a real difference, and your willingness to show up for our furry friends embodies the spirit of community and care we value so deeply.

Together, we helped support an organisation that continues to change lives — one rescue at a time.



Sports News

During the holidays, our UNISS netball girls took part in a UNISS pre-season tournament, competing against several Auckland schools as part of our preparation for the upcoming UNISS Tournament in Hamilton this August. The tournament provided valuable opportunities to build teamwork, refine our combinations, and gain experience against strong opposition. It was a fantastic learning experience for our players, allowing them to develop their skills, confidence, and game awareness in a competitive environment. We are proud of the effort and sportsmanship shown by the team and look forward to continuing our preparation for the tournament in Hamilton.



Senior School

Bollywood Showdown 2026: A Spectacular Celebration of Talent and Creativity

On 4 July 2026, Otahuhu College proudly took to the stage at the Bollywood Showdown Competition, one of Auckland's most prestigious inter-school dance competitions. Bringing together secondary schools from across the region, the event showcases exceptional talent, creativity, and teamwork in a highly competitive environment.



Our students dedicated 11 weeks to preparing for the competition, rehearsing tirelessly after school, in the evenings, and even on Saturdays. They were involved in every stage of the creative process - from selecting the music and refining the choreography to mastering every movement with precision and confidence. Their commitment and perseverance paid off as they achieved an outstanding **5th place out of 23 teams**.



This year's performance was built around the theme "**Circus**", inspired by the belief that every individual deserves their moment in the spotlight. Through vibrant costumes, expressive choreography, and powerful storytelling, the team celebrated the uniqueness of every person. Bringing this vision to life required immense creativity and collaboration, and their efforts were recognised with the **Best Costume Award**.



Beyond the competition, Bollywood Showdown celebrates cultural unity by bringing together students from diverse backgrounds who share a love of dance. It is a wonderful reminder that creativity knows no borders, and we are incredibly proud of our students for representing Otago College with passion, excellence, and pride.





Book shop

FINAL OPPORTUNITY to purchase a 2026 school ID card\$15 to be paid before 30 July Thursday
Paid at the book shop .

Academic News

Digital Literacy and Numeracy Common Assessment Activities (CAAs)
A number of Y10, Y11, Y12 and Y13 students were entered and sat the May CAA's:

- 32403 Reading
- 32405 Writing
- 32406 Numeracy

Results for these assessments can now be viewed on each student's NZQA account and our schools Kamar Portal.

For those students that did not pass there will be another opportunity in Weeks 8 and 9 of this Term.

Students will be receiving an email from Mr Roberts with instructions on how to access online practice activities in preparation for the next assessment window.

Any questions about the CAA's please contact Mr Roberts: sroberts@otahuhucollege.school.nz