



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 14th August 2026

Important Dates

17 th August	Tongan Language Week
20 th August	Parent Teachers meetings
30 th August – 4 th September	UNISS Netball Tournament



OTAHUHU COLLEGE

From Our Principal

This week we celebrated Maths week, surely a highlight for a number of students. The First XI played strongly and with commitment in their final and had a vocal fan base. Next week we have the EPRO8 Auckland semifinals, the Auckland table tennis championships as well as Auckland Mathex finals. On Saturday our First XV play their final at Eden Park and we wish them all the best for the culmination of what has been an excellent winter sports season.

In a rapidly changing world, where both society and education continue to evolve, parents often ask us how best to prepare young people for future success. While the future will undoubtedly bring new opportunities and challenges, the qualities most valued by employers remain remarkably consistent. They are looking for people who are reliable, who turn up, work hard, think critically, and are willing to learn and grow throughout their lives.

At Otahuhu College, we are committed to developing these qualities in every student. Alongside strong character and a positive work ethic, we encourage all students to aim high academically and strive for the highest qualification possible. By doing so, they open doors to a wider range of pathways and opportunities, equipping themselves with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to thrive in whatever future they choose.

Our Commitments

Our commitment this week is to be respectful. There are simple ways in which we can encourage our children to be respectful. Using more formal language when talking to adults and in particular staff and visitors to Otahuhu College demonstrates respect. Saying 'Yes' instead of 'yeah', making sure we use please and thankyou regularly. Holding doors open for others to walk through. Wearing the uniform correctly to and from school. All these demonstrate respectful behaviours.

Attendance

Every absence matters, and providing a note explaining why your child missed school is an important step in supporting their learning. Whether the absence is due to illness, family commitments, or unforeseen circumstances, informing the school ensures transparency and allows us to address any underlying barriers.

At Otahuhu College, our whānau teachers and attendance staff are here to assist families. Let's keep the lines of communication open to promote consistent attendance.

Fiema'u ke fakamatala'i ke mahino 'a e 'uhinga na'e nofo ai ho'o tamá 'i he akó.

Faafeso'ota'i le aoga e faailoa le mafua'aga ua le alu ai i le aoga.



Parent Teacher Meetings

On Thursday 20th August 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 are between 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. We appreciate your patience.

- ✓ Click on this link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/mu222>



- ✓ Or scan this QR Code: _____
- ✓ Type in your details, the student that the meeting is for, and then choose the Subject and teacher that you will be visiting. Click on the  button to add another Subject/teacher.

Study News

Is your child on track for NCEA?

As the Senior School Academic Navigator, I work with our Year 11, 12 and 13 students to help them understand where they are in their NCEA and UE@OC journey and what they need to do next.

I invite whānau to book a Parent Teacher Meeting with me to talk about your child's progress.

Together, we can look at:

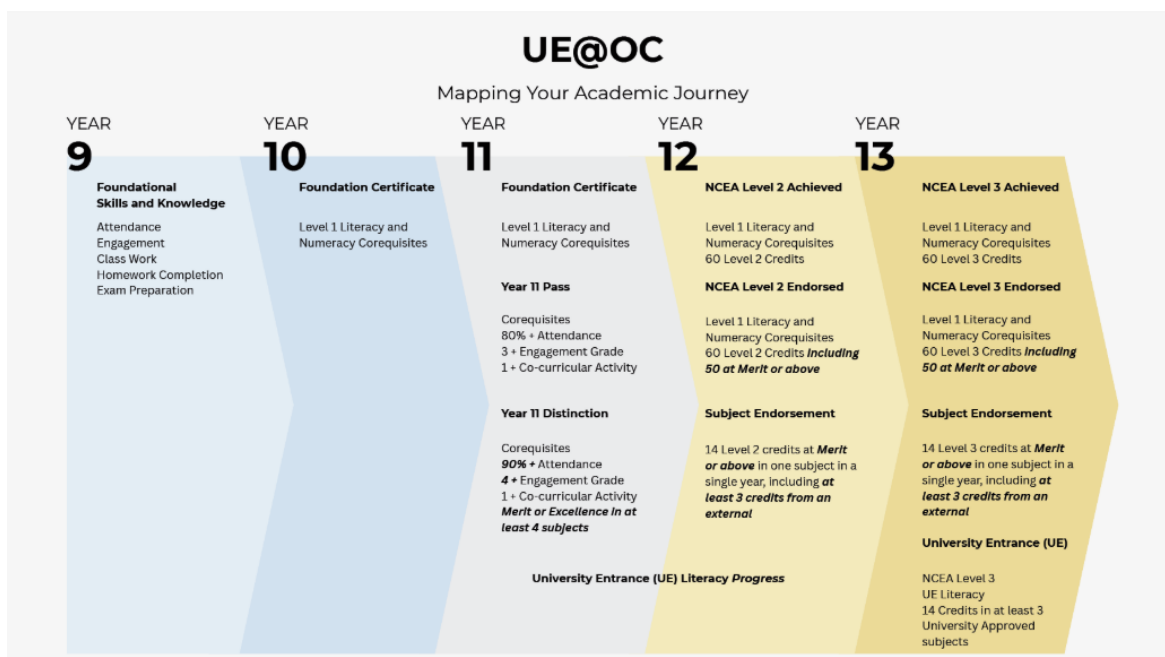
- where your child is now
- where they are expected to be
- what they need to achieve
- what they should focus on next
- how they are progressing towards their school leavers qualifications

Don't wait until the end of the year to find out where your child stands. A short conversation now can help your child stay on track.

I look forward to meeting with you and helping you understand your child's academic journey.

Melinda Christensen | Academic Navigator | mchristensen@otahuhucollege.school.nz

See the below "Mapping Your Academic Journey" guide for an overview of the NCEA and UE@OC pathways.



Senior School (Year 11-13)

On August 11th, 2026, five of our Year 12 Religious Studies students were invited to attend the annual Leadership Diversity Day, hosted by the Religious Diversity Centre at the MIT Ōtara Marae.

The day began with a pōwhiri, where we were introduced to the wharenui and Māori spiritual beliefs. After morning tea, we split into small groups to network with students from 15 schools and discuss our thoughts on leadership. A priest also shared a story with us, which we reflected in our groups on how it connected to leadership with themes of authority, integrity and compassion coming up. There were speakers who presented ideas about their religions in the context of the environment and diversity, and how everyone can belong together.

We heard perspectives from Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism and Bahá'í, which sparked many interesting ideas and discussions among the groups. In our groups, we discussed social impacts and our relationship with the environment, as well as religious diversity in Aotearoa. We then shared our ideas with everyone.

We learnt a lot, made new friends, and improved our confidence and ability to work in a group. Overall, this was a great opportunity not only to develop our leadership skills but also to open up new perspectives on religions and how we can improve society. We would like to thank our teacher Ms. Bulteel, MIT and Religious Diversity Centre for giving us this valuable opportunity. It was truly a day to remember. -Markle Ossamang



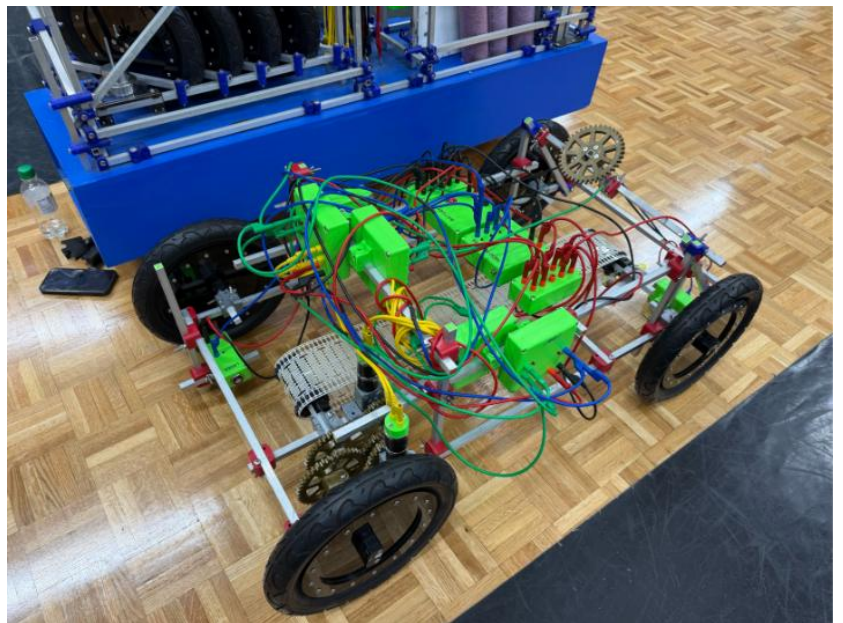
STEM

This term, our junior and senior teams proudly represented our school in the EPro8 Challenge Auckland Heats competitions.

Our junior team, The Stallionz, competed on Thursday 23 July. Made up of Pennie, Tala, Samarah, and Zsabrina, the team worked hard throughout the challenge and demonstrated excellent teamwork and problem-solving skills. The team challenge was to create a scissor-lift. Despite strong competition, they achieved an impressive 5th place finish. While they narrowly missed out on qualifying for the semi-finals, we are incredibly proud of their efforts and look forward to building on their skills for next year's competition.

Our senior team, Psych 3.0, competed on Wednesday 5 August. Team members Colenso, Rahil, Brian, and Kreesh showed determination, creativity, and resilience throughout the event. The team challenge was to create a Mario Kart. Their hard work paid off with a fantastic 4th place finish, earning enough points to qualify for the semi-finals. Congratulations to the team on this outstanding achievement, and we wish them all the best in the next round!





Robotics Team OC

Last weekend, our school had the exciting opportunity to host a VEX Robotics Competition, bringing students together for a day of robotics, problem-solving, teamwork, and friendly competition.

Our robotics teams proudly represented the school, putting their robots and skills to the test against other teams. Throughout the competition, students faced challenges that required them to think quickly, solve problems, adjust their robots, and develop new strategies.

More importantly, the experience went beyond building and programming robots. Students had to communicate, make decisions together, support one another, and work as a team to face each new match. When something did not work as expected, they had to analyse the problem, find a solution, and try again.

It was also wonderful to see so many parents and families joining us and enjoying the competition. A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who took the time to bring their children, stay to support them, and share in the excitement of the event. Their encouragement made the day even more special.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event possible. We are incredibly proud of our students—not only for how they competed, but also for the teamwork, resilience, problem-solving, and enthusiasm they demonstrated throughout the day.







Sports News

1st XV Grand Final Bound

Our Ōtāhuhu College 1st XV are through to the **Auckland Rugby 1st XV 1B Grand Final** after an emphatic **41–19 semi-final victory over defending champions Macleans College** last weekend.

The result capped off another outstanding performance from the team, who remain **undefeated this season** and finished the competition as the **top overall qualifier** heading into the finals.

The boys now have one final challenge ahead as they take on **Howick College tomorrow at Eden Park**.

Grand Final Details

 **Saturday 15 August 2026**

 **Eden Park**

 **Howick College**

 **Gates open: 12:15pm**

 **Ōtāhuhu supporters enter through Gate A**

 **Kick-off: 12:30pm**

Students can attend **free of charge with a valid student ID**, while general admission tickets are **\$20 for adults and \$5 for children**.

We encourage our students, staff, whānau, alumni and wider Ōtāhuhu community to come along in **blue and gold** and get behind the boys as they look to finish an incredible season in the best possible way.

One more to go. All the best to our 1st XV! 💙💛



Enrolments 2027

Enrolments for 2027 are now open. Please pick up an enrolment form from our school office or fill out a form online on our School Website.

Click the link below for the Enrolment Form

<https://otahuhucollege.school.kiwi/enrolment>

Enrolment requirements:

- Birth Certificate / Passport
- Visa / Proof of Residency
- Proof of Address
- School Report
- Current Phone Number

For any further assistance please email: enrolment@othuhucollege.school.nz