



ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 4th September 2026

Important Dates

7 th – 18 th September	CAA's Literacy/Numeracy
25 th September	Last day of Term 3

Friday 4th September 2026



From Our Principal

Our Netball team has competed strongly at the Upper North Island championships. Up against predominantly Year 12 and 13 girls, our team has proven that they will be a force to be reckoned with in the future.

Next week is an important week with the CAAs beginning. All students must meet the literacy and numeracy requirements in order to gain qualifications. It has been great to see the extra effort being put in and we look forward to the challenges ahead.

One of the biggest mistakes students make when preparing for examinations is focusing on the content they know best. Why? Because it feels comfortable and gives the illusion of progress. In reality, what you should be studying is the material you don't know well, but it is the harder and more uncomfortable. In addition, to truly learn and grow proficient in any skill, you must be willing to make mistakes, willing to push through embarrassment and embrace the discomfort that comes with imperfection. Learning is often described as the process of recognising, correcting, and preventing mistakes. Yet, as any surfer knows, if you're not wiping out every now and then, you're not pushing yourself far enough, and your progress will plateau. One of learning's great ironies is that comfort is often the reward of mastery. However, the process of getting there is anything but comfortable.

Students will be choosing their subjects for next year shortly. For Year 11 students going into Year 12, it is important for them to realise that they will be choosing five subjects which they will be studying in both Year 12 and Year 13.

Our Commitments

Our commitment for next week is to be on time. This means more than just being at school by 8:30am and moving quickly and quietly to class. Good time management is an important aspect of being successful. For our students they need to know when their assignments are due to be handed in. A good idea is 3 days before the due date for your children to show you their assignments, this way you can check if they have finished, or need to work really hard to get the assignment finished by the due date.

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 Otago College. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the Principal.



Attendance

When students miss school, it's vital for parents to provide a written note explaining the absence. This ensures the school can record the absence accurately and identify any ongoing issues that might affect your child's ability to attend regularly.

At Otahuhu College, we encourage parents to notify the school as soon as possible, either by phone, email, or a handwritten note. Together, we can support students to overcome barriers to attendance and ensure they don't fall behind.

'Oku mahu'inga ke faka-fetu'utaki mai ki he 'apiakó 'a e 'uhinga 'oku 'ikai ma'u ako ai 'a e fānaú.

O le tusi o faamatalaga e fesoasoani i le aoga e fesoasoani ai i le fanau.

Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) and Derived Grade Exams

Two weeks of Assessment and Exams begins on Monday.

All Year 10 students (and some Y11, Y12 and Y13) will be sitting a combination of the CAA Literacy and Numeracy Assessments. Once passed, students do not need to take them again and students will be able to gain NCEA Qualifications (by gaining the correct number of credits at each level).

All Y11, Y12 and Y13 students that have an External NZQA Exam will have a Derived Grade Exam. Results will inform students as to whether their current methods of study and preparation need to be continued, modified or completely changed.

Teachers and students have been working really hard in recent weeks, so we look forward to pleasing results! The Timetable is below (students have been emailed this timetable).



Week 8	Monday 7th September					Tuesday 8th September					Wednesday 9th September					Thursday 10th September					Friday 11th September				
	CAA	Year	Class	Student numbers		CAA	Year	Class	Student numbers		CAA	Year	Class	Student numbers		CAA	Year	Class	Student numbers		CAA	Year	Class	Student numbers	
	Time	Level	Room			Level	Room				Level	Room				EXAM	Level	Room			EXAM	Level	Room		
Periods 1 & 2	CAA & DG			59		32403		10	85			GR		27			GR		27			RY		23	
	32403		11	20						32405	10	HB		27		32406	10	HB		27		32406	10	SD	26
			12	3				12	22			MA		24				MA		24			FM		28
			13			32405		13	3			ON		27				ON		27			DN		14
Periods 3 & 4	CAA			67								RY		23											
	32405		11	28		32405		11	124	32405	10	SD		26											
			12	4								FM		28											
			13									EY		27											
Periods 3,4,8,2,5	DG									CAL3U	M7		12	MAT2U	HALL		68	11GEO	HALL		60				
										MAT3U	M7 (HPE)		21	11MAO	HALL		10	BIO2U	HALL		41				
											M5 (BDY)		25	HIS3U	HALL		25	BIO3U	HALL		33				
											M8 (CHN)		30												

Week 9	Monday 14th September				Tuesday 15th September				Wednesday 16th September				Thursday 17th September				Friday 18th September			
	EXAM	ROOM	Student numbers		EXAM	ROOM	Student numbers		EXAM	ROOM	Student numbers		EXAM	ROOM	Student numbers		EXAM	ROOM	Student numbers	
	Time				Time				Time				Time				Time			
Periods 1 & 2	11SB	HALL	88		11COM	HALL	54		HLT2U	HALL	21		HLT3U	HALL	20		11MAT	HALL	154	
	SAM3U	T6	10		ECO2U	HALL	41		DRA2U	HALL	14		GEO2U	HALL	47			M5 (AVI)	19	
	DTE3U	M10	30		ECO3U	HALL	10		DRA3U	HALL	9		11DRA	HALL	29			M7 (TRN)	30	
	DAN2U	M5	7		TON3U	T5	17		11DAN	M5	18							M8 (HPE)	29	
Periods 3,4,8,2,5	DAN3U	M5	3						CAA Catch Up Session				CAA Catch Up Session				SAM2U	T6	8	
																	TON2U	T5	19	
	ENG3U	HALL	44		ENG2U	HALL	79		PHY2U	HALL	55		11ENG	HALL	149		CHE2U	HALL	31	
	LIT3C	HALL	66		LIT2U	HALL	75		PHY3U	HALL	49		11LIT	M5 (WOD)	16		CHE3U	HALL	29	
	HIS2U	HALL	25		GEO3U	M5 (LGN)	17		MAO2U	HALL	7			M7 (VADSUN)	31		HIS2U	HALL	25	
					M8 (MKA)		23							M8 (CAL GRD)	25		11HIS	HALL	30	

Key:	32403 Reading	32405 Writing	32406 Numeracy	2hr Derived Grade Exams	3hr Derived Grade Exams	CAA's will all take place in the Hall
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Option Selection for 2027

Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 students will be able to select their subjects from 2027 from Monday next week. Subject selection is done through the Kamar Portal.

Ōtāhuhu College Option Selection Instructions

All Student Options will be selected via the Otahuhu College Kamar Portal.

To select your Options for next year:

- Log in to our school website <https://www.otahuhucollege.school.nz/>



- Click on the  icon on the top of the page.

3. Click on Login and enter your Username (First.LastName) and Password and then click on 'Login':
4. Choose 'Course Selection' from the menu bar:
5. 'Click' on each subject to read the course outline.

Make sure you understand:

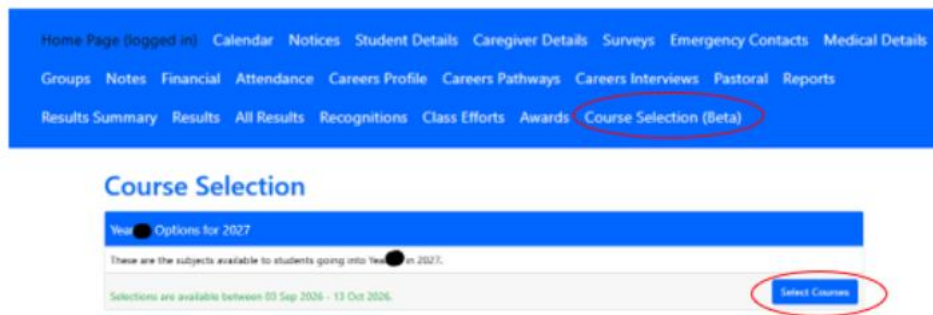
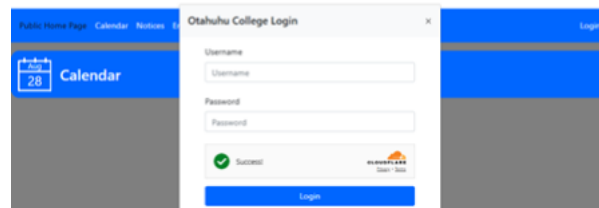
- a. The 'entry requirements' in any of the subjects you may be interested in.
- b. The 'pathways' available to you as you move through each Level of NCEA.

Talking to your family, subject teachers, Deans and our school Careers Advisors will also help with your selections.

6. Follow the on-screen instructions and remember to click 'Save' when you have finished your Subject selection.



Otago College



Senior School (Year 11-13)

MATES: Senior MATES Uni for a Day

Year 13 students attended Senior MATES Uni for a day. A great way for kids to learn about University of Auckland Waipapa Taumata Rau. OC even had a shout out from an alum Mel Fainga'a who told us all about entry into university, helped explain Rank Score and how to move into higher education beyond High School.



Health and Wellness centre

A massive thank you to our youth health council students in partnership with Eperu of Fonua Ola to fundraise over \$600 for daffodil day and the cancer society.

It's not too late if you'd still like to donate. Nga mihinui

<https://www.daffodilday.org.nz/otahuhu-college-youth-health-council>



UNISS Netbal

A big well done to our Girls' Netball Team for an amazing week at the Upper North Island Championships in Hamilton, which concluded today. Thank you for representing our school so proudly both on and off the court. Here is a lovely message we received..

"On Tuesday 1.9.26 I attended the UNISS netball tournament in Hamilton supporting my granddaughter from Glendowie College. As we walked through the car park I recognised the Kotuku on your girl's uniform. I introduced myself as a pupil from 1962. Their reaction was priceless! They were absolutely delightful. When they asked which House I had been in and I replied Seddon that led to more celebrations from a number of the girls. Meeting them made my day extra special. They were all an absolute credit to the school. From a proud Otahuhu College old girl."





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@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Community News

Feeling the pinch on groceries? <https://www.kiwilunchbox.co.nz> is a free tool built by an Auckland parent. It plans a week of school lunches around whatever is on special at Woolworths and New World, shows what the week will cost, and gives you a prep plan. No account needed, nothing for sale.