ŌTĀHUHU COLLEGE

Ōtāhuhu College

Newsletter

Friday 30 October 2026

Important Dates

November 9th	Junior Exam Week
November 10th	NZQA
November 20th	Last Day for Yr12 and Yr13

From Our Principal

This week, we recognised the outstanding achievements of our top athletes at our annual Sports Awards, along with the dedicated coaches and volunteers who play such an important role in making sport at Otahuhu College possible. Congratulations to all our award recipients, and a huge thank you to everyone who contributes to our sporting community.

At Otahuhu College, we carry a significant responsibility. How we value and respect one another says a great deal about the kind of people we are and the kind of society we are helping to build. Respect is not simply about avoiding inappropriate behaviour; it is about having the courage to challenge attitudes and actions that diminish others. Our role, alongside families and whānau, is to help our young people understand the influence they have and encourage them to use it positively.

Attendance

Did you know that chronically absent students, by the time they are 25 years old, earn an average of $40,000 less per year than their peers who regularly attended school? Missing school doesn't just affect students' academic progress—it impacts their long-term career opportunities and financial stability.

At Otahuhu College, we take absenteeism seriously and intervene early to prevent long-term consequences. Students who miss 10-15 days in a term are referred to Attendance Services, while those with 15 or more days absent are reported to Oranga Tamariki. These measures ensure that students and their families get the support they need to prioritize attendance. Let's work together to secure brighter futures for our students.

Ko e fānau 'oku nau nofo mei he akó, ko e ki'i pa'anga si'isi'i pē 'oku nau ma'ú, $40,000 'o a'u ki he'enau ta'u 25. Koia ai, ma'u ako 'i he 'aho kotoa pē ke ma'u ha kaha'u 'oku lelei.

Ua fa'amaonia i su'esu'ega o tamaiti e le to'a'aga i le a'oga e maua se tupe itiiti e $40,000 i le tausaga i le taimi e 25 ai tausaga le matua. E fa'aluaina ma fa'atoluina lea seleni pe'a to'aga i le a'oga i le taimi e aulia ai le 25 tausaga. To'aga i le aoga i aso uma mo se lumana'i manuia.

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

Study News

Year 9–11 Mathematics Exams – Important Reminder

A reminder to all parents and whānau that **Year 9–11 Mathematics exams will take place during the week beginning Monday 9 November.**

All students are entered for these exams and must bring their own scientific calculator.

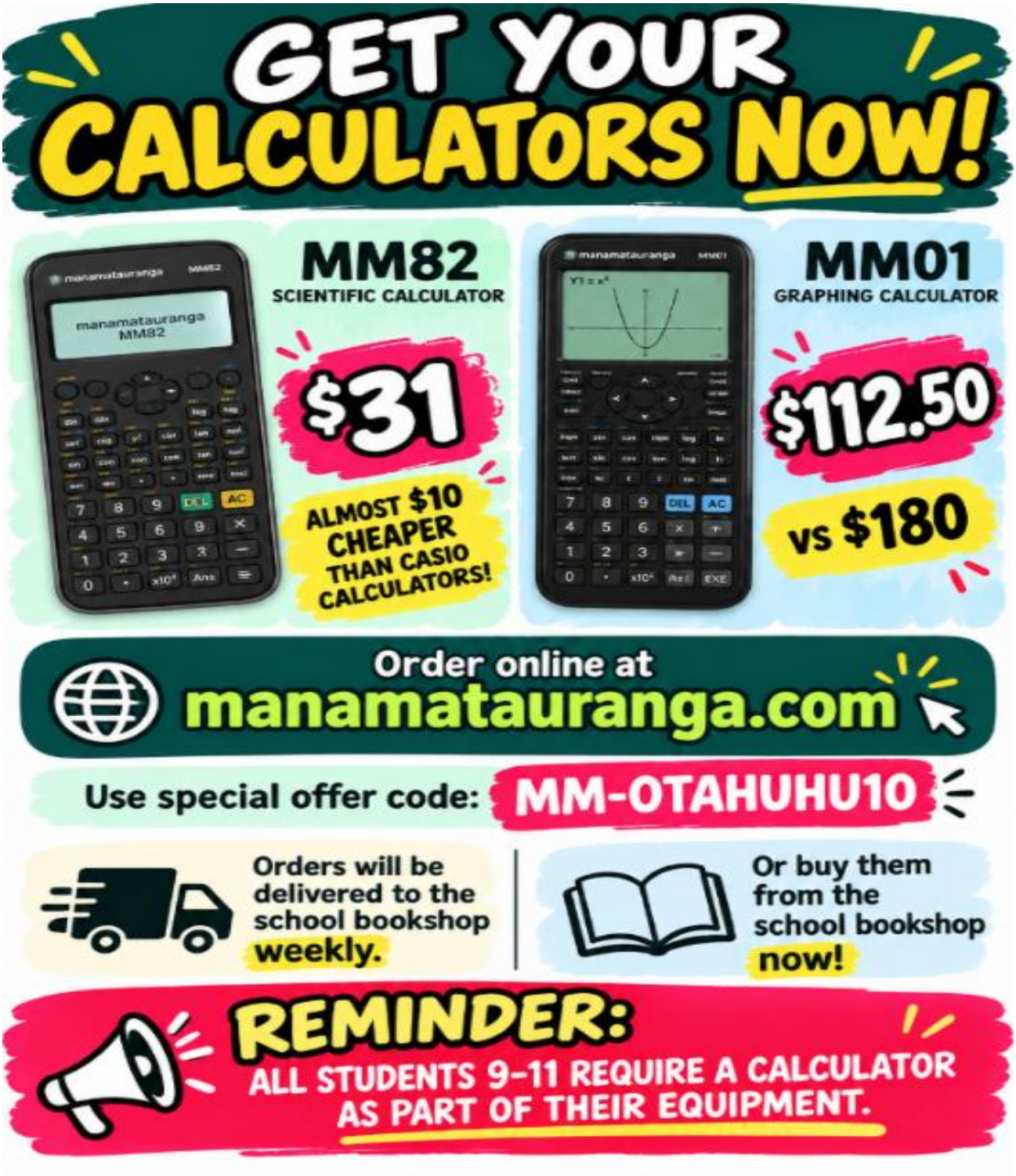
Please note that **calculators will not be provided by the school**, as they are considered essential learning equipment that students are expected to bring to every Mathematics lesson.

We ask that parents and whānau support us by ensuring students are fully prepared, have the correct equipment, and complete revision ahead of their exams.

📌 **Scientific calculators are available to purchase from the school bookshop.** Please see the poster below for details.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mathematics Department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Order online at manamatauranga.com
Use special offer code: MM-OTAHUHU10
Orders will be delivered to the school bookshop weekly.
Or buy them from the school bookshop now!
REMINDER:
ALL STUDENTS 9–11 REQUIRE A CALCULATOR AS PART OF THEIR EQUIPMENT.

A Bag Every Day – Ready to Learn!

We ask all families to support us in ensuring that students bring a school bag to school every day. Having a bag is essential for students to carry their books, stationery, and learning equipment so they are organised and prepared for every class.

Students are expected to keep their bags with them throughout the school day and must not leave them unattended in classrooms or around the school grounds. This helps students take responsibility for their belongings and ensures they have everything they need for their learning.

Staff will conduct regular checks throughout the school day to ensure students have their school bags with them. These checks will focus on students having a bag and being prepared for learning, rather than inspecting personal belongings. Students who repeatedly attend school without a bag may be issued a detention.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation at home. Together, we can help our students develop positive habits, take responsibility for their learning, and arrive at school each day ready to succeed.

Thank you for your support and cooperation

Year 11 Attendance – Every Day Counts!

As our Year 11 students approach their end-of-year examinations, it is important that they continue to attend school every day and participate fully in their classes right up until their exams.

While some schools offer study leave during the examination period, Otahuhu College expects Year 11 students to remain at school and attend their timetabled classes. Our experience has shown that students achieve better examination results when they continue attending lessons, where they can revise key concepts, practise exam questions, receive additional teaching and ask their teachers for clarification and support.

These final weeks of learning are a valuable opportunity for students to strengthen their understanding, build confidence and ensure they are as well prepared as possible for their examinations.

We ask all families to support us by ensuring their Year 11 students attend school every day and make the most of the learning opportunities available to them. Every lesson counts, and consistent attendance can make a real difference to students' achievement and future pathways.

Together, we can help our Year 11 students finish the year strongly and achieve the very best results they can.

Ōtāhuhu College Annual Arts Awards

Last Thursday evening, Ōtāhuhu College celebrated the talents and achievements of our students at our annual Arts Awards. This special event recognises excellence across Music, Dance, Drama, Whakairo and the Visual Arts. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge the important contribution our young artists make to our school and wider community.

The evening began with displays of student work from the Art and Māori Departments, featuring painting, printmaking and whakairo. This was followed by the awards ceremony, attended by a large audience of whānau, students and staff. Throughout the evening, students entertained the audience with a variety of performances between the presentation of badges and major trophies. One of the highlights was an exciting performance by our Hip Hop crew, 'Member's Only'.

The Arts Faculty would like to congratulate all our junior and senior students who received badges or personally engraved trophies in recognition of their achievements. We also extend our thanks to everyone who helped make the evening such a successful and rewarding celebration of the arts at Ōtāhuhu College.

We are proud to announce our five Supreme Award winners for 2026:

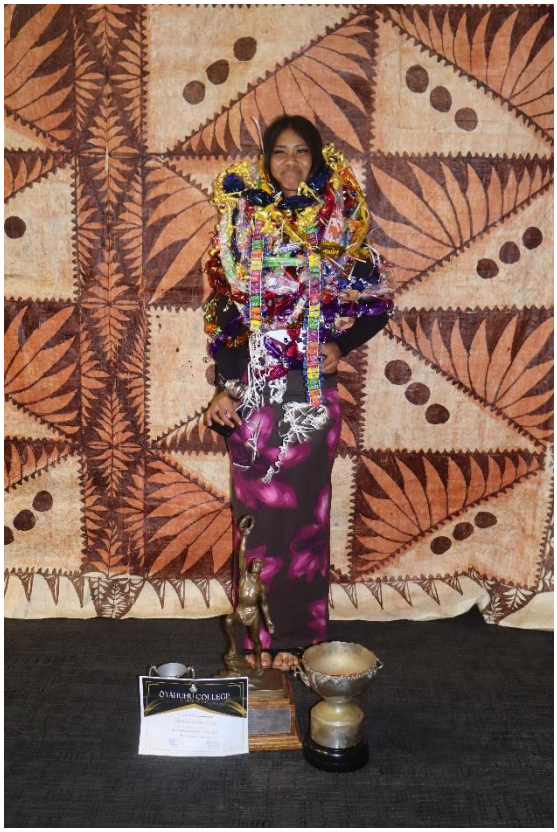
2026 SUPREME AWARD WINNERS

Visual Arts	**Nasreen Khawari**
Dance	**Trinity Taito**
Drama	**Sorenson Muavaa**
Music	**Halatau Teputepu**
Whakairo	**Beauty Tuakalau**

Congratulations to all our award recipients. Your talent, creativity and hard work are a credit to you and our school.

Sports News

A huge congratulations to our major sports award's winners for 2026:



Shaniya Chu kau – ***Sports woman and Sports Champion of the year!***

Peter Ohuafi – ***Sports man of the year!***

Blessing Eli – *Pasifika Futures Cup!*

Brian Wilson – *Pasifika Futures Cup!*

Roselie UOLO – *Endeavour Cup!*

Junior Tag Qualifiers

A huge congratulations to our Junior Girls Tag Team, who competed at the South Eastern Tag Tournament yesterday and secured a Top 4 finish, earning themselves a place at the Auckland Championships in early December!

A big shout-out also goes to our Junior Boys Tag Team, who had an outstanding tournament, finishing their pool games undefeated! Although their campaign came to an end in the quarterfinals, the boys should be proud of their efforts and the way they represented Otahuhu College.

Congratulations to both teams and thank you to the coaches and supporters who continue to get behind our student's week in week out.

Ms Pulusi, Ms Feterika and Mr Brown

Enrolments 2027

A reminder that we are still accepting enrolments for 2027.
Please collect a form from our school office or click the link below to apply online.
https://otahuhucollege.school.kiwi/enrolment

Required documents:
Birth Certificate / Passport
Visa / Proof of residency
Proof of Address
Most recent School report
Current phone number

Please note the following important dates:

Monday, 23 November 2026 – Entrance Examination and Orientation Day
Tuesday, 2 February 2027 – First day of school for Year 9 students