



## Otahuhu College Newsletter

Friday 9 April 2021

### From our Principal

It was great to welcome our students back after the Easter break looking refreshed and eager for the next eight school days. For our seniors they will have many assessments due, so it is important they manage their time well so they meet the deadlines for their assessments.

Humility is one of the most powerful and essential attributes of growth. Those with humility have pride in their accomplishments, and they know how to share their strengths by being mindful of the time, place and tone in which this takes place.

You can easily identify those who have pride. You will see them doing the following:

- Saying “good game” or “well done” to their opponent, whether they won or lost after a competition or game.
- Being open-minded to any feedback and allowing this to lead to improvement.
- Wanting the best for others rather than trying to harbour all success for themselves.
- Helping and supporting others.
- Look to improve themselves

I see this every day in a variety of ways at Ōtāhuhu College. It is an honour to be surrounded by young men and women who display these qualities.

### Important Dates

14 April	Music Showcase Year 13 Art Assessment Day
<b>16 April</b>	<b>End of Term One</b>
<b>3 May</b>	<b>Term Two Starts</b>
3 – 7 May	XXM Mobile Dentist
<b>13 May</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day</b>
20 May	Parent-Teacher Meeting

## Our Commitments

The behaviour focus for next week is on being supportive. This means more than just talking to our children about treating others like they would want to be treated. It also means being supportive in learning. School is, and should be challenging, the work must require thought, and mistakes have to be made if learning is to happen. A key part of being supportive at Otahuhu College is based around supporting each other in our learning, making mistakes and working hard to do better next time.

## Planning Ahead

Next term we will have available Chromebooks for students to borrow for the remainder of the year. There will need to be a \$100 deposit to cover the insurance cost if there is any damage, this will be refundable on the return of the chromebook. We will send more information out closer to the distribution time.

## Encourage your Children to Read:

The studies are endless regarding the impact reading can have on a child's development. There are strong correlations between reading for pleasure and learning skills, such as increased vocabulary, stronger cognitive development, and a greater ability to concentrate. Social-emotional skills of empathy and social interactions are also enhanced through reading for enjoyment.

The 2010 PISA data found that students who read more than once a week after the age of 10 generally scored 16 points higher on Maths, spelling, and vocabulary. And one correlation in 2011 found that people who read for pleasure outside of school were more likely to have managerial and professional jobs in later life.

So, with a long break ahead the more our students can read for their own pleasure during this time, the more they can set themselves up for academic success during the term. And pleasure is just that. Some students will want to escape into a novel, others will read an autobiography of their favourite sportsman, and others will want to pick up a magazine. It all counts.

## University Entrance

### How can we help our children to get to University?

- Every assessment counts, remember the key is to get 80 credits in university approved subjects.
- Working hard to get Merits is important, your child should be able to explain to you what they need to do to get Merit.
- Otahuhu College will be running tutorials before and after school and also during the holidays.
- Nearly all our students need to work on improving their vocabulary and writing, Otahuhu College will run some extra classes to help.
- Study is very important. We recommend thirty minutes a day for each U subject every day.
- How well your child does will come down to the externals, every exam is important.

We look forward to working together to help your child earn entry into University.

## Sports News

We have finally made it through to the end of the Summer sports programme with some pleasing results and we wish to thank all our students who took part in summer Sports teams and our families who came along and supported.

We would like to thank our former students who came along during the schools 90<sup>th</sup> Jubilee to support the school and compete against our current crop of students.

Here are a few highlights from our summer sports teams

- Senior Softball Girls winners of the Division 2 One Day Tournament
- Senior Girls winners of the Division 2 South East Tag Tournament
- 4 students qualified for Auckland Athletics Championship with two students finishing in the top 8.
- Senior Boys Tag Football Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the South East Zone competition
- Senior Girls Tag Football Team Finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the South East Zone competition
- Senior Boys Volleyball were unbeaten in the Zone Volleyball competition

We are now taking registrations for Winter sports in the following codes and teams

Rugby League Boys (Please see Teacher in charge)

Girls Rugby

Boys Rugby

Basketball (Please see Teacher in charge)

Netball

Soccer Boys

Soccer Girls

The following sports registrations are now being taken online through the following links

RUGBY

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/142847>

NETBALL

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/152912>

SOCCER

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/162727>

We would like to complete registrations by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Should you have any queries please contact the Otahuhu College Sports Department.

## Stem News

### Science Fun

For their Year 9 Matter assessment, students built a solar oven to cook S'mores. 9ON did a marvellous job as you can see their S'mores cooking:



Year 10 students created marble roller coasters in Science this week to find the link between distance, time and speed. They also find out that the slope of a structure will definitely have an effect on speed.



The Biology class is learning about animal and plant responses. Students did a series of practical experiments to observe the responses of worms – specifically taxis (directional response) and kinesis (non-directional response) – by exposing the worm to different stimuli. For example, they found that worms moved towards the damp towel (positive hydro taxis) but wriggled around when they dropped a drop of water on the ‘head’ end of the worms (hydro kinesis).



### Next Week's Science Tutorials

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3 - 4 pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHE2U (VKR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHE3U (TMU &amp; VKR)</li> <li>PHY2U (FLM)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BIO3U (KRB)</li> <li>BIO2U (HAR)</li> <li>PHY2U (MZK)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BIO3U (HAR)</li> <li>BIO2U (SWZ)</li> </ul>

### Next Week's Maths Activities

Every week during Break 2 on Wednesday, the following Maths clubs and tutorials are held:

- Junior Maths Clun – A10
- MAT1U Aiming for Excellence – STEM Hub (L2) with Ms Fleming
- MAT2U Tutorials – A9 with Ms Sweeney

## Career Information

The following students have been nominated by their Deans based on their good attendance and engagement/effort in class, for the **three-day inclusive** Learners Driver Licence programme.

This is from **Tuesday 27-Thursday 29 April from 9am-3pm**. All students **MUST attend for the three days**. Students need two specific types of ID as required by NZTA/VTNZ. Please discuss any ID issues with Ms Christine Cusack or Mr George Finau.

### **YEAR 13**

TUPOU Sione, TAUTI Lote, TIMOTI Tiane, SEETAI Luiz, PANAPA Folototo, VAKAU'TA KATOA Meliame, ROPATI Menelaus, OTANI Siosiana, NGAUE Simione, SILIVA Veisia, HOPOI Tau, SAMISONI Christian, TUIPULOTU David, PANETA Jared

### **RESERVES**

FUALAU Aukilani, HARRY Devon

### **YEAR 12**

DE BROUWER Nootai , MAHE Tavalu , MIKAIIO Samuel, TUTUNOA Jackson, UNGA Latu, VA'INGA Salome

### **RESERVES**

FA'AMU Mele, TUPOU Napoleon

## Library News

Read a book competition has definitely taken off, with a large amount of books being loaned out this term, over 300 books to date. The library offers and create opportunities for learning, support literacy and education. Our focus is to invite and encourage students to read more because of the benefits it has for their years at school and the future.

Our second winner for the Read a Book competition went to Y9 Willie Lomu Kei of Massey House. (Mr Roberts presenting Willie with his double pass movie tickets)



Leading up to Easter, we normally have activities for our Y9s such as an Easter hunt or an Amazing Race but the senior student librarians decided to create the Book Hunt.

You had to register a team, a team made up of 5 players. Each team was given a list of ten books to find in the fiction and non-fiction areas, the first team to have checked off their list, wins.

The competition was fierce and challenging, at times it was very close but The 'Uce crew' made up of 5 boys finished first. Congratulations to Fa'atupua Fulutusi, Dylan Tusani, John Matekuolava, Arcaedian Chu-Kau and Cruiz Huavi.

