



## Otago College Newsletter

Friday 30 July 2021

### From our Principal

The third term has started well and it was a pleasure to welcome back our students and welcome to our community three new staff members. The final touches are being put to the production and it is great to hear of so many ex students giving back to the College by helping in so many ways.

Changes announced to NCEA means that external assessments are going to become increasingly important. Our focus this year is to significantly increase the success of our students in the external exams. Families at home play an important part in this. Being able to study is a fundamental skill that all students at Otago College need to learn. Every student should be doing some study every night. . This can be as simple as reviewing what was learnt during the day and coming up with good questions to ask the next day. There are always key words to learn, facts to memorise and problems to practice. By establishing a routine around study at home you will be helping your sons and daughters be successful this year and into the future.

### Important Dates

4 August School production Wheelers Luck begins

10 August Teacher only Day

Enrolments are open for Next year. You can now do this on-line! View [Enrolment Application](#).

We encourage you to complete the on-line application but if you are unable to do this, you can either collect an enrolment pack from the Office, or we can send you a pack. Please email: [enquiries@otahucollege.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@otahucollege.school.nz) about this.

## 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.

## Junior School (Year 9-10)

### Junior English

Many of our year 9's are aspiring writers. Most of the classes have done poems last term and over the course of the first week of Term 3. The poem below is the work of Luana Patelesio Peteru, a student of 9RY. In this poem she expresses the importance of her family and friends and how they help shape her life and define her personality.

*Life is great*

*They say you only live once,*

*and that life will have its share of struggles.*

*But I have family and friends as my guide*

*That truly define who I am inside.*

*I have a loving and nurturing mother who is selfless and kind*

*And a strong and loving father who is inspirational and a man of great pride.*

*And a sweet and curious little sister who is adorable and beautiful*

*And a funny and caring younger brother who is energetic and playful.*

*I also have friends who have my back whenever I need them*

*Friends who are loyal and trustworthy to the end.*

*A friend who is honest and carefree of others opinion*

*A friend who is definitely one in a million.*

*A friend who is a true inspiration to me*

*A friend who is annoying like a buzzing bee.*

*A friend who is loud and defiant*

*A friend who cannot be tamed just like a wild lion.*

*I thank God for my family and friends*

*I love them all to the very end.*

*Because they are a true blessing in my life*

*Because they are the light in my heart that shines bright.*

*Luana Lulia Patelesio Peteru (9RY)*

## Year 12 and 13 University Entrance

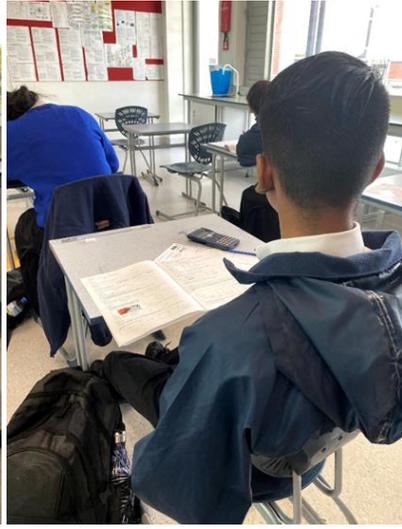
For Year 12 students, they need to be aware of their opportunities for University Entrance literacy credits. They need five reading and five writing credits and, for many, those writing credits come from external examinations. Some Year 13 students did not consider this last year and made some decisions in Level 2 exams that left them short on UE literacy.

Similarly, Year 13 students need to realise that their results do matter. Some wrongly believe that only Year 12 counts. While Year 12 is important for university scholarship and halls of residence applications, Year 13 is the key to actually getting into university. Students must achieve 14 credits in three UE-approved subjects and pass Level 3 overall. A failure to do either of those will cost students their university place.

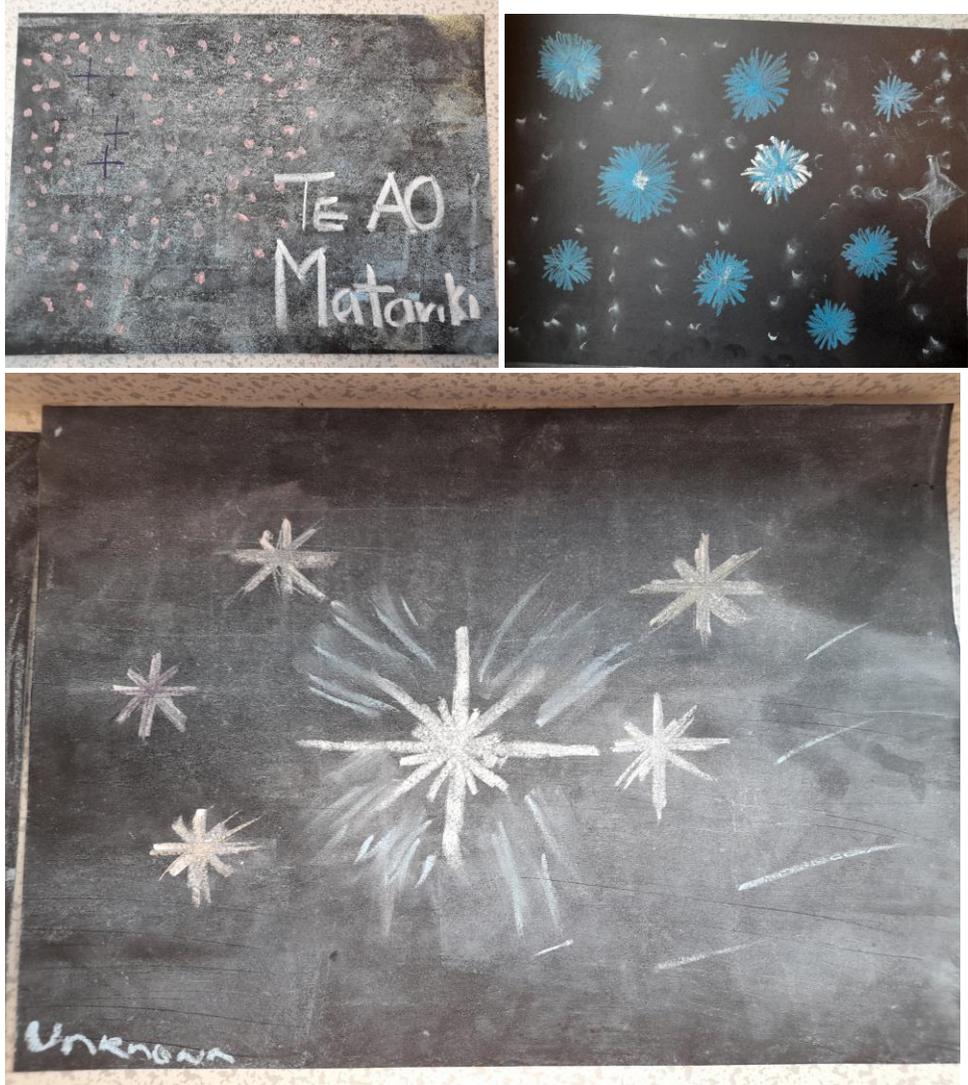
## STEM News

### Science Fun:

On Thursday two of our science classes (10GR and CHE2U) sat different levels of the International Chemistry Quiz (ICQ). They had one hour to work on multi-choice problems and are competing with students across Australia and New Zealand. We'll report on their results as soon as they are back!



Our Year 9 students are learning about Astronomy in Science classes this term. Today, 9EY created some space art to represent what they have learnt about Matariki.



Year 12 & 13 students once again attended this month's Women in Engineering Buddy Programme event at the University of Auckland. This event was hosted by Kiwibots and the students got to build, programme and compete with a VEX robot!



### Next Week's Tutorials:

	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Break 2	CHE2U (TMU)	CHE3U (TMU)		
3 - 4 pm		SCI1U (KRB)	BIO3U (KRB) SCI1U (OFA) BIO2U (HAR)	BIO2U (SWZ) BIO3U (HAR) CHE3U (VKR)

## Community News

Health & Wellbeing Centre:



### How to get enough water for your body in a day...

- Start with 1-2 glasses water in the morning when you wake up
- Bring a bottle to school and fill it up to drink between classes and break times.
- Serve all the family a glass of water at dinner time
- Add some fresh lemon or grapefruit juice for flavor and vitamin c (good for winter immunity)
- Drink extra if you have PE or sports
- Listen to your body - if you have dry lips, you may already be 5% dehydrated and need water
- Habits such as learning to drink more water and change your taste buds from sugary drinks take time and effort - hang in there, it's worth it!
- Download a water app