



Otago College Newsletter

Friday 23 July 2021

From our Principal

Welcome back to the third term.

It has been great to see so many students in during the holidays, attending tutorials and workshops as well as gaining valuable work experience. It is a real strength of the College that we have so many members of our community willing to use these breaks to help our students be successful.

Last term we highlighted the fact that students from Otago College are exceeding the national average in terms of qualifications at Level 1, 2 and 3. A key component to making this happen is the work that is being done in the Junior school. Our Year 9 and 10 students are showing significant improvement and we are looking forward to making this even better over the next two terms.

One clear area we need to improve on is our University Entrance rates. To gain University Entrance students have to gain 14 credits in three or more university approved subjects. We will be working with individual students around how we can help them achieve University Entrance.

We look forward to seeing all our students back on Monday, enthused and excited for the third term.

Important Dates

26 July	Term 3 Starts
4 August	School production Wheelers Luck begins
10 August	Teacher only Day

Our Commitments

Our commitment next week is to be respectful. Being respectful includes being aware of the language we use both at school and to and from school. Swearing is not acceptable, and can often make situations worse than they need to be. A key to success is keeping calm under pressure. Students also

demonstrate respect by the way they wear their uniforms, again this is both to and from school. The vast majority of students look well dressed as they come to school and thanks to all the families for your hard work which makes this possible. Just a reminder that our young men should be in school socks, or plain black socks.

Families and Friends Enrolling for Next Year

We welcome and strongly encourage families and friends to enrol their children in Otahuhu College before the end of September. This is very important in terms of our planning to provide your children the best possible education next year.

We also welcome enrolments from out of zone students, especially those who aspire to tertiary education and those seeking a values-based education for their children.



Please use the following link to apply:
[Enrolment Application.](#)

Uniform

Otahuhu College has a proud tradition and we expect students to take pride in wearing their uniform to and from school, and we seek your assistance in getting

things right. If your child is unsure of our uniform expectations, please refer them to the Deans. We have a great deal of pride in our achievements and want that reflected in how our students wear their uniform and the pride they have in Otahuhu College.

The uniform is available at NZ Uniforms in Manukau and also available online:
<http://otahuhucollege.nzuniforms.com/catalog/school-uniform-1103685.htm>

Correct school uniform is to be worn to and from school.

Students must be wearing completely black shoes, for health and safety reasons these must be enclosed shoes. Males are to wear school socks, pulled up. Females plain white socks.

No undergarments (T shirts etc) should be visible, unless a plain white short sleeved top.

There are Otahuhu College hats available, non uniform hats will be confiscated.

If students are wearing incorrect uniform, it is their responsibility to see the Dean first thing in the morning.

Students without a uniform pass will have items confiscated for the remainder of the term.

Start of School Day

- All students need to be onsite by 8:35 am.
- A student who arrives after 9:00am must report to the Deans where they will be signed into school.
- On the third time a student is late after 9:00am, the parents will be asked to meet with the Dean to resolve the issue.
- Further repeated late arrivals to school may result in disciplinary action, including being stood down for continual disobedience.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance means attending school at least ninety percent of the time.

Like other top schools we expect all our students to be at school on time each day. Students should be at school by 8:30am and it is their responsibility to be seated in the correct places for assembly. Your support in making sure your child is at school on time is appreciated.

If your child is going to be late or absent please phone the office 9634000 or alternatively 0800 4 OTAHUHU to leave a message on the absence voice mail before 8:00 a.m. You can also email attendance@otahuhucollege.school.nz

Each day a text message is sent out to families when their child has been marked absent up until 11 am. Please reply to this text letting us know where your child is.

There will be times when your child may be absent and for whatever reason the school has not been informed, in this case a note needs to be brought the first day back and given to the whanau teacher.

Traffic Safety for Students, Families and Visitors to OC

Students are to be dropped off either on Mangere Road or Golf Avenue, families are not to drive into the grounds to drop their children at school.

Visitors must park in the visitor carparks as directed by our Security guards.

If these car parks are full then you must park on the road.

The Golf Avenue gates will be closed from 8:30am to 3pm

It is important that we keep our students safe and your support in this matter is appreciated.

Curriculum and Study News

Is your child ready for their NCEA exams?

With term three upon us, practise exams are just around the corner, and final exams are only a few months away. We've compiled a checklist of questions below to help you figure out how ready for exams your child really is.

Does your child:

- Have clear goals for their exams?
 - Have a plan of when and what they are going to study?
- Know the gaps in knowledge/learning they have for each exam standard/topic?
- Feel confident about exams?
- Feel motivated to study?
- Have strategies to combat exam pressure and anxiety?
- Know how to study effectively?
- Use past exams to their full potential? e.g. practising under timed conditions?
- Feel confident in applying knowledge to different types of exam questions?
- Have a full set of notes, and knows exactly what they need to learn in order to succeed in their exams?
- Feel confident in how to best word answers in examinations in order to maximise their grades?

If you have more than three boxes unchecked, then our Deans and teachers are here to help

Sports News

Rugby News



On Thursday 15th July five of our girl's rugby team attended the Auckland South East U18 girl's trials held at Orakei Domain. They went through a series of core skill drills and fitness testing. The girls performed very well in all aspects of the skills day with Moana Uiese posting the best Bronco test of the day by running a sub-5-minute Bronco. On Friday 16th July the girls returned to Orakei Domain for a trial game against Auckland Central West U18 Girls trialist. Once again, the girls represented Otahuhu College with distinction and will now await the naming of the team which should happen in the next week or so.

We also have a number of boys who are still vying for spots in the Auckland U14 South team, U16 South Team and U18 Divisional Rugby teams who have also been running skills and testing days over the first week of the holidays. We are fortunate enough that the Auckland South U16 team has based themselves at Otahuhu College for training is has been coach by our very 1st XV coaches Mr. Steffan Minton and Mr. John Faumu and managed by Mrs. Leone Tuialii.

School Rugby

All rugby will resume at the start of term 3 with trainings for our boys teams on Tuesday and Thursday after school. Our 2nd XV will train on Wednesday and Thursday in the first week. In week one of the term all our rugby teams will be playing at home starting with our Girls team who will take on Mount Roskill Grammar on Monday afternoon.

Arts and Culture News

School Production 2021.

Our bi-annual school production opens on Wednesday August the 4th and it runs until Saturday August the 7th. Tickets will go on sale from lunchtime on Wednesday July 28th. There will be door sales on Wednesday and Thursday night but to avoid disappointment tickets should be purchased for the Friday and Saturday night performances. The ticket price is just \$7 and the show starts at 7:30pm each evening.

'Wheeler's Luck' is a comedy set in rural New Zealand. The story focuses on a community's response to an Auckland property developer's intention of buying land from the locals so that he can build a casino. This land 'Cox Point' has great historical significance to the locals and many of them won't allow this sale to take place without an epic fight. The play is a fast moving and physical comedy that features over 50 hard case kiwi characters. Wheeler's Luck has been successfully performed in a large number of New Zealand high schools and Otahuhu College are excited to be staging this show in 2021.

