



## Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### Important Notices

Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	Mathex Competition
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	Cook Island Language Week Maths Week
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Interfaith Week



## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

It has been an excellent start to the third term. Our Year 13 Ball was an outstanding event, with not even the rain dampening the amazing fashion and styles on display. On Thursday our First XV played the touring Samoa College as part of our drive for high performance sport. Most importantly classes have started well with all students working towards gaining UE@OC.

This week has also featured the Pasifika Futures Whanau Ora conference, where representatives of Pacific communities throughout the community met to discuss how to create a brighter future for all our families. A key message is the importance of quality education, of every student gaining the highest possible qualification while at school.

Over the July break I had the privilege to attend Harvard University. The "Achieving Excellence: Leadership Development for Principals" program at Harvard Graduate School of Education is designed to empower school leaders by providing them with the tools, frameworks, and support needed to lead their schools effectively. The program was a six-day intensive institute that brought together experienced principals from around the world to explore and refine their educational leadership skills. It was an amazing experience and most importantly will help our students achieve at even higher levels.

## 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. 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.

For our students to be engaged in their own education, they must be encouraged to read, ask questions, actively engage in discussions, write and learn to think critically about challenging material. Every mistake our students make, every question they ask, and every time they successfully struggle with a concept, their brain grows a little bit stronger and smarter.

## Book Shop

School Book Shop and Student services

HOURS 8.30 to 1.15

Monday to Thursday

CLOSED ON FRIDAYS



## Horticulture

Hort students put finishing touches to the school's newest garden, a tiny native garden that replaces some demolished sheds above the volley ball courts.



## Boxing Champion!

During the school holidays Devontaye Venasio H9 competed for Samoa in the Oceania Boxing Confederation Championships that were held in Tahiti. He won the Gold Medal in his division! Otago College is very proud of his efforts and wish him well as he continues to push towards his ultimate goal of representing New Zealand or Samoa at the Olympic games. Kia Tamatane Devontaye!





## Sports News

Welcome back to term 3 Sports. With Winter Sports ending and preparing for Nationals, we will start with summer sports later this term.

Winter Sports and Group Photos will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

## Study News

# HELP CENTRE

## ENGLISH

**HOMEWORK HELP**

**ASSESSMENT SUPPORT**

**LITERACY SKILLS PRACTICE**

This is a study space where you can get extra help, more practice and additional time to work on skills, homework and assessments.

This is an opportunity for students of all year levels to get extra guidance and support to help them achieve to the best of their ability.

**DETAILS:** Day: Every Thursday  
Time: 3pm-4pm  
Location: OC Library