



Ōtāhuhu College Newsletter

Friday 9th August 2024

Important Notices

Monday 12 th – Friday 9 th August	Interfaith Week MATHS Week
Monday 19 th – Friday 24 th August	Tongan Language Week
Friday 24 th August	Team Photos



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Kia orana to all our Otago College families. Cook Islands Language Week was a resounding success. We celebrated the rich tapestry of Cook Islands culture, heritage, and language with pride and enthusiasm. Our students embraced the opportunity to connect with their roots and learn about their heritage. We extend our sincere gratitude to our Cook Islands community for sharing their knowledge and passion with us.

Otago College is committed to providing a world-class education that equips our students for success. We are proud to support a more rigorous curriculum that is grounded in knowledge and critical thinking. This approach ensures our students develop a deep understanding of subjects and the ability to apply their learning in real-world contexts. By fostering intellectual curiosity and mastery of the basics we will be empowering our young people to become confident, capable, and engaged citizens.

Our Commitments

Our commitment next week is to be on time. We start each school day with a short assembly. A whole school assembly is more than just a gathering; it's a cornerstone for building a strong school community. By bringing the entire school together, we create a shared space for connection, celebration, and information sharing. These gatherings cultivate a sense of belonging and pride, reinforcing our core values and inspiring students through recognition of their achievements.

Furthermore, assemblies provide a crucial platform for effective communication. Important announcements, updates, and school-wide initiatives can be delivered efficiently and transparently. This open dialogue fosters a sense of shared purpose and keeps everyone informed about the school's direction and goals. By starting each day with a focused assembly, we set a positive and energized tone, creating a foundation for a successful and productive learning environment.

Ōtāhuhu College has been tolerating students turning up late to school for too long. From Monday students arriving after 9:30am must have a note from home explaining their lateness. Students after 9:30am without a note will be seen by senior management before being allowed onto our Campus.

National Award for Mr Tamati

Congratulations to Mr Tamati who has been awarded School Sport New Zealand (SSNZ) Service to School Sport Award. This award is a recognition of his exceptional commitment and contribution to school sport, acknowledging his dedication to promoting the values and spirit of sportsmanship within New Zealand's schools.





This award highlights the significant impact he has made in fostering a positive environment for student-athletes, encouraging participation, and upholding the principles of fair play and inclusivity. Mr Tamati's efforts have not only enriched the lives of the students he works with but have also set a commendable standard within the school sports community.

Parent Teacher Interviews

On Thursday 22nd August school will finish at 1:00pm. Parents/caregivers are invited to come into school to discuss your child's progress with each of their subject teachers. Meeting times available are 2:00pm to 7:00pm (all staff are unavailable between 5:00pm and 5:30pm). Each meeting is scheduled to last for 5 minutes and will take place in A-Block and the Library. These are approximate times and assist teachers with preparation. We appreciate your patience during the evening.

- To make an appointment click on the link or scan the QR Code:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/3remk>



Study News

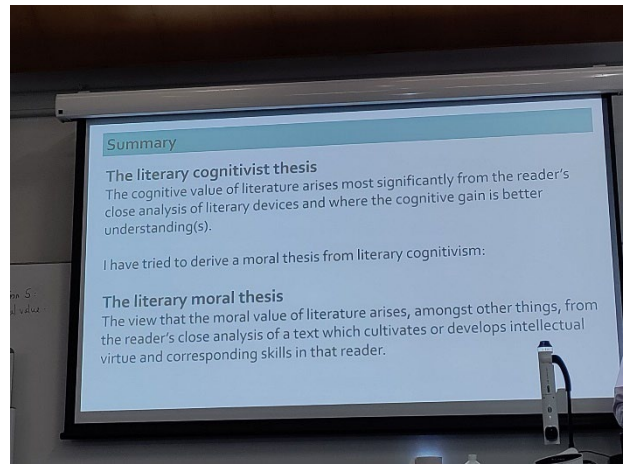
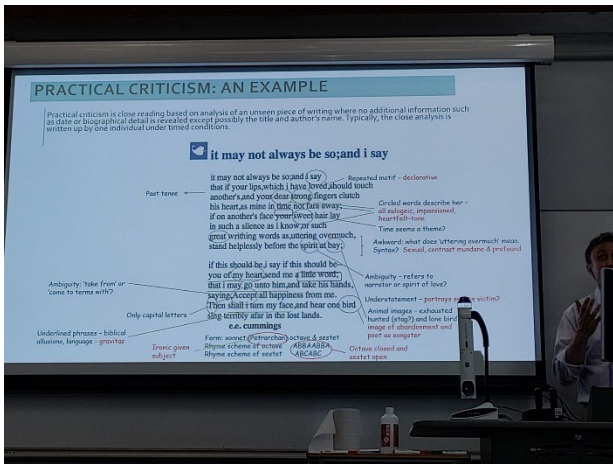


This week, we have some teacher study to report on! In 2020, Ms. Norgate received the Boscawen Staff Scholarship for overseas professional development due to school contributions. Unfortunately, COVID hit and then she gave birth to her daughter. Finally, in July of this year she made it across the world to Cambridge University, ranked 5th among the top universities in the world, it is one of the oldest in existence. Ms. Norgate gave her time to develop knowledge on new research and approaches to Autism



and the exploration into the Philosophy of Literature. Along the way, individual lectures into disparities in healthcare, literature analysis, Russian politics and biodiversity expanded her awareness of the world.

The study was intense! The expectations at university level are high and there is a lot of focus needed in the lecture room and during discussion with lecturers. The benefits of our staff heading overseas for professional development are that they get to experience varying global views and approaches to specific industries which they can bring back to inform their teaching and the growth of their students. Ms. Norgate feels that the study she has undertaken on the Philosophy of Literature can inform her English teaching, and her work on developing understanding of Autism can very much support the work she is doing as a Junior Dean at Ōtāhuhu College.



Junior School

9HB The highest engagement for a learning class in Term 2!

On Wednesday, Ms Norgate and Mr Andrews took all of 9HB on their reward outing. Each week, students are assessed on their engagement in classes and through Term 2 the Year 9 challenge was to be the most engaged class. 9HB came out on top and so we went for a day out at the Blues HQ.





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The visit had a heavy emphasis on Leadership and Communication. The students were able to discuss and present who are leaders in their lives and were also able to assess their communication styles to assist them in their learning.



There was plenty of opportunity for us to head outside to conduct team-building activities, and we even strolled on the training pitch in the middle of Alexandra Park. After some snacks and touch in Cornwall Park next to the HQ, we headed back to school. Students took part in a team challenge, texting them on their engagement during the visit with questions on the Blues set up, team players, communication styles and fun facts we learnt throughout the day. An awesome day out and well-earned 9HB!



Our Year 9 Engagement competition for Term 3 is to find the most engaged student in each learning class. The tables were reset at the beginning of term and there can only be 9 winners – game on!

[STEM News](#)

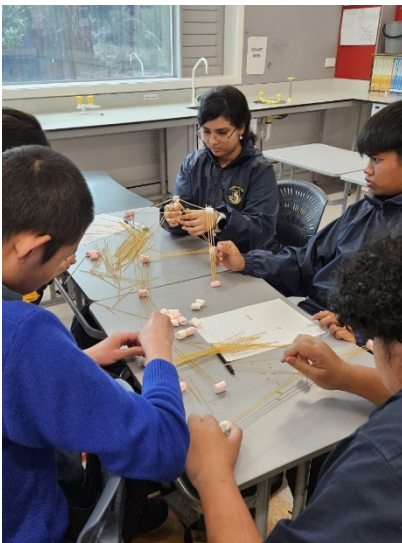
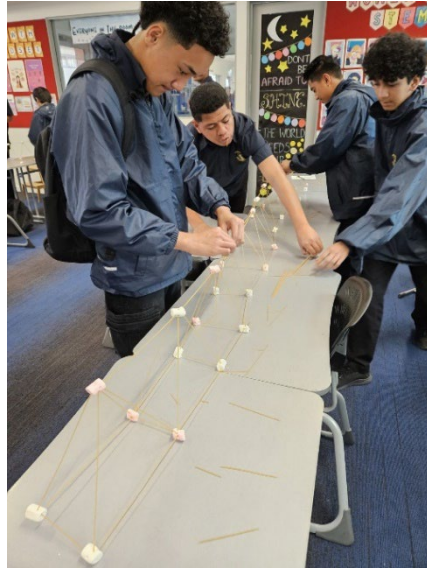
[SPIES SI'I Outreach In-School Visit](#)





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On Monday 29 July and Wednesday 31 July, South Pacific Indigenous Engineering Students Association (SPIES) from the University of Auckland (UoA) spent time with our Y10 science students. The students learnt about what engineering is, the benefits of a career in engineering and the difference between the 10 engineering specialisations available at the University of Auckland. There was a hands-on activity where they built a structure out of spaghetti strands and marshmallow. The students were awarded points based on how stable it is and if it is the longest structure in class.





Pacific Health Wayfinder In-School Visit

On Tuesday 30 July, University of Auckland Pacific Health Wayfinders spent time with our Y12 and Y13 science students for an informative presentation about their programme, new team, events coming up in the Term 3 school holidays and what a future degree in Health and Medical Sciences look like.



EPro8 Challenge Auckland Heats Competition

The EPro8 Challenge Auckland Heats Competition was hosted at One Tree Hill College on Thursday 25 July for our Senior Teams and Pakuranga College on Thursday 1 August for our Junior Teams. We sent five teams to represent Otahuhu College in this competition.

It was an intense competition where the students created and added circuitry to their built structures to gain as many points as possible in 2.5 hours. The competition had four challenges which the students could choose from which included the rollercoaster, scooter, washing machine and air conditioning system.

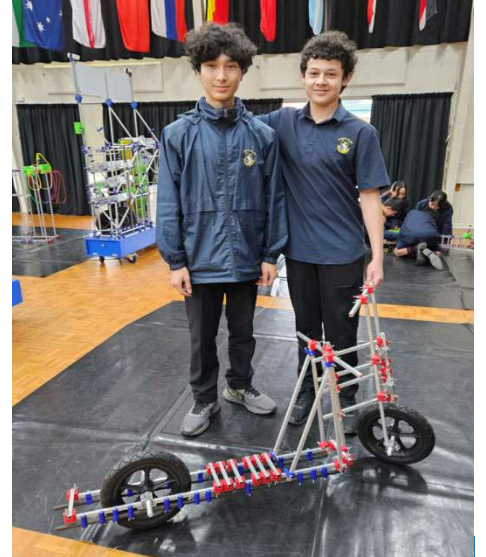
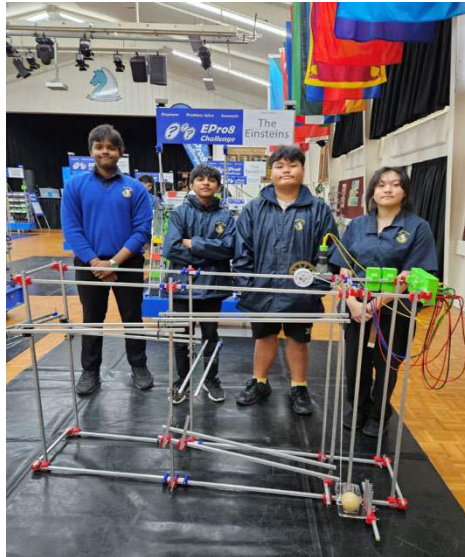
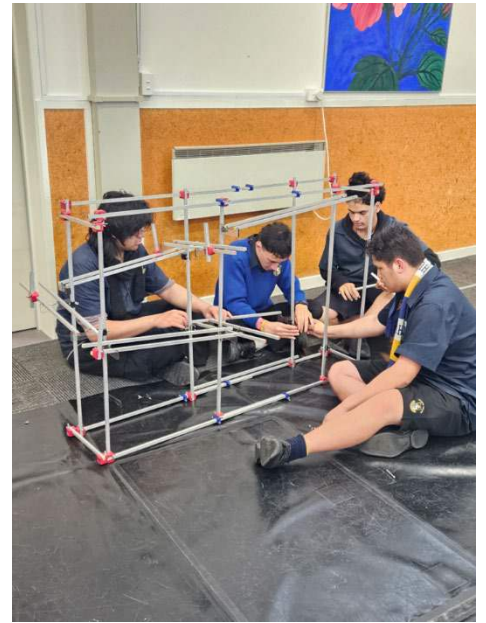
The Senior Teams included Y13 team "Archiebogen" and Y11 team "psch." The Y11 team came in 2nd place and the Y13 team came in 3rd place. The Y11 team made it through to the semi-finals which will be on Wednesday 14 August. The exceptional outcome is due to the hard work of our amazing Y11 and Y13 students dedicating their time towards after school practices in Term 2-3 and school holidays.

The Junior Teams included Y9 team "Ravages," Y10 team "10HB," and Y10 team "The Einsteins." The Junior Teams did not make it to the semi-finals for their Auckland Heats competition as The Einsteins came 5th place, Ravages came 7th place and 10HB at 10th place. The students had good fun and were exposed to regular EPro8 Challenge Competitors from East Auckland high schools.





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Curriculum News



Mrs Tuialii is preparing for an Ei Katu workshop in the library.

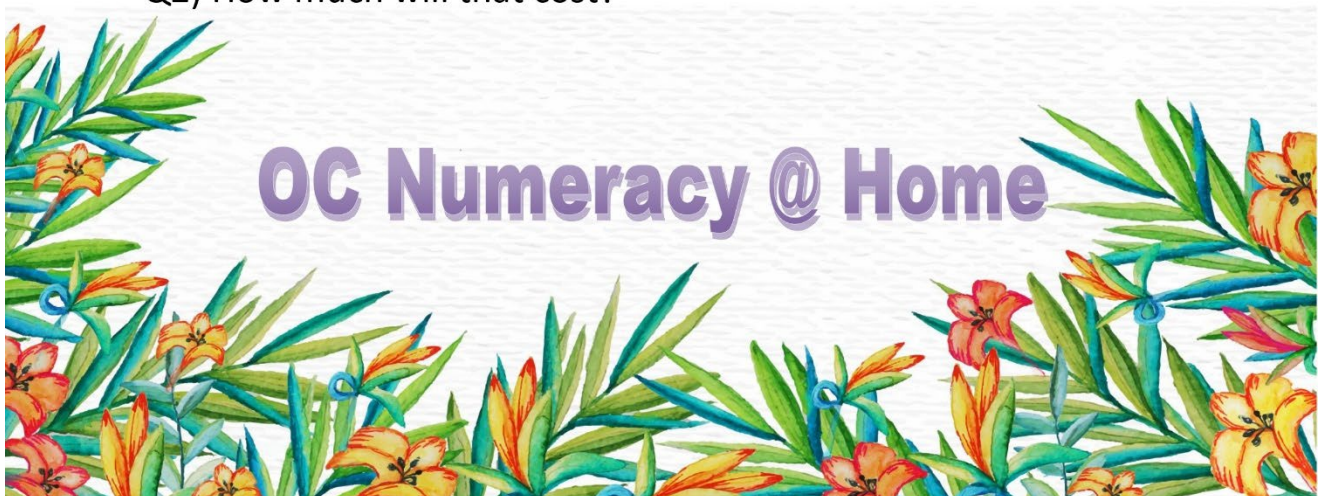
A student uses an average of 12 large flowers when making their Ei Katu.

Spotlight sells mixed flower bags for \$14.

Each bag contains around 28 flowers.

Q1) If 25 Students want to make an Ei, how many bags of flowers will need to be purchased?

Q2) How much will that cost?





Pathway to Careers

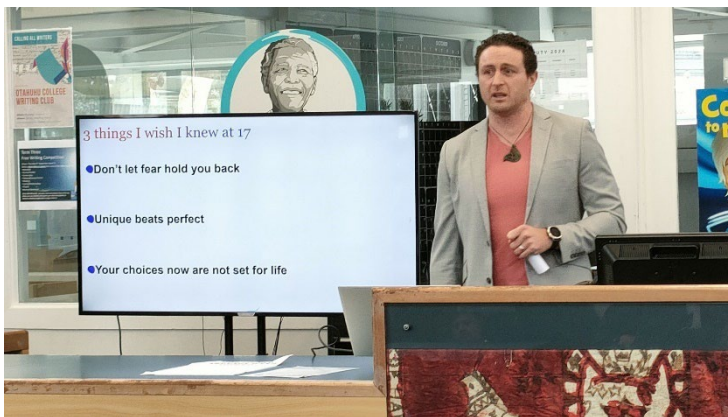
Gareth Robertson from Scitex (Science and Technical Recruitment Specialists) coordinated speakers from different industries to present to our year 12 and 13 students at the start of term 3. The presentation's aim was to give our students insight into their career journeys for inspiration and motivation. Some of the highlights were Mahara Inglis's acceptance into University of California, Berkeley and CEO of MitoQ, Blake Noble, Director Halls Group, a successful Transport & Logistics business which started from his family business and Frosey Veneke's successful nursing career. We will continue to work with Scitex to bring speakers and have the recruitment team give our students tips for CV writing and interview preparation.

Frosey Vekene – Speaker, Lead Nurse

Mahara Inglis – Speaker, Business Leader (Biotechnology)

Sarah Coad – Scitex

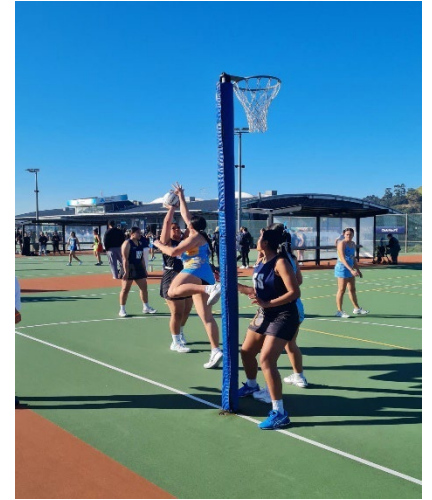
Risiti Samaauga – Scitex





Sports News

On Wednesday our school participated in the Combined point Netball Tournament at Auckland Netball courts. We had a Senior girl, Y10A girls, Y9 girls and for the first time ever a boys' team. They played a great tournament in which they gained experience. Netball continues to grow at Otahuhu College.







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

Thank you to our sponsors

