



## ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Three, Week Six – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

# SCIENCE FACULTY

## LET IT GROW

In Let It Grow we have been learning about the conditions necessary for seed germination and practiced our biological drawing skills by drawing diagrams of germinating seeds. We have explored the parts of plants and the nutrients that plants need to thrive. We have planted some seeds in the outdoor garden and now we are exploring how well plants can grow inside under lamps that are set on a timer. We are hoping our spinach, pak choi and broccoli produce food for us in our growing pod.

## STEAMing Ahead

In STEAMing Ahead, STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. We have been learning about energy types, energy transfers and simple machines. This includes learning that even though springs and rubber bands can do similar things, springs behave predictably and rubber bands do not. We have learned that a compromise between speed and torque needs to be made in gear applications. Using our Lego kits we have explored different uses for levers. Most recently we have explored the mechanical advantage that pulley systems can provide and enable us to carry out tasks that we cannot accomplish by ourselves.

## PAPER 4 TREES

Paper4trees is a waste minimisation and tree planting programme for New Zealand schools and preschools.

As an incentive to divert as much paper and cardboard from landfill as possible, schools are rewarded with one native tree/plant for every two cubic metres of paper and cardboard recycled.

To date, Ōtorohanga College has received 20 native trees that have been planted by students in our native tree grove.



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# INTERHOUSE CHESS

The annual Ōtorohanga College Inter-House Chess Competition has wrapped up for another year, and what a tournament it was! Students from all four Houses—Brown, Hotson, Eveleigh and Kedgley—showed up with their strategic A-game, ready to outmaneuver their opponents.

T4 was abuzz with quiet concentration as students faced off in a series of tense matches that ended up spanning 7 rounds to find the junior champion! There were only three senior students available due to other College commitments. The level of play was exceptionally high, with some thrilling upsets and clever checkmates. After a hard-fought battle, it was Kedgley House who emerged victorious, demonstrating incredible skill and teamwork to claim bragging rights. They earned 57 House points as well as having the junior champion Rob Ibay.

Eveleigh came second with 28 House points and can claim the senior champion Katie Raine. Just behind Eveleigh was Hotson on 26 House points. Brown House Leaders for 2026 will have to rally the troops for more participants next year.

A special congratulations goes to all the competitors for their sportsmanship and House spirit. The competition was a testament to the talent we have at our College and our annual Inglewood High School exchange will be very interesting in 2026 with the skills shown in our junior players! Well done to everyone who participated and a huge shout-out to Kedgley for their strategic brilliance! We cannot wait to see who takes home the title next year.



# GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our College golf team with support from coach Kase recently showcased their skills in the Waikato 2025 Pro-Drive Junior Pennants Tournament, competing against 15 other local clubs over three weekends. The team, consisting of Kase, Zeppelin, Jessica and Levi put in a fantastic effort over three challenging rounds played at the Ngāhinapōuri, Matamata and Huntly golf courses respectively.

With a series of impressive drives and precise putts, our team members consistently demonstrated great sportsmanship and determination. Their hard work paid off, as they secured a respectable 8th place finish overall. This is a commendable result and we are incredibly proud of their dedication and teamwork throughout the tournament.

A huge congratulations to Levi, Kase, Zeppelin and Jessica for representing our College and Waitomo Golf club so well. We look forward to seeing what they achieve in future tournaments! A special mention to Cooper who was still working on getting his handicap, but faithfully supported the team at each event.

Finally thank you to Kase Walters-Koroheke for giving of his time on Wednesday afternoons for our practices to help the junior golfers. The future of golf is looking bright with the growing talent in the junior ranks of our team.



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# YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 EXPERIENCE DAY

On Tuesday morning, Ōtorohanga College welcomed the Year 7 and Year 8 students from our contributing primary schools for a special Experience Day. The purpose of the day was to give students a taste of College life and the chance to get to know our grounds, teachers and each other in a supportive and engaging way.

The morning began with a sense of quiet nervousness as students stepped into a new environment, however, as they rotated through a variety of hands-on activities, this quickly shifted into laughter and excited chatter. From cooking challenges in Ready, Steady, Cook, to scientific discovery in Science is Real, to creating Memory Images, Making Music and competing in Multisport, the day was filled with fun and learning.

By the end of the day, the smiles and energy spoke for themselves - our future College students left with new experiences, friendships and confidence about what lies ahead.



## KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

UNISS Netball Tournament - 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August

Girls' Football Tournament - 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August

Photolife Team Photographs - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Netball End Of Season Celebration - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Reports emailed to parents - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September

Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September

CAA Writing - Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

CAA Reading - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September

CAA Numberacy - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September

Term 3 ends - 19<sup>th</sup> September

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