



# ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Three, Week Four - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## MATHS FACULTY

Just like that we are almost halfway through the term. The Junior classes have both been working on Algebra and their classroom-based topic assessments will also be happening in the next week or two. The Year 9 students will end the term focusing on Probability. Mr Buckley has been running a tie experiment with his class. Each day he rolls a die to see if he gets an odd or even number. Odd numbers and Mr Buckley wears a tie and even numbers he wears an open neck shirt for the day. The Year 10 classes will end the term with a focus on circular measurements and the wonderful world of Pi will be revisited.

The Senior students have completed internal assessments and many of them are now preparing for our Derived Grade Exams coming up in Week 6.

### MATHS WEEK

Maths week is from 11 - 15 August. This year there are lots of different activities happening that students can get involved in.

- Daily Question: This will be in the notices each morning - Can you solve them all?
- Guess the Median: Have a guess, at the end of the week how close are your guesses to the median value of everyone's guesses?
- Check out the window in Mr Buckley's class in T4. Can you decipher the hidden math words?
- Giant Tangram: Outside the staffroom there will be a giant tangram set up. How many pictures can you make?

There are prizes for taking part so get amongst it!

### WAIMATHS COMPETITION

We are going to be taking a Year 9 and a Year 10 team to the annual WaiMaths competition on Thursday 21st August at Hamilton Boys High School. Next Wednesday, the Mathematics Faculty will be holding our own Maths competition in A1 to determine who will represent Ōtorohanga College in 2025. The WaiMaths competition is all about problem solving, teamwork and working under pressure. Do you think you have what it takes? Come along and give it a go!

### LUNCHTIME HELP

Lunchtime help has started again for the term with Miss Wards in A1. The focus for Wednesday is practice for the Numeracy CAA and Thursday is for Seniors who are working towards their end of year exams. Students are welcome to bring work, pop in with a question or use the space to work on some tasks - everyone is welcome to come along.



### RULES OF THE TIE

Mr Buckley living with probability!

For the first 8 weeks of Term Three, Mr Buckley has been running a probability experiment with his Year 9 students.

Odd numbers mean I wear a tie and even numbers Mr Buckley goes tie free for the day.



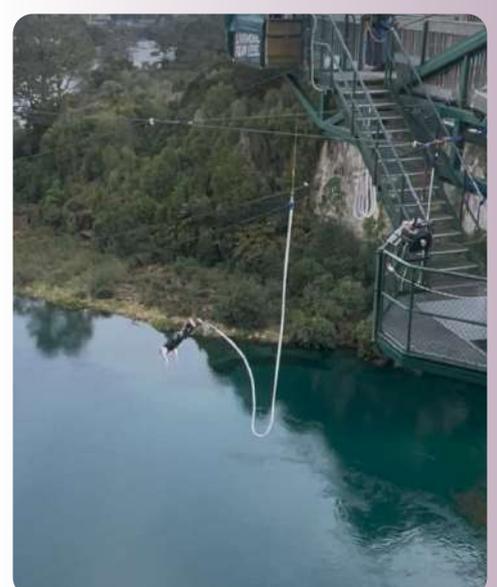
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# Blue Light Awards

Blue Light awards recognise young people's achievements and leadership skills.

On Monday, a group of students were recognised for their outstanding attendance, engagement and attitude towards learning. The lucky recipients travelled with Aunty Mickey and Brenton Irwin to AJ Hackett Bungee in Taupo for a complimentary bungee jump, followed by lunch.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of Police Officer Brenton Irwin and appreciate his support within the College and the opportunity to recognise the many amazing students we have in our community.



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# SQUASH NATIONALS

The journey to Wellington brought drama with the tsunami warnings with conversation around what the coastal areas might look like around the Wellington region. The highlight of day one was the guided tour of Weta Workshop. After, the team settled into a massive mansion high on a hill overlooking Lower Hutt.

The second day saw the start of the competition with the team playing 3rd seed, Whangarei Girls and then 4th seed, Te Awamutu College. Round three was played against 19th seed Wainuiomata/Sacred Heart. Unfortunately, our team did not win a match against very strong opposition.

The girls opened the third day with play against Sacred Heart, New Plymouth. Every game was tightly contested, with long rallies and determined play on both sides. Our team narrowly missed out on the win.

Spirits remained high though and we made the most of our break with a trip to the bowling alley—ten pin bowling, pool and table tennis.

Round 5 was played against Westlake Girls. Again, it was a hard-fought match with strong performances, but the result did not go our way.

Our final round of the day was at 6pm against Greymouth. Every game was close and could have gone either way. Friendships were formed with other players and although results did not go our way there was growth and learning.

On the final day we made a stop at the Ricoh Sports Centre to watch a few final matches and support the remaining teams. We then said goodbye to the capital and headed north. A stop near Mount Ruapehu gave us a last chance to stretch our legs and take in stunning views before settling in for the long drive back. After plenty of music, naps and car games, we finally made it home around 7:30pm—tired, but full of stories, memories and new friendships from an unforgettable trip.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to the New Zealand Secondary Schools Squash Association for organising such an incredible event. Thank you also to our College community and supportive parents. Special thanks go to Mr Grey, our teacher, Tina, our parent support, Cheryl, our amazing manager and Liam, our dedicated coach. Your encouragement, time and effort made the whole experience possible—and truly memorable.



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# SHADOWTECH

ShadowTech offers girls in Years 9-11 an opportunity to discover the world of tech, spark their curiosity and explore a variety of career pathways. Matched with local tech companies, students gain hands-on experiences to imagine their future career and gain an insight into the varied roles on offer within tech. Ōtorohanga College was partnered with the New Zealand Police this year and on Wednesday 6 August 20 of our students made the haerenga to the Hamilton Police Station.

Throughout the day, our ākonga were introduced to the different ways digital technology is used across modern policing. We examined fingerprints left at a pretend crime scene, communicated over police radio and experienced the district command centre. Our sessions were mainly led by female police staff, inspiring our girls to aim for the stars.



# ACTIVE AS GAMEFIT

What a great day a group of our students and staff had at the Gamefit workshop that WINTEC in Hamilton hosted. A big THANK YOU to Sport Waikato and Gamefit for this amazing day. They have provided our kura with ten VR headsets to bring back to the College, with the purpose of enhancing areas of our curriculum learning through the use of virtual reality apps, starting with Physical Education.

Our five students were excellent ambassadors for our College and keen participants, taking on some of the fitness games on offer. Mr Wilken got into it and had a go alongside them. We can proudly say that these five students are budding leaders for this new initiative at Ōtorohanga College and quickly picked up how to care for and correctly use the VR gear we have been gifted.

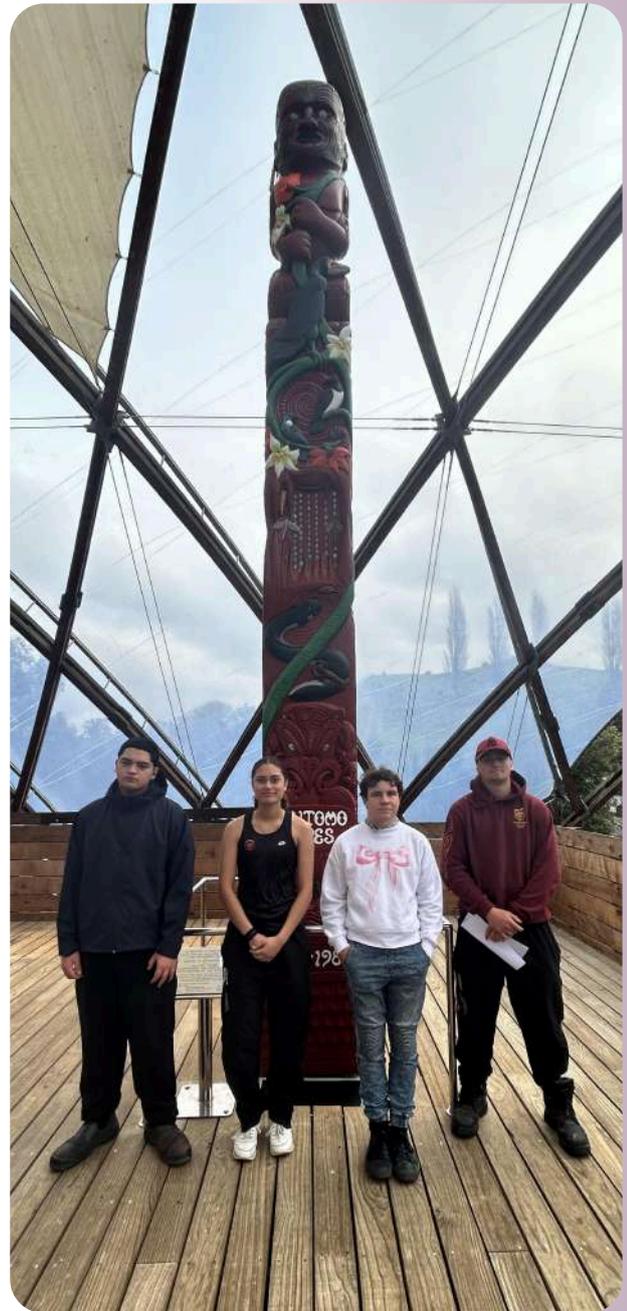


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# L2 TOURISM TO WAITOMO

Our classroom was not the usual classroom, instead our Level Two Tourism class, was exploring the subterranean world of the Glowworm Cave, in a moderate 13-degree climate. Guided by former student Taylor Burgess, we filled our kete with extensive information about *Arachnocampa Luminosa*, pūratoke, limestone, cave formations and the history of the original discovery by local chief Taane Tinorau and Fred Mace.

The students finished the lesson at the restaurant, completing an assessment that investigates the different roles in a tourism business. Our classroom was rich with information and allowed students to see firsthand the different job roles needed to run a tourism business. It was exciting to see the many former students in various roles at the Glowworm Cave, from ticketing, guiding, hospitality, to managerial roles.



## KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Derived Grade Exams - 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August
- Year 7 and Year 8 Experience Day - Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August
- UNISS Netball 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
- Waiwaia Festival - 18<sup>th</sup> September
- Term 3 ends - 19<sup>th</sup> September

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