

# ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term One, Week Four – Monday 19th – Friday 23rd February 2024

### PATHWAYS DRIVING SIMULATOR

For a long time the College has enjoyed a productive relationship with the Ōtorohanga Employment Hub in order to maximise the pathways opportunities we offer our ākonga. This partnership has now reached another level through the Mayors Task Force for Jobs having donated a GoDriver Driving Simulator to the College. Already popular with students, this will greatly aid those working towards their driver licences. This week, Max Baxter, came by to try out this awesome piece of technology.



### HEADZUP LEADERSHIP DAY

Thursday saw our Student Leaders rolling out of bed in the dark, braving the early morning crispness in the air, getting dressed in their Number Ones and heading to the HeadzUp Leadership Day in Hamilton.

Our Leaders were part of a group of more than 160 students from secondary schools in and around the Waikato and they got the opportunity to:

- Reflect on their personal leadership attributes and experiences and those of others
- Broaden and develop the skills to lead within their own unique support network
- Build effective relationships with others and develop a leadership support network by networking with leaders in similar roles from other schools
- Encourage a personal vision of leadership that encompasses the roles and responsibilities of being a leader within and beyond the school gates



### NEW TOILET FACILITIES

A student survey conducted at the end of 2023 highlighted the need for more toilet facilities at the College. This week saw the arrival of our new temporary toilet block on site. The compliance documents are with the Council at the moment and we hope to have them ready for use for our students in the very near future. The Board is also working on the renovation of toilet facilities in the Hall by the Music room for use very soon.



### BOOK CLUB

What a turn out for our first Book Club meeting in the Library at Lunchtime on Thursday. For our first meeting we started with introductions, shared our favourite genres and talked about how we want to get this Club off the ground. It was so awesome to see so many enthusiastic readers.





## SQUASH

2024 has started with fantastic new opportunities for our students as we begin our journey with junior development in squash. During the first training session students learned about the sport and basic fundamentals. It was a great learning environment to be part of and we look forward to developing our skill level each week.



## SCIENCE

Year 9 Science students have begun the Mixing and Separating Unit by investigating the solubility of substances.

The students have enthusiastically begun experimenting on the properties of everyday substances.

## HEALTH AND PE FACULTY

Term 1 is always an exciting term in the Health and PE Faculty as we prepare for swimming and athletics days. Junior and Senior classes have been practicing and building their confidence in a range of different events. As always, we encourage students to sign up and participate in as many events as possible.

The Year 13 PE class has been developing their tennis skills which links nicely to their first assessment.

BoxFit, Train2Gain and Netfit are all thriving Junior Modules. It is heartening to witness the growth of their interpersonal skills through these practical endeavours. In Health, the extended lesson time for Juniors has provided a valuable opportunity to delve deeper into crucial health topics, empowering students with knowledge and understanding to make informed choices for their wellbeing.



**Empowering learners to succeed**



## BADGING CEREMONY

Providing students with opportunities to show leadership is one way to enhance a sense of belonging and connectedness here at the College.

Today during assembly we had our annual Badging Ceremony. It is an event where we take the time to honour our Head Students and the House Leaders as well as recognise students who had a specific course or their NCEA Certificate endorsed at Excellence level in 2023. During the ceremony Student Leaders and Academic Award Winners received a badge and a certificate. These students nominated a family member or friend for the honour to badge them during the ceremony.



**Empowering learners to succeed**



# Farewell Mrs Joyce

Today marks the day we bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Nikita Joyce as she sets out on her much-awaited and well-deserved maternity leave.

As we prepare to embark on this new chapter without her, we express our heartfelt support. As she creates cherished memories together, we wish her nothing but the very best and hope that this time will be filled with joy, love and warmth.

Mrs. Joyce's absence will be deeply felt by both students and staff alike. We will miss her positive and bubbly personality and her engaging and fun classes which left an indelible mark on the minds of her students. Her friendship and camaraderie, which forged lasting bonds with all who knew her, will leave a void in our hearts.

Mrs. Joyce, we will miss you dearly, but we look forward to meeting the newest addition to the Joyce family and sharing in your joy.



## FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Athletics Day Thursday 29th February

Swimming Sports Tuesday 6th March

Teacher Only Day Friday 8th March

Empowering learners to succeed