



ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Two, Week Nine - Monday 23rd June - Friday 27th June 2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Lyndsay Kurth

Dear parents, caregivers and whānau

As we reach the end of a busy and rewarding Term Two, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements of our students and the dedication of our staff. This term has been filled with academic successes, sporting triumphs, creative endeavours and a strong sense of community spirit.

Our students have worked with focus and resilience and I am incredibly proud of their effort and growth. A special mention goes to those who have taken part in competitions and extracurricular activities, proudly representing our College with determination and integrity.

I would also like to extend heartfelt thanks to our teaching and support staff. Their unwavering dedication, care and professionalism ensure that each student is supported and encouraged to thrive. Their work is the foundation of everything we achieve as a College.

To our parents, caregivers and whānau – thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Your encouragement, involvement and belief in the importance of education make a genuine difference. We truly value the role you play in creating a positive and supportive learning environment.

It is also timely to acknowledge the vital role our wider community plays in the life of the College. We believe that education is a shared responsibility and strong connections with our community help to enrich the opportunities and experiences we can offer our students.

That is why our Community Strategic Goal this year is to strengthen partnerships between the College and our wider community. We are committed to building even closer relationships with families, local businesses, organisations and alumni, so that together we can create meaningful pathways that support student learning, growth and future success.

This term, we have seen wonderful examples of this in action -

- Head Students attended the ANZAC Commemorative Service
- The inaugural Colour Run was live streamed on Facebook
- The Armed Offenders Squad used the College Hostel as a training ground
- Pink Shirt Day raised funds for the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand
- Junior students refereed at the Combined Otorohanga Primary Schools Winter Sports
- Students from Kyoai Gakuen High School in Japan visited the College
- Seeds Woolworths - students gained hands-on experience in a bustling retail environment
- TechStep Careers Expo for Year 10 students
- Elevate Business Breakfast hosted at the College
- Dreaming Big Conference in Hamilton
- O Factor finals where judges from the community generously shared their time and wisdom
- Tough Guy / Gal Challenge where our students embraced the challenge of the event
- Inglewood Sports Exchange was a great day of competition and camaraderie
- Matariki Celebration Day where judges from the community generously shared their time, wisdom and support
- Music and Drama Performance Evening where friends and family celebrated our students' talent and creativity
- Two College Comment features in the King Country News
- Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences where the College's Baristas made barista style beverages for parents

As we move forward, we will continue to explore new ways to foster relationships, ensuring that our students benefit from our strong, supportive and connected community.

As we approach the holiday break, rest, recharge and spend quality moments with family and friends.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can build a strong, connected College community.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful break.

Lyndsay Kurth
Principal

Empowering learners to succeed



FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

HAUORA

This term has been packed with so many opportunities and experiences both in and out of the classroom. As we head into the next couple of weeks for mid-year term break, it is the perfect time to disconnect to reconnect!

Here are a few ways we can all try:

- Spend quality time with your people.
- Try not to let your phone be the first thing you connect with in the morning and the last thing you connect with at night.
- Ensure you are getting enough sleep.
- Make meal times screen-free zones.
- Aim for at least an hour outdoors each day without your phone.

Have an amazing, restorative break! We cannot wait to see you back, refreshed and ready to tackle Term 3.



TARGETS



Student Recognitions Awarded to students to date



Students at 90% Attendance Rate Target



KOMODO Student Social Wellbeing Score Overall



Student Recognition Assembly Prize Draw

- Year 9 Deziah Baker
- Year 10 Paige Cropp
- Year 11 Leah Parnwell
- Year 12 Jess Buckley
- Year 13 Tegan Bentley



Attendance Assembly Prize Draw

- Year 9 - Dhruv Sharma
- Year 10 - Emily Xu
- Year 11 - Kobe Koroheke
- Year 12 - Katie Raine
- Year 13 - Holly Church



DON'T MISS OUT!

Coming up in Term 3

In Week 2, Voices of Hope will visit us to address the entire student body, discussing anti-bullying, general mental health, finding hope and encouraging help-seeking behaviours.



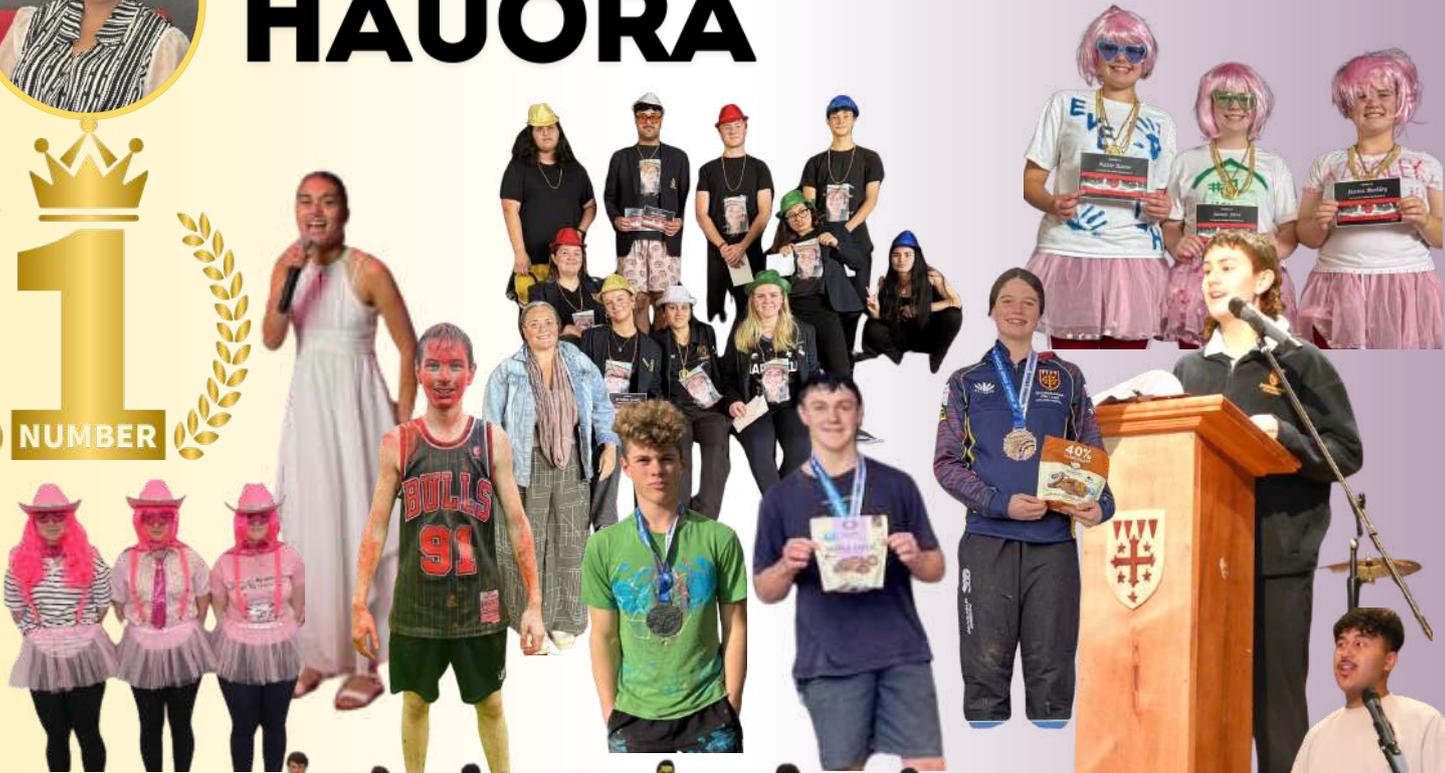
Jazz and Genevieve will share their personal stories, highlighting the message that 'it's not weak to speak.' They aim to leave students with new tools to support their wellbeing, with a great deal of hope! More information of their visit is shared on our Facebook page.





FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

HAUORA



HOUSE POINTS UPDATE



ANZAC BROWN

ATHLETICS HOTSON



PI DAY EVELEIGH



280

280



X COUNTRY KEDGLEY



SWIMMING BROWN

250

310



ŌFACTOR KEDGLEY

PINK SHIRT DAY EVELEIGH



MATARIKI KEDGLEY

Competitions Coming Up



CHESS



HOUSE CHANT



READING COMP



TUG O WAR



TIK TOK



ATTENDANCE RECOGNITIONS





FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

As Term Two comes to an end, we want to celebrate the following students for their hard work and dedication to their studies.



Hannah Burgess

2 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Phoenix Classen

5 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



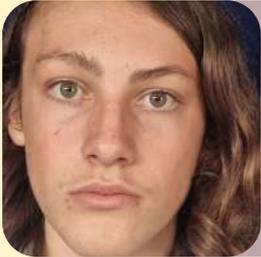
Awhina Davis

5 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Wharenui Hansen

5 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Luke Lamborn

7 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



Xayin Connolly

10 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



Karla Davey

15 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Leah Parnwell

15 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Amelia Fare

20 Level 1 Excellence Credits in 2025



Aaliyah Jones

4 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



Amber-Lee Berntsen

4 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



Moana Oakley-Tupou

5 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



Aviva Mudge

7 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025

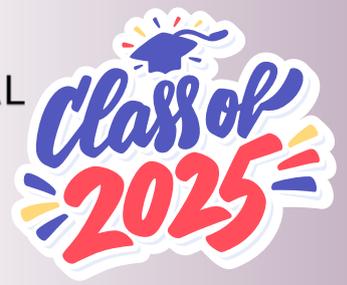


Quincey-Lee Marsters

8 Level 2 Excellence Credits in 2025



FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Jessica Buckley
9 Level 2+ Excellence Credits
in 2025



Lindsay Miller

13 Level 2 Excellence Credits
in 2025
NCEA Level 1 Endorsed with
Merit



Jamie Fare 
42 Level 2+ Excellence Credits
NCEA Level 1 Endorsed with
Excellence



Katie Raine

52 Level 2+ Excellence Credits
NCEA Level 1 Endorsed with
Excellence



Ethan Lamborn
4 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025

Grace Paturunui-Todd

4 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025



Cameron Russell
4 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025

Tenanoa Tiimi

4 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025



Alavina Latu
4 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025



Kate Murchie

8 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025
NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with
Merit



Samiah Grey 
12 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025
NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with
Merit



Courtney Smith

12 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025
NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with
Merit



Tegan Bentley 
16 Level 3 Excellence Credits
in 2025
NCEA Level 2 Endorsed with
Merit



ARTS FACULTY

This week, the College buzzed with creativity during its Music and Drama Performance Night, a fantastic showcase of student talent. Both junior and senior music students captivated a supportive audience of family and friends with an impressive array of solo and group performances. It was awesome to see such a diverse range of instruments on display, from drums, guitar, piano, vocals and flute. The evening truly celebrated the students' hard work and passion, highlighting a wide variety of musical genres.

The Performing Arts students presented short scenes from this term's script "Love and Information". This script features 57 scenes, has no named characters and is a collection of what appears to be unrelated scenes. They are in fact all related with the underlying themes of love and information and leave the audience to ponder and draw their own conclusions. The drama students' performances were a hit with the audience, bringing laughter and provoking thought about the meaning behind the scenes.



ARTS FACULTY

In the Visual Arts Department, the Achievement Standard that the Year 11 painting students have produced, has concentrated on a myth, story or legend from any culture that the student chooses. Their task is retelling their chosen story in part or full visually, such as the myth of Daedalus and Icarus to the story of Sisyphus.



Beattie Home

Six music students visited Beattie Home on Thursday to provide some musical entertainment. The residents enjoyed the performances and it was awesome to see them tapping their feet and singing along. Performances were given by Selena, Aviva, Mason, Xian, Nathaniel and Kanohi-Marama - a great example of community spirit. We look forward to visiting Beattie Home again next term.



Empowering learners to succeed

WINTEC CULINARY FARE

This week, some of our Senior hospitality students got a taste of the big leagues at the Waikato Culinary Fare! This huge regional competition, held at Wintec's top-notch Rotokauri Campus, gave them the chance to see culinary stars in action. Our students explored the commercial kitchens and saw firsthand what it takes to compete against other schools.

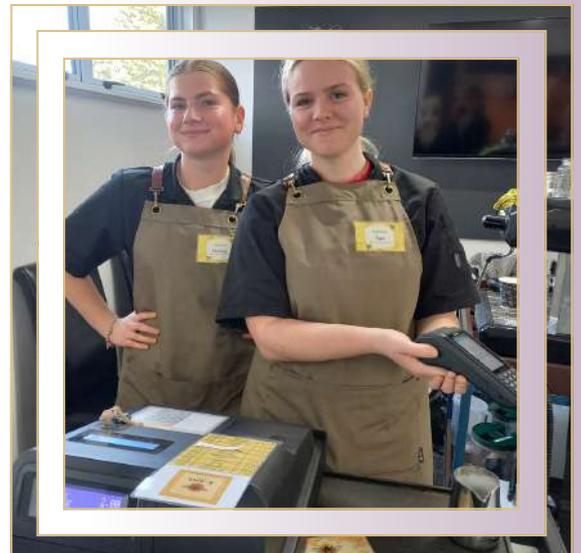
They also got to visit La Promesse Bake House, a leading boutique bakery, for a delicious lunch. What an awesome experience to get them ready to compete next year!



B-H1VE BARISTAS

The B-H1ve Baristas brewed up something special this week! They took their show on the road, setting up a mobile cafe in the Foyer during the Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences.

Parents and teachers alike enjoyed delicious barista-made beverages without missing a beat. It was a buzzing success!



Empowering learners to succeed

PUHORO WANANGA

On Tuesday the Pūhoro Rōpu ventured up to Kirikiriroa to the University of Waikato for the second Wānanga of the year. After a warm welcome from the Manahautu, in a speech where he outlined the ambitions for the kaupapa moving forward, we were privileged to hear from two Pūhoro graduates who are now in medical school. Their words of encouragement and support were very motivating. The taura were then divided into year groups and spent the rest of the day in workshops.

The Year 11 taura had a glimpse into the medical field with the Royal Australian College of Surgeons, they got to build solar powered cars and learned the Pūhoro waiata. The Year 12 taura were involved in Purapura Whetū, Meta Marae and Engineering from Waikato University workshops. During the Meta Marae workshop our very own Tylah Ostern set a new record time for the Pūhoro Kaupapa for the assembly of a model whareniui. The Year 13 taura learned how to program a computer game, built further on their mau rakau skills that they began learning in a previous wānanga and they had a very important session on the realities of life once they have moved on from secondary school.

The day ended with a rousing and moving rendition of the Pūhoro waiata by those who attended.



WAIKATO YOUNG LEADERS DAY

Ten students attended the Waikato Young Leaders Day at Waikato University on Wednesday.

They listened to key speakers in the morning who are leaders from Head Students to the A.O.S member.

In the afternoon, students worked with Mercury Bay Area School to discuss and recognise our own leadership skills and how to implement them back at College.



Empowering learners to succeed

The B-H1ve Cafe Buzzes to Life

Ōtorohanga College celebrated a special Matariki morning with the grand opening of The B-H1ve Cafe, a vibrant new space designed, run and managed entirely by students. The intimate ribbon-cutting ceremony and brunch saw trailblazing students and their whānau gather to mark this exciting milestone.

The B-H1ve Cafe is more than just a place for delicious barista-made beverages and pancakes; it is a dynamic learning environment. Students are gaining invaluable real-world experience in everything from customer service and point-of-sale operations to problem-solving and working under pressure.

The opening speech highlighted the incredible dedication and professionalism of the students, who transformed the vision from initial brainstorming sessions into a fully operational cafe. Their hard work, from building furniture and testing recipes to confidently serving customers, has truly impressed everyone involved. The B-H1ve Cafe stands as a testament to the College's commitment to innovation, student empowerment and providing practical skills that will benefit students in any future pathway they choose.

The B-H1ve Cafe is proving to be a bustling hub at Ōtorohanga College, showcasing the amazing achievements possible when young people are empowered.



THE
B-HIVE
— CAFÉ —

Where learning meets Latte



KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Term Two ends - Friday 27th June
Term Three begins - Monday 14th July
Teacher Only Day - Wednesday 23rd July
College Ball - Friday 1st August

Empowering learners to succeed