



Honour Before Honours
Ko te mana mō mua i te whakamana

Otorohanga College

Newsletter 5

Term 2 Week 6

Friday 29th May 2015

ENTERTAINING THE SOCCER STARS FROM QATAR



On Tuesday 26 May Te Waikōwharawhara members donned their kapahaka costumes and travelled to the Waitomo Caves to be part of the pōwhiri programme that was organised for the Qatar Under 20 soccer team.

Here in NZ to compete in the World Cup Tournament, the players had already played and beaten their NZ equivalents in a recent five-nations tournament.

By arrangement, Te Waikōwharawhara by-passed the official pōwhiri and were guided into the Cathedral section of the cave to wait and prepare items.

Seeing the manuwhiri descend the final steps, Arana Hughes gave the command and the karanga and haka pōwhiri broke the silence in the dimmed darkness. The cave lights were then turned on and we treated the visitors to a hymn, poi and action song.

Sixty pairs of hands clapped with obvious joy and appreciation of this special and rarely offered entertainment in the Caves. Then, after all the selfies were done the Qatar stars were steered away for their boat ride and introduction to our own world-famous myriad of natural stars with their special glow.

Each member of our group will receive a Qatar pin as a memento of their visit and now definite fans, we will follow their first game with keen interest as they take the field on Saturday at the Waikato Stadium.

Photo supplied by Luran's Images.

Tēnā koutou te hunga rangatira nō nāianeī, hei āpopo he hunga oroko-rangatira.

Greetings, today's leaders and the creators of tomorrow's leaders.

Six weeks into Term Two and there is so much news of events to be shared. Our College is humming with activity and energy; it certainly makes us all read our daily notices carefully to keep up. I will try to give you a little bit of an overview and will alert you to other, more in-depth articles that may be appearing within this newsletter. One such event was the visit to our College by the Honourable Hekia Parata, Minister of Education. This was an event, which honoured our College, and there is an article within these pages, which more fully discusses it.

I wish to acknowledge the various innovations that many of our staff and students have been responsible for so far in Term Two. We have lots of people here who seize many moments to bring to fruit a wide range of programmes and experiences of difference for our young people. The Real Art Show truck was once again in the College recently and provided an opportunity not only for our students, but also for those of nearby Primary Schools. What a wonderful opportunity. COPS Winter Sports are running and once again, our students are participating by working in roles of support for the Primary Schools attending. Thank you to all concerned for this community minded partnership we continue to build upon. There are many activities operating, one of which was the chance to visit the University of Waikato Open day last week on Friday 22nd May. We are aware that with the Field Days and other activities happening our students are very much out and about and it is great when families are able to utilise some of the opportunities in the weekends, such as the upcoming Careers Expo on Sunday the 7th and Monday the 8th of June. This allows our students to attend classes whenever possible whilst also attending events.

We often have the privilege to host visitors/manuwhiri in our school and apart from the Minister of Education we have this week welcomed the Hauraki Plains College Music

Group and author Kate De Goldi, who visited on the 27th May to work with young writers. Of course

we also hosted our sister school Kyoai Gakuen High School from Japan. Sixty-seven students from this school visited with us last Friday and it was again a privilege and a pleasure for our College to host young people from another nation. The celebration of difference and the wonderful energy which comes from allowing youth to come together to share and spend time, is priceless. Our hall was filled with the sounds of excited laughter, applause for performances given and a real sense of care for each other. A visit such as this, we hope, furthers the possibility of dreams of travel and exploration becoming more real for our Ōtorohanga College learners. The gift of diversity is a wonderful opportunity to learn and celebrate difference.

As you may remember the New Zealand Qualifications Authority came to our College to do the National Moderation Audit of our National Certificate in Educational Achievement assessment recently. Further in this newsletter you will find the summary conclusions we received from NZQA, however, I am very proud to say we have had the maximum period of certification awarded to the College on the basis of the robust practices we have currently operating. I wish to acknowledge the hard work done by the Heads of Faculty, and in particular that of Mrs Lyndsay Kurth the Deputy Principal in charge of Learning, who holds overall responsibility for the integrity of our assessment and moderation practices. This is a wonderful outcome which we share with only 12% of secondary schools nationwide; a very creditable outcome which we can be proud of.

The school programmes are very full and one example is the extra reading groups now running to provide targeted teaching and learning in response to assessment results. It is sad for us as a College to know that there are many of our young ones entering in Year 9 and 10 at a reading/writing level below that which they will need to achieve Level 1 and 2 NCEA. We endeavour to provide targeted interventions as soon as possible to address this need amongst our learners.

On the 28th of May, we staged our College Speech Competition to determine who will be our representative/s this year at the Ngā Manu Kōrero Regional Secondary School Speech Competition. This year marks 50 years since the establishment of the Māori Secondary Schools Speech Competition, Ngā Manu Kōrero. Named 'The Korimako Contest', the competition began in 1965 and acknowledges and commemorates Dr Pei Te Hurinui Jones, a Ngāti Maniāpoto elder and scholar who died in 1976. It is a prestigious event that encourages Māori students in all secondary schools to become more confident when speaking in both Māori and English. Each year, new speech topics are created within four sections, giving students the opportunity to choose one that they are most passionate about. These sections are junior English, junior Māori, senior English and senior Māori. The National final for 2015 will be hosted by Te Whanganui-a-Tara ki Otaki at the Te Rauparaha Arena in Porirua from Monday 21 through to Thursday 24 of September. This will be our third year of competing after a seventeen-year absence from the stage and we look forward to this year's event. We are immensely proud of all who are working to keep our presence in the competition. We look forward to recounting to you all in the next newsletter how this important event went, and who will have the honour of representing us all in the Regional Competition later this year. We have not yet made it to the Nationals but we live in hope!

Kapa Haka is buoyant in the school at present, after the Tainui Regional Secondary Schools competition on the 15th May at Claudelands' Show-grounds in Hamilton. Our combined roopu, Te Waikōwharawhara, placed 7th overall out of 12 schools and was awarded 1st for Discipline which is a wonderful achievement. We were all very proud not only of their moving and powerful performance, but also of the decorum, enthusiasm and dignity which the group brought to every part of their attendance at this prestigious event. The award for Discipline is decided when measuring every aspect of behaviour and deportment whilst at the event; winning this award is an absolute accolade to the mana every member brought to Ngāti Maniāpoto, their whānau and, of course, our three contributing schools, Te Kura o Maniāpoto, Pio Pio College and our own kura,

Ōtorohanga College. There is more information elsewhere in this newsletter, however, I wish also to thank and congratulate the tutors, the families, the staff and of course the young people themselves for all the hard work which has gone into this great result. You really put us on the map!

Additionally our school Kapa Haka roopu, Ngā Tamariki Toa went to the Waitomo Caves to be part of the pōwhiri for the Qatar U21 Soccer Team who are here to participate in the World Cup competition. This strength and buoyancy bodes well to make the upcoming Matariki Week House Competition, which commences on the 22nd June, an exciting one! Matariki Week will be fully reported later this term, however, I for one am anticipating a mighty competition this year for the Matariki Tohu! Kia kaha koutou, we are looking forward with great excitement to your performances as you serve your Houses with pride!

On a completely different note, it is with pleasure we are able to share that our College is in a strong financial position and we are operating this year in a surplus. This is due to a range of factors including that the expenditure in previous years to invest in upgrades does not need to be emulated to the same extent this year. The College has certainly invested huge amounts in resourcing, upgrading buildings and providing services such as fast broadband and improved technology access to ensure we are providing a quality education. We are still working steadily to continue to upgrade grounds, buildings and services and look forward to continuing to do this from a robust financial situation. I wish to send a "Thank you" to all those who are promptly paying school and sports fees owing, which is also allowing us to extend many opportunities to our students. We appreciate your contributions, which enable us to do so.

On the evening of the 25th of May the community held a meeting on the kaupapa that "Family Violence Is Not Okay In Maniāpoto". This meeting was held at the Ōtorohanga Club and was attended by myself, a number of staff and two of the Senior Student Leaders of the College, Mr Drew Narbey-Nimeti and Mr Grayson Fortis. Based on Police figures

shared that evening, one hundred and twenty family violence incidents are reported every year in Ōtorohanga. They additionally told us that it is estimated that only 20% of such incidents are ever reported which puts the probable number of them occurring in our community each year at closer to six hundred, an alarming piece of information which we all found very sobering. There will be action taken following this meeting and we expect our school to be part of it, so please “watch this space” for further developments.

Winter Sports are powering into full speed, and sporting results are already very pleasing and encouraging as the season begins. The results of many games are commented on elsewhere in this newsletter. I express the College’s deepest thanks to all the parents, staff and supporters who are giving time, and energy to these many teams. I also wish to acknowledge all those who participate with commitment, decorum and show great sporting attitudes; we celebrate you and value you highly.

Senior Assessment week is now completed and we continue to encourage all our tauira/students to continue their commitment to excellence and give of their absolute best to their work, as indeed they overwhelmingly do the majority of the time. The results from these assessments give students a valuable opportunity to take stock of what has been achieved and what they still need to do as they plan their studies for the rest of this term. Student reports are underway and are on track to be sent home on the 19th June. After this will follow a parent/teacher meeting evening where there will be opportunities to discuss student progress and next steps, this will be ad-

vertised closer to the time.

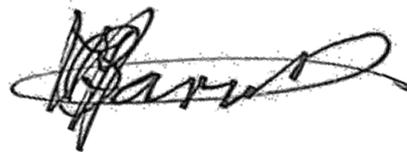
This coming weekend there is a ‘Soccerthon’ on Saturday 30th May to raise funds for Tourney week, thank you to all those organising, participating and supporting such a good cause. We want to be able to take all our sportspeople on this expensive experience and this event is one way you can help us do this.

On a less happy note, we have had some naughty behaviour, which has been a bit disappointing of late with several junior students using the change in routine around Senior Assessment week to misbehave and cause a lot of work for the Senior Managers of the school. Whilst we are well placed to respond to this behaviour it is a huge time waster for senior staff. Bad behaviour is not acceptable and a consistent and appropriate response will meet all such conduct from any student of our school.

It is of course a long weekend coming up. Enjoy the break, enjoy your families and whatever you do, have a safe and fun weekend.

May peace find us all, kia tau te rangimarie kia tātou katoa

Nā



Timoti Harris
Tumuaki
Ōtorohanga College

Term 2 2015 Calendar

Week 6	Friday 29th May	Newsletter #5
Week 7	Tuesday 2nd June Wednesday 3rd June	AUT University visit 10 a.m AGM Ōtorohanga Sports Council
Week 8	Wednesday 10th June Wednesday 10th—Saturday 13th June Friday 12th June	WBOP Cross Country Fieldays Teacher only day
Week 9	Friday 19th June	Assembly to introduce Matariki Nga Manu Korero Newsletter #6

NCEA FEES

2015 NCEA Qualifications

There is a standard annual fee which students must pay to have their results recorded on their Record Of Achievement and for the awarding of qualifications. Candidates who do not pay fees are not eligible to:

- have results transferred to their Record Of Achievement, which only indicates the results for which payment has been received
- have NCEAs or other National Certificates or UE awarded, because unpaid results are not on the Record Of Achievement

The fee is collected by the College and forwarded to NZQA. Fees are due by **Monday 31st August 2015**. If the fee is not paid by this date a candidate will have to pay NZQA directly using the School Candidate Form – Payment Of NZQA Fees. You can get this form from Mrs Kurth. After the 1st December, NZQA will add a \$50.00 late fee.

How Much Does It Cost?

The following fee structure applies for 2015 (GST inclusive):

Entry for all NZQF standards and up to 3 Scholarship subjects	\$76.70
Additional Scholarship entries	\$76.70 per subject

Can I Get Help To Pay?

To be eligible to apply for financial assistance you must be the fee payer and able to meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Be receiving a Work and Income or Study Link benefit (benefit-based applications).
- Have a joint family income that would entitle the applicant to receive a Community Services Card from Work and Income (income-based applications).
- Be a fee payer with two or more children who are candidates irrespective of family income, where the total fees you would have to pay would otherwise be more than the \$200 multiple candidate maximum.

How Do I Get Help To Pay?

To get financial assistance you have to fill in a Financial Assistance form and hand it in to the College Office. You can get this form from the Office or Mrs Kurth.

FEES ARE DUE BY MONDAY 31ST August

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Lyndsay Kurth
Deputy Principal, Learning

NOTICE BOARD

AGM

The Friends of the Ōtorohanga College
Sports Committee

Wednesday 3rd June 6 p.m.

Upstairs in the Gym Study Room

Come and see how you can be involved in
assisting with sport in the College.

All welcome.

A new school
jacket is
available for
those chilly
mornings next
term at Haddads
Menswear for
\$49-95



SENIOR COLLEGE BALL

FRIDAY 7th AUGUST

More information in
the next newsletter

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Tuesday 30th June

You are warmly welcome to attend the
parent / teacher interviews from 4.00pm to
6.30pm in the College Hall. Interview
bookings can be made online at
www.schoolinterviews.co.nz - using the
school code N3BKZ - or by phoning the
College Office on 873 8029.

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST?

The College Sports Council is
holding a **Fundraiser Ball** on
Saturday 8th August with
proceeds going towards
promoting and enhancing sport
in the College. **Kids! This one
is for your Mums and Dads.**
Keep an eye out for updates later
in the term.

STUDENT SERVICES

Physiotherapist - Kara Thomas

Tuesday and Friday

Make your appointment at the front office

Doctor Wong's Clinic

Wednesday 9am – 11am

Make your appointment at the front office

Drug & Alcohol Counsellor – Marlene Thompson

Thursday

See your Dean to make an appointment

NEWSLETTERS

From now on the newsletter will
be emailed, however, hard
copies are available from the
College Office. If you would like
to be added to our email list
please contact Renee at the
Office.



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Bill Taylor
Dealer Principal

Thanks to Lauran Robinson for her support with photographing events to be used for our newsletter and a range of other news media.

Lauran's Images



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Prizegiving 2015

Criteria For Awards

Our Senior Prizegiving will occur on Wednesday 4th November from 7.00 pm. At this Prizegiving we acknowledge and celebrate success and excellence across all aspects of College life including sporting achievements, leadership, cultural and academic. Below is an outline of the procedures followed in determining the academic awards.



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2015 Senior Prizegiving Awarding Of Course Places

Step One

Course teachers assign points for **each Internal Standard** gained as outlined below:

- Excellence = 6 points per credit
- Merit = 3 points per credit
- Achieved = 1 point per credit

In the case of a Further Assessment Opportunity, the first grade will be awarded.

Step Two

Course teachers assign points for the **final Practice External Standards** gained as outlined below:

- Excellence = 6 points per credit
- Merit = 3 points per credit
- Achieved = 1 point per credit

If a clear winner has not yet been found continue to Step Three.

THE BEST 16 CREDITS IN EACH COURSE, WHETHER INTERNAL STANDARDS OR PRACTICE EXTERNAL STANDARDS, COUNT TOWARDS THE TOTAL.

Step Three

Grade Score Marking as applied to NZQA External Standards and outlined below:

Not Achieved			Achievement		Merit		Excellence	
NO	N1	N2	A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8

Practice External Standards should already have been marked using Grade Score Marking. For all Internal Standards apply a similar process so that within each achievement grade upper and lower levels of grades can be shown. Base this on the teacher's professional expertise in the course.

Dux

The Dux is the highest achieving Level 3 academic student in the College. This prestigious acknowledgement is awarded to the student who achieves the highest number of points from their top five timetabled courses. In the case of students with the same number of points, the student with the most Excellence points will be awarded Dux. In the case of students with the same number of Excellence points, the student with the most Merit points will be awarded Dux. In the case of Excellence and Merit points being equal a joint Dux will be awarded.

If you have further questions on the procedures followed in determining the academic awards please contact Mrs Kurth, Deputy Principal, Learning.

Managing National Assessment

On March 27th an NZQA School Relationship Manager came to the College to review our management of national assessment. Below is the overview of the findings.

"Ōtorohanga College shows increasing capacity to use both external and self-review processes to ensure results reported to NZQA are fair, valid and credible. Review processes are thorough and are completed in a timely manner.

The school offers a range of academic courses and trades academies, as well as Junior and Senior Skills courses, STAR and Gateway courses. Differentiated learning encourages students to achieve by completing assessments in a variety of ways that ensure their learning styles and cultural interests are engaged and assessment is completed in authentic contexts.

Staff have a good understanding of the requirements for internal and external moderation. All use the school's thorough processes to ensure that work is critiqued and verified by appropriately qualified colleagues and that they are making professional progress towards a better understanding of standards. The Principal's Nominee manages this process highly effectively.

Data is submitted to NZQA in a timely manner and is analysed in a variety of ways, including in a detailed report by the Principal. Heads of Faculty report to the Board of Trustees and findings are shared with staff and used reflectively to set school-wide goals.

Documentation and communication are both up-to-date and timely and the school uses a variety of methods to communicate information about NCEA with its community of students, caregivers and teachers."

Based on the outcome of the assessment systems check, it is anticipated that the next Managing National Assessment review will be conducted within four years, the maximum period awarded - an outcome that we share with only 12% of secondary schools nationwide.

Lyndsay Kurth
Deputy Principal, Learning

ARE YOU A HAGER FAN?

Want to meet her?

Gain writing skills?

Meet Mandy Hager when she comes to our school and learn the tricks of the writing trade.

Submit a Science Fiction short story or piece of poetry to be in to win! (No longer than 3 pages)

Submit your entries to Ms Bublitz or Miss Joyes
by Friday 26th June .



Our recently formed singing group is currently called "Te Rohe Potae" (King Country) and is directed by Fiona Raine and Lynn Jamieson (vocal tutor). It has 20 members, 6 boys and the rest girls of mixed year levels. They are competing at The Big Sing competition on Friday 5th June at St Peters. We are currently rehearsing in lunchtimes, after school and evenings and would like to thank the Waitomo Caves Music Society and the Caitlin Ash Trust for generous donations towards purchasing performance uniforms.



MUSIC PERFORMANCE

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to be entertained by a musical group from Hauraki Plains College. We were the first stop on their tour to take their music to a number of schools. They were very impressive and our students thoroughly enjoyed their performance. We wish them well on their tour.



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED



We are looking for host families for Caroline and Raphael. Please reply to this email or contact the YFU Office if you are interested in hosting - Toll Free Telephone 0800 833 624.

Caroline from Denmark

Hello, my name is Caroline and I will be 16 years old when I arrive on my 10 month exchange however you can host me for 5 months from Denmark. I am an outgoing girl and like to meet new people. I am actively involved in my school, and like to do many things in my spare time. I like to live a healthy life and try to eat healthy food only. I have been riding horses for 11 years and ride in my spare time. Other sports I do are running, and general fitness and would also like to continue doing these while on exchange. I like being with my friends and reading books and would like to try new activities while on exchange.

Special considerations: Arrives 11th July 2015. Can live with pets both indoors and outside. Can live with a family where parents smoke outside. Willing to attend services with host family occasionally.



Raphael from France

Hello my name is Raphael. I am 17 years old and will be on exchange for two months from France. I enjoy playing sports and I play handball. I also like cycling and jogging and enjoy doing this with my family, friends or on my own. I like watching movies or TV series. At home I don't have any pets, I do like them though. With my friends we go to the movies or just catch up. With my family we have meals together and go visit my grandparents. I like pop rock and old French music. At home I help with meal preparation, clean my room, help clean around the house and have a curfew.

Special Considerations: Arrives 5th July 2015. Can live with pets both indoors and outside. Can live in a home where parents smoke outside. Willing to attend services with the host family.

LINDSEY HOUSTON

MY STORY



I want to raise this money after seeing a video about a little girl with cancer who was receiving a new wig to wear. I felt inspired to donate my own hair so that another person could be helped by receiving it. As for my personal experience with cancer, I've had my nana pass away from it and saw her during the process of it taking over her. During this she experienced hair loss and received a wig of her own to wear. I know that several people would have donated their hair in order for that wig to be made. After seeing what my nana went through I'd like to give someone else the confidence to go out in public, because it seems that sometimes all people need are something small like a wig to help them gain that confidence.

This is my hair that I will be cutting off on the 8th of June at Little Scissors in Otorohanga. I would like to thank you all for the support, donations and encouragement I've got through this, it has been great to see all of this happening.

Lindsey's goal is to raise \$500. She has reached \$170 to date. If you would like to donate please go to this link and make your donation.

<https://give.everydayhero.com/nz/lindsey>

The Pathways Centre had three students attend the Bluelight Camp at Hobsonville from Mon 18th till Fri 22nd May. New Zealand Blue Light is a registered charity and community policing youth program that for over 30 years has run programs and activities for young people throughout New Zealand free from drugs, alcohol and violence. It is about empowering youth.

These three boys had an awesome time and learnt so much about themselves and were excellent ambassadors for our College.

Photo far left:

Purua Pinker-King,
Connor Brownlee,
Tangaroa Katipa



25th KYOAI GAKUEN VISIT

A group of 65 from Kyoai Gakuen High school came to spend two hours at our college recently. We were unaware of the significance of this arrival until they presented our kura with a gift marking this milestone 25th visit.

After the pōwhiri the visitors could not wait for the lunch hour mix and mingle with our students. Selfies were the order of the day and a special demo of 'moves' was a highlight as one after another students from both schools showed off their talent.

Twenty five years ago the then Principal of Kyoai Gakuen High School was the leader of an all-girl school and he established a connection with our school through his counterpart. However it was Mrs Georgina Carr, the Principal's secretary who would go on to host Japanese students for more than ten years and cement the sisterhood between our two schools. Perhaps it is time that we organise a scholarship to send a student over to be immersed in their world.



NGĀ MANU KŌRERO

On Thursday 28 May Rhiannon Magee, Peaches Maaka and Shania Devenport entered the Korimako Senior English Section of the school-based Ngā Manu Kōrero Speech contest.

They had to deliver a 6-minute prepared speech and follow that up with a three-minute impromptu speech.

Mr Harris, Ms Bublitz and Ms Wessels judged Rhiannon Magee as the overall winner and she will join other school finalists in the Tainui regional contest to be held on Friday 19 June at Waikato University.

Left to right: Shania Devenport, Rhiannon Magee, Peaches Maaka





TE WAIKŌWHARAWHARA

Discipline kicked in from the moment Te Waikōwharawhara awoke at Tarewaanga Marae on 16 May, assembling for one last ditch practice in the College Hall. The fruits of eight weeks of intensive practices and four wānanga were about to be tested on stage at the Claudelands Event Centre alongside the efforts of nine other groups

In the space of four hours Te Waikōwharawhara had tweaked their moves, showered, breakfasted, dressed in costume, and absorbed the blessings of the karakia offered by Koro Solomon Nelson. It was 11.00 am as they boarded the vans bound for Hamilton, in the safe hands of drivers Roy Willison and Gabrielle Morgan.

It was vital to be punctual, for Event Co-ordinator Toti West had stressed that the cost for lateness would be a hefty \$100. Arriving early, there we were in the holding room rehearsing in hushed tones, and psyching up for the real deal scheduled for 2.25 pm.

“Oh aroha mai whānau, we’re running about half an hour late!” Stage managers take pride in running a smooth operation and it must have been annoying to have to signal a glitch in the system. Te Waikōwharawhara took advantage of the extra time and went into tweak mode.

Twice more the messenger announced “Aroha mai anō whānau, we’re running 45 minutes late an hour late!” Twice more there was further tweaking

One hour later twenty six bonded brothers and sisters were giving their best shot against the big shots Nga Taiatea, Te Maurea Whiritoi, Tai Wānanga, Rākaumangamanga, Te Rau Aroha and Te Kaokaoroa o Pātetere, who eventually edged us into a creditable seventh place.

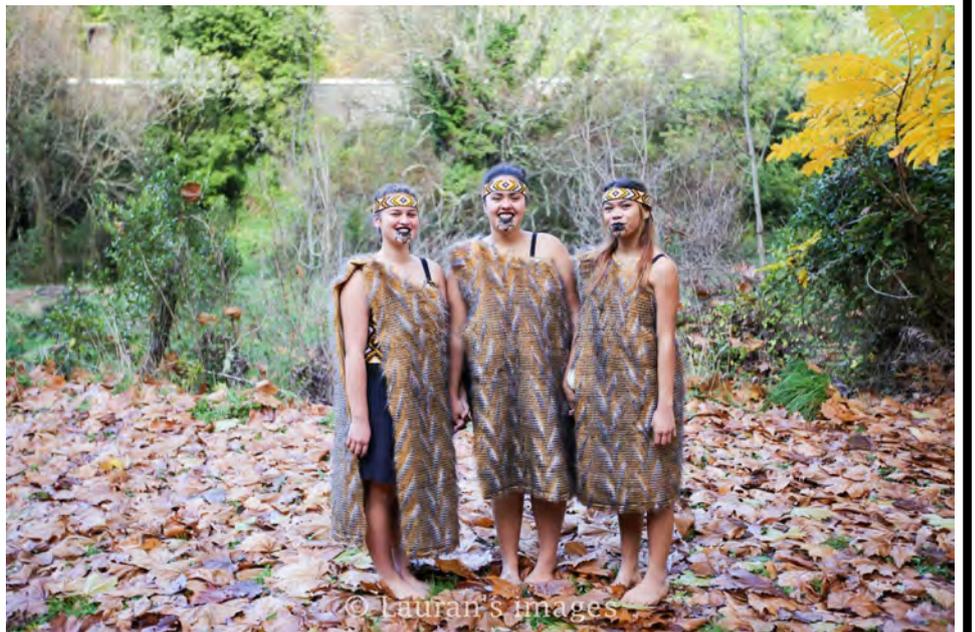
At the end of the performance the MC held Te Waikōwharawhara on stage while he paid a tribute to our kura for its driving of the petition seeking a Public Holiday to remember the sacrifice and losses of our Māori and Pākehā ancestors in the NZ Wars. Then followed a proud moment as supporters gathered with our roopu on stage to perform one more item for the 3,000 strong audience.

No other group that took to the stage had been tested in the way we were. We began our journey in March with members from our College and Te Wharekura o Maniapoto. Two weeks out from the contest Piopio College joined us.

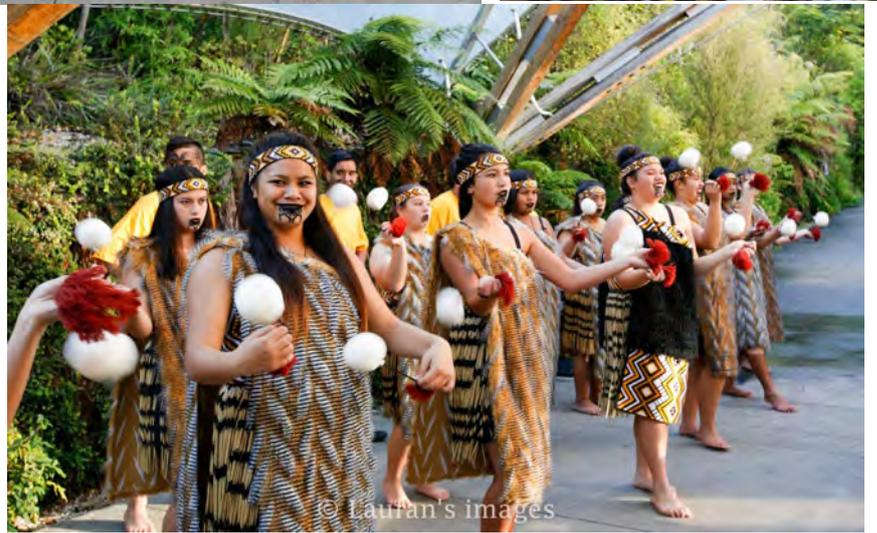
Twice weekly our outer schools had to come into the College Hall for practices from 5 pm to 8.30 pm. And every fortnight we had a weekend wānanga for intense training. That all represents hours of dedication, passion, commitment, co-operation, loyalty, sacrifice and discipline by the whole team of performers, tutors, cooks and dishwashers.

The experience was “ Tino choice! Awesome! I want to do it again!” And everyone agreed with the sentiment.

The top four groups will go to the Nationals and we will park up until 2017. Meantime we will relish the fact that we won the award for BEST DISCIPLINE and we are the 7th best Kapahaka team in the whole of Tainui. Not bad for 22 Ōtorohanga, 2 Wharekura and 3 Piopio, we reckon.



Photos supplied by Lauran's Images

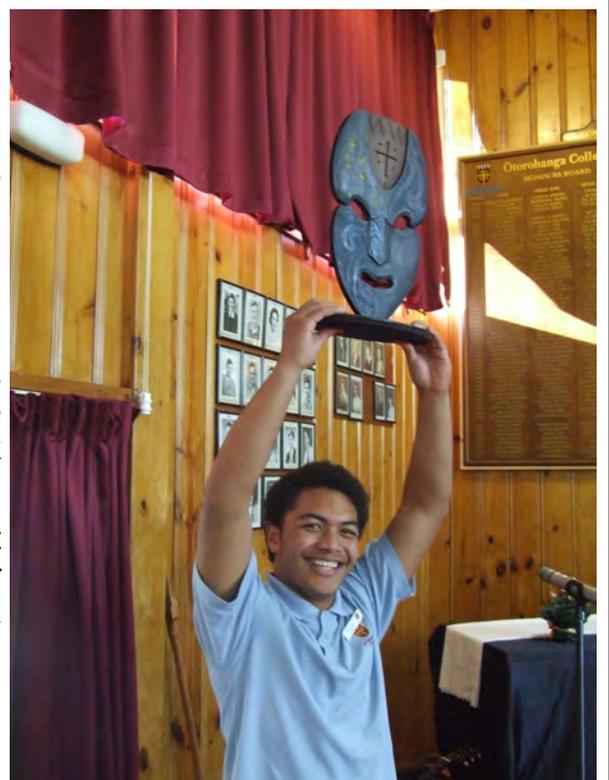


MATARIKI WEEK

MATARIKI starts on 18 June this year so all our Houses will start practising their haka, rakau and waiata items two weeks prior to that on, beginning June.

There are some major changes to our operations this year. TWO HOUSES will sell their kai on a designated day. The proceeds gathered by each House will be banked and used for House projects. The finer details and guidelines for spending this money is yet to be formalised. House points will be allocated by a pool of judges who will check out taste, texture, presentation and ambience.

Finally, each House will be allocated a huge concrete plant container to paint and decorate using the base house colour and two other colours - perhaps maroon and gold (aroha mai Hotson). This project will start on 8 June as well and judging of this work will happen on 25 June at the latest.



READ WRITE CONQUER

On 15th May a bus load of students went to the Auckland Writer's Festival (AWF). This is the third year that AWF has funded a bus for us to make this literary journey north. We were in the ASB Theatre in the Aotea Centre downtown Auckland, where we were entertained and inspired by Grace Taylor, Anthony Horowitz, Laurie Halse Anderson, and Morris Gleitzman. These writers/speakers had vastly different inside stories to tell about their lives', their journey's as writers, techniques and tips. We have formed a writer's club as a result of that passion.

AWF Student feedback

Ink is the blood of the writer

Authors can be so upfront

Think about your characters a lot

People in your imagination can be real

They are like social scientists. They use the total environment

Spoken word poetry raises questions, and is a tool for advocacy

People wear masks: The writer can unmask them

We have all survived something and we all have stories to tell, so we need to look after each other

You can write your experience, but you can't force writing

Even if you have nothing you still have something

You can express yourself through characters and use them to say things you otherwise couldn't

Start with a raw idea, and draw a map of the whole book, know the end of the book before you start to write

A library is a hospital for the mind

Put the words down.

Success comes out of mediocrity

You can start badly but keep going



Gateway Whakairo

Gateway Whakairo

On the 5th of May Taketake Whakairo, an inaugural Maaori visual arts Gateway programme, was completed with a blessing of Kuuaha Maatauranga, which proudly adorns the Gateway office in A Block, and Kotahi Aroha which has graced the Board Room, and will be in the library for the artists to enjoy. These magnificent works were created collaboratively by the eight students who attended the programme every Tuesday from the very beginning of our school year, at the Red Shed in Waitomo.

Taketake Whakairo was an initiative developed between Dan Ormsby, Mitch Hughes and the facility of Gateway. I saw that what Dan and Mitch were doing would be beneficial to our students; however I didn't know what it would become or how it would unfold from the time of our first talks last year. We identified 31 Level 2 NCEA credits as available for the programme. This was a massive task where the straighter lines of NCEA needed to assess the work that the students would do in the dynamic and very organic Taketake Whakairo. Mrs Di Pemberton provided selfless and sage advice from the very beginning in Term Three 2014 until we recently submitted our work for a rigorous internal moderation process with Roy Willison. We are grateful to their expertise, and overjoyed that our students have passed with a high standard.

To directly quote Dan and Mitch, they are practising artists who:

“are not experts, but we are influenced by ngaa mea Maaori and the tikanga that groomed us. We are open: a huge thing is the spiritual: we worked with that without making it obvious to the students. Based around the self: who am I, where did I come from, where did we come from, who are we, and what are we? Looking at mana and tapu: the simplest definition of tapu is potential, the actualisation of your potential is your mana. What things impede that potential? Respecting knowledge: respect in general begins with respect for your own culture: revealing to young people the amazing traits of their ancestors: the sparks.

“During our own whakairo degrees there was a push from our elders to share and connect with us, so that we in turn could share and disseminate too. Dr. Kereti Rautangata was a huge influence, as was our whakairo tutor, Paki Harrison, through Te Waananga o Aotearoa. We deliver Maaori knowledge in the way we see fit, as artists.

“We go for what students are interested in, and steer it, with as much flexibility as exists without being tied into things. We focus in and are receptive to the energies of the learner, and then hone the skills. We plant respect for self and others, making connections with that bigger part of ourselves. Art is a vehicle to share light: a way of getting people to think with their hearts.

“First time through this has been about us feeling/scoping out our future regarding how we share our art and how we pass that on. We are aware of our role and culture, our responsibility. This is one way to distribute those things as we chart our future.”

Feedback from Norton, Peter and Anthony

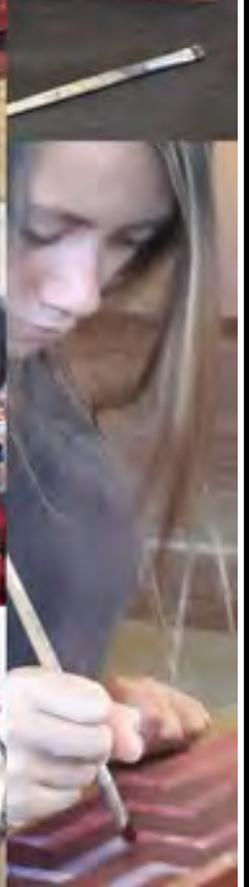
Skill - Time - Think

We not only enhanced our drawing skills: where we learnt to draw with meaning, and to see those forms and meanings within nature; we learnt to develop our interpretation of Maaori carving to the point where we can see the features now, and we can read the carvings with meaning. We learnt to see and draw the patterns.

We also developed new skills of thinking. Time to actually think with skill. Nohopuku. Meditation on how to be a billionaire in terms of living with dignity and respect and to know where we come from, our whakapapa, and how that is our badge, our patch, our logo.

We miss it. Hard.

Linda Campbell



SPORTS CORNER



PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

The last few weeks have been busy with our school cross country and then King Country Cross hosted by Piopio College. This time the weather wasn't nearly as cold, however the pouring rain arriving before lunch made our junior competitors' decision to head back to school earlier much more appealing. The rest braved the conditions and ran some gutsy races.

Congratulations to the following students who will be competing at WBOP Cross Country, Wed 10th June in Tauranga. Anna Connolly, Caitlyn Morrison, Matthew Bolger, Quinn Robinson, Leah Connolly, and Sam Lewis.



Each year Mr Bailey without fail is willing to let 200 plus students on his farm for our College Cross Country event. We would like to extend our gratitude for the use of his property, we do really appreciate it.





Inter-house Futsal proved to be quite popular with high numbers of participation. Kedgley dominated this competition with a couple of soccer guns, Alex Bell and Jan Borer in the team, taking all wins putting them in 1st place, 2nd place Eveleigh and 3rd equal to Hotson and Brown. The next inter-house competition will be Indoor Volleyball to coincide with the King Country competition due Thursday 2nd July at the Te Awamutu ASB Stadium.



The Ōtorohanga College Sports Council at our last meeting, have confirmed/approved the purchase of 2 new full playing kits (jerseys, shorts and socks) for each team. This equates to thousands of dollars which was raised by the council through fundraisers and many initiatives. The process for ordering with Kukri is underway. The 1st XV and Hockey Girls will get replaced next season and we are applying for grants to help with this. There is an opportunity for businesses to sponsor the U15s or U14s and get their logos on the front of their new playing jersey. If you know anyone who maybe keen please contact Mrs Parsons. On a side note, there has been an opening in the Sports Council for anyone keen to join this great team of parents/teachers/coaches. They meet once a month a set up many great initiatives to support College Sport. If you are keen to get on board send me an email for further details. Our AGM is next Wed 3rd June at 6pm in the Gym Study Room upstairs.

For most of our teams gradings have finished and we are now settling into the competition round where points do matter if our teams want to make in into semis and finals. We would also like to remind all players that our coaches and managers are volunteers. Volunteers are harder and harder each year to find. A lot of effort goes into planning trainings and game plans. If you do not turn up, this can ruin it for not just the coach, but the rest of the team.



Sports Player of the Month:

Congratulations to our April winner - Bailey Wright. Bailey will receive 1 large pizza of his choice kindly sponsored by Ōtorohanga's NZ Pizza.

All nominations can be submitted by your coach at the end of the month. One lucky winner will be drawn by Mr Timoti Harris.



COPS Referees:

Once again 40 of our students were requested to help with refereeing and umpiring our primary schools. This can be a daunting day out for our students as we all know blowing the whistle isn't that straight forward. The college also likes to encourage this support which then takes the pressure of the primary schools and parents to assist in this area.

It was disappointing to hear one of our students who have been a COPS referee for the past 3 years being accosted by parents.

On a positive note we have had great feedback that our students did extremely well and now this has given them the confidence to perhaps put their hand up next year.



1st XV:

The 1st XV played Te Awamutu 2nd XV in atrocious conditions on Saturday. Despite the weather they were able to put on an outstanding performance to win 89-0. Points were shared around both the backs and forwards in what was easily their best performance to date. Tremont Rhind received the player of the day award as he broke the defensive line regularly throughout the match, however, it was a classic team effort. The 1st XV have the weekend off for Queens birthday and will look to keep this momentum up next week.



U15's:

The Under 15 rugby boys have had two fantastic games of competition rugby over the last two weeks. The first was an impressive 29 -7 win over HBHS U15 White. The score at half time was 0-0 a very impressive second half by the boys. Player of the day was Dallas Maguire.

The second game was a miserably cold and wet one against HBHS Black. The boys played exceptional rugby for the first 10 minutes controlling the ball and scoring two tries. Hamilton Boys High then came back and scored two tries soon after. The rest of the



game was hard fought battle with both teams playing well. Unfortunately Boys High was the only team to score a try securing the win 17-10. Well done to our U15 boys for a solid start to the season. Just a gentle reminder, it is essential for players to be at training if they want to be picked for the playing 22 for the weekend.

Mr Brendon Mudge

U14s:

The first of three grading games was played vs Cambridge High School. It was the first hit out for the boys and while the result didn't go our way there were plenty of encouraging signs for the season ahead. Trent Taurahere scored the only try for the side with strong performances from Dylan Toa, Ethan Lenfer and Josh Hunt. *Mr Nathan Pye*

Netball:

College A and College Jnr Development have one more game in their Monday Night League in Hamilton on Monday 8th June. They have had the opportunity to play a number of teams within the Waikato area.

College A have their two tournament fundraisers coming up in June and we look forward to hosting a number of different teams. Later in June we will be having our mixed tournament for our male students who also love to play netball.

In the local centre B Grade, competition is fierce with College Senior, College Hostel and College Junior Development all hoping to earn a place in the A Reserve Grade when the B Grade is split. A number of our players have been chosen in Representative teams and are fitting those trainings into their schedule as well as their team.

Enjoy your weekend off from netball this weekend and we will see you all on the 6th June.



Soccer:

Junior Girls Soccer:

We have had a trying start to the season with only 11 players starting and due to injury down to 10 by the end of the first game. Lee Hurley the coach is working hard to get all the girls up to scratch with all levels of ability within the team. So far we have seen a varying degree of success, maybe not in the scores, but in the plays on the field by the girls. With experience will come the girls gelling as a team and the understanding of field play.

Mrs Michelle Ward



Junior Boys Basketball:

Our junior boys' team lost a few key players after the Te Kuiti Intermediate competition, to either injury, or other commitments, so it was a challenging start to the Central Country Basketball competition when it kicked off at the start of May.

Despite being low on numbers, the boys that are there, along with some new additions, are giving their all, and after four games have come away with two well-deserved wins over teams with nearly twice the numbers on the night.

Everyone is improving out of sight, spirits are high, and now that they can see what they are capable of, I'm confident of more results going our way.

Mr Dael Downs

The Team: Peta Pitts-Brown, Wiremu Parnell, Matauri Waretini, Sebastian Pinny, Bennett Sanson, Pairama Katipa-Maikuku, and Michael Stockman



“Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently.”

- Henry Ford

“There may be people that have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do.”

- Derek Jeter

