



## ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Four, Week One – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025



From the Principal's Desk

**Principal  
Lyndsay Kurth**

Kia ora koutou

A very warm welcome to Term Four. I hope the recent break provided a chance for rest, reflection and reconnection with whānau. The final term of the year always brings a sense of both urgency and excitement - a time to finish strong, celebrate progress and prepare for the next stage of our journey together.

It has been wonderful to see our students return to College ready to learn and engage fully in the opportunities ahead. There is much to look forward to - from classroom learning and assessments to sports, cultural activities and end-of-year events.

For our senior students, the coming weeks are especially important. With only 13 school days remaining before they go on study leave and NCEA examinations beginning on Tuesday, 4 November, this is a crucial time to consolidate learning and maintain focus. We encourage them to make the most of every moment - seeking help when needed, attending revision sessions and supporting one another along the way.

This term also includes a time to celebrate the achievements of our senior students at Prizegiving on Thursday, 30 October at 6.00pm. It is a wonderful occasion to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and successes of our young people across academics, sport, culture and leadership.

Our junior students are also entering a vibrant and busy term, full of opportunities to deepen their learning, strengthen friendships and develop the skills that will serve them well in the future.

One of the great strengths of our College is the sense of teamwork that underpins everything we do. Success in education does not happen in isolation - it is the result of students, staff and families working together towards shared goals. When we communicate openly, encourage consistently and support one another, we create the best environment for our young people to flourish.

Your continued involvement, whether through attending events, staying in touch with teachers, or encouraging learning at home, makes a genuine difference. We are grateful for the trust you place in us and for the role you play in helping your children reach their potential.

As we move through this final term, let us continue to work as a team - focused on ensuring that every student finishes the year feeling proud of what they have achieved and confident in what lies ahead.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we can make Term Four a positive and memorable conclusion to the year.

Ngā mihi nui.

Lyndsay Kurth  
Principal

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## HAUORA - WELLBEING

Focus on the now. Release the past, relax from the future.

Deputy Principal Hauora  
Vanessa Vili

If your child is absent or if there is an issue, do not hesitate to get in touch with the College and let us know...call 07 873 8029, email a Dean or Teacher, drop a message on Skool Loop or Facebook.

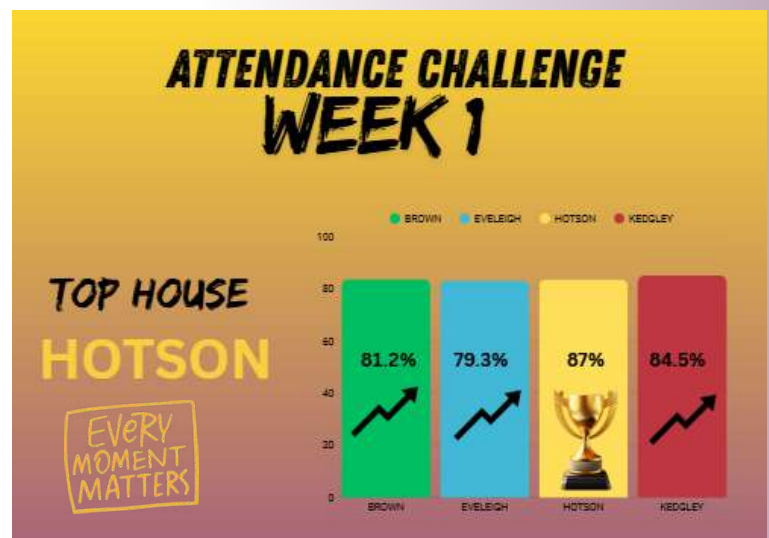
We are heading into the final stretch. Let us reset our goals and make Term 4 count. Do not stress about the entire term's weight; just ask yourself, 'What is the single most important thing I need to do right now to move forward?' Then, do that.

**SHOW UP** *Have Fun* **Persuade**  
**LOOK SHARP** **GET INVOLVED!** **DREAM**



**BE  
KIND**

**FOCUS**  
**Keep Trying**



Our TikTok Competition saw the four Houses battle it out to "Move It" and the top spot was narrowly won by **Eveleigh House**. Thank you to the Student Leaders for overseeing the many practices, to the students who put themselves out there and got involved and to Mel for coming in and undertaking the difficult job of judging.





# ACHIEVEMENT

**"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure." (Colin Powell)**

Deputy Principal Achievement  
Stoffel Wilken

## Empowering Future Pathways: Course Selection Success

Thursday was a day dedicated to future pathways at the College! While students in other year levels engaged in home learning, our Year 10 to 12 students, accompanied by their parents or caregivers, participated in our new Course Selection Interviews with their Empower Whakamana teachers.

With more than 130 bookings made, the College buzzed all day with productive conversations about student interests, career goals and academic planning. For the first time, a powerful three-way discussion was held, allowing the student, caregiver and teacher to have a robust conversation. This collaborative approach ensured that all course selections were informed decisions tailored to each student's future success.

The energy and commitment shown by our students, families and teachers made this a highly successful day in charting the academic journey ahead!



## CAA Results

Thursday also saw the results for the latest CAA Reading Exams released. We are pleased to say that many of our students were successful. The results for the other two exams, Writing and Numeracy, are set for release on October 20th. We eagerly anticipate celebrating the successes of our students across all three exams!



**Mark your calendars! The NCEA exams at the College will run from Tuesday, November 4th, through to Thursday, November 27th.**

There will be two daily sessions: one at 9:00 AM and one at 2:00 PM.

A crucial reminder for all students: You must be at the College and ready for your exam at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time. All normal exam rules will be strictly enforced.

## Important Dates for Senior Students

The last day of College for our seniors will be Thursday, October 30th. This is also the date of the Senior Prizegiving and the Year 13 Leavers' Dinner.

After this date, senior students will be on exam leave and should be focusing entirely on preparing for their exams.

A special note for seniors (especially Year 11s): Be aware that you may be called back to the College during your exam leave for further assessment opportunities for internal standards. This is a vital chance to improve your chances of achieving your NCEA Level 1 certificate or higher

Good luck to all students as they prepare!

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# HEALTH AND PE FACULTY

It is always an exciting time heading into Term Four for Health and Physical Education. As we pack away all the winter code equipment, our focus shifts toward Summer Sports. Already this week, classes have been working on their cricket skills and throughout the term students will also be developing their abilities in Softball, Ki o Rahi, Touch Rugby and even some Beach Volleyball.

Whāea Aretā's Year 12 PE class visited South School this week as part of their Planning and Running an Event assessment. They led a high-energy game of Capture the Flag, which was a huge hit with the Year 5 students. There is certainly some exciting young PE talent coming through in the future.

The start of Term 4 also marks the beginning of our new BoxFit and Train2Gain Modules. Both classes shook off the holiday cobwebs with some intense physical conditioning sessions as part of their initial pre-testing.

Back with our Seniors, the Athlete Development Programme is currently in the middle of a four-week training arc to round off their year. Their hard work will culminate in a Mini Hyrox Challenge. This includes eight demanding physical events that begin with a 3 km run and finish with a 200 metre bear crawl.

Our junior students have been diving into their Drugs and Alcohol unit with great enthusiasm. They have been exploring different types of drugs, from everyday substances like caffeine to more harmful illegal ones and learning how these affect both the body and mind. Through interactive games, discussions and real-life case studies, students are developing a deeper understanding of the short and long term impacts of substance use. It has been fantastic to see their curiosity, thoughtful questions and growing awareness about making positive choices for their health and wellbeing.

We recognise how busy this time of year can be for students and it is great to see so many continuing to engage in physical activity. Maintaining regular participation in PE and sport plays an important role in supporting hauora and overall wellbeing during this final stretch of the year.



## KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Supporters Evening - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Kapa Haka and Pasifika Performance Evening - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Year 13 Spirit Week - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Gumboot Friday - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

House Chant Competition - 24<sup>th</sup> October

Labour Day - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Senior Prizegiving at 6pm - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

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