

# ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term One, Week Three  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### ENGLISH FACULTY

It has been a busy start to the year for the English Faculty. We have welcomed a new teacher, Ms Kseniia Opaleva. Ms Opaleva is teaching two Year 9 English classes and a Year 11 class. We also welcome back Mrs Karen Flay who is also teaching a Year 9 English class. We are very lucky to have both these ladies on board this year and wish them well.

Our Year 9 and 10s have kicked off the year with zest by sitting their E-Asttle reading and writing tests. The important information that these tests provide, will help inform our teaching programmes, ensuring we are giving our students the best possible learning opportunities. Next term we will be introducing a new testing regime called SMART testing. Our junior school focus this term is our identity. Within this context we are reading and writing about how we are shaped as individuals. We are immersing our students in many different genres of text including short stories, extended texts, poems and songs. The emphasis will be on understanding the author's purpose and intention, examining how language features contribute to the text's purpose and understanding our own responses to the text. Within a writing lens we are working on narrative structure, PEEL paragraphs and, as always, punctuation and grammar.

The CAA exams are a major event in the life of our Year 10s. The CAA consists of a reading and writing component. Each examination is worth 5 NCEA Level 1 credits. The first set of exams will take place in May and therefore, we are now preparing our learners for this. I expect them all to do themselves proud.



SMART



STUDENT MONITORING,  
ASSESSMENT *and*  
REPORTING TOOL



CAA

Common  
Assessment  
Activities

Empowering learners to succeed

# ENGLISH FACULTY

In the senior school our Year 11 cohort are experiencing their first NCEA assessment standard. The new learning and expected level of attainment will initially be a challenge for these students, however, as the term progresses they will settle into the expectations of a new assessment regime. All three levels have begun the year with determination and focus.



The English Faculty of 2026 are pleased with the manner in which all their classes have begun and are very much looking forward to the teaching and learning that will take place this year.

Students in action



Empowering learners to succeed

# B-Hive Cafe

## Sweet Success At The B-Hive Cafe!

The B-Hive Cafe is officially back in action and we are buzzing with excitement as the team works steadily toward resuming full service.

### Putting the "Cool" in School

This week, our students took on a delicious new challenge: mastering the real fruit ice cream machine. It was not just about the finished product, it was a massive team effort that required seamless coordination:

- **The Prep Crew:** Prepping fresh ingredients to ensure the perfect flavour.
- **The Sales Team:** Managing orders and greeting customers with a smile.
- **The Cone Specialists:** Ensuring every scoop had a sturdy and tasty home.
- **The Artisans:** Operating the machinery to craft that perfect swirl.



### Courage Behind The Counter

Stepping into a service role takes more than just technical skill—it takes courage and strength to put yourself out there and manage the pressure of a live kitchen environment. Our Level 3 Hospitality students are proving to be an exemplary group, demonstrating professionalism and grit as they refine their craft.

We are incredibly proud of their progress and cannot wait to see what they serve up next!

## Key dates

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

College Swimming Sports

College Athletics

Badging Ceremony

Pi Day

Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences

Cross Country

Colour Run

Term One ends

**Empowering learners to succeed**