

ÖTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Three, Week Two - Monday 21st July - Friday 25th July 2025

VOICES OF HOPE

On Monday, our College had the incredible opportunity to host a fresh session featuring inspiring guest speakers from the Voices of Hope NZ Foundation, Jaz and Genevieve. We were incredibly lucky to receive this for free, a truly generous opportunity that benefited our entire student body. Their visit was not only engaging, but also packed with valuable insights that resonated deeply with both the student body and staff alike.

During the session, Jaz and Genevieve delivered several key messages focused on mental wellbeing, resilience and the importance of seeking help and pursuing a life of purpose. A particularly impactful message they shared was that it is not weak to speak, reinforcing the idea that vulnerability and asking for support are signs of strength, not weakness. Their anecdotes and experiences powerfully illustrated the challenges they faced and how they overcame obstacles related to mental health.

Additionally, Jaz and Genevieve generously provided us with an array of amazing resources. These included books, websites and tools specifically designed to support mental health, personal development and emotional wellbeing.

Overall, the session was a resounding success, leaving participants inspired and equipped with new knowledge and a renewed sense of purpose. We are incredibly grateful for the time and effort Jaz and Genevieve shared with us and we look forward to implementing their insights in our daily lives, promoting a more supportive and understanding community within our College.









HEALTH AND PE FACULTY

A cold and wet Term 3 has certainly reminded us that winter sport is well and truly here! Despite the weather, students have been embracing the challenge, with Physical Education lessons focusing heavily on winter sports skill development, gameplay strategies and teamwork. This has been particularly valuable as we prepare students for upcoming King Country Badminton Days and Volleyball Days. Those selected to attend have been putting in some excellent practice sessions, sharpening their skills and developing confidence ahead of these exciting interschool events.

The Year 11 Physical Education and Health students recently had a fantastic day out as part of their NCEA assessment, participating in a competitive Netball Tournament. The day was a great success, with students demonstrating outstanding effort, teamwork and determination as they worked to meet the criteria for their standard. Their hard work has the potential to earn them five valuable Level 1 NCEA credits and their conduct on and off the court was a credit to themselves and the College.

In Health classes, learning has been equally engaging. The Junior classes have been exploring important topics around Sexuality Education, developing their understanding of relationships, personal values and respect for others. Meanwhile, Senior students are tackling the thought-provoking 'Taking Action and Ethical Issues' unit, where they are analysing and debating real-world ethical challenges linked to wellbeing, an important step in developing critical thinking skills for both life and future studies.

The Junior Modules programme welcomed its new intake for Term 3, with fresh groups in both BoxFit and Train2Gain. Students have embraced the challenges and opportunities these physically demanding Modules offer, showing great enthusiasm and determination. Through engaging in challenging physical experiences, they are developing important qualities such as training discipline, consistency and skill execution. It has been an impressive start to the term, with students approaching each session with energy and a positive attitude.

With Derived Grade Exams approaching, revision and exam preparation continue in the background. Students are encouraged to make the most of the support available to them, ask questions and practise key skills both in class and at home.

Finally, a reminder that the winter weather is still with us, students are encouraged to bring a warm change of clothes for PE to ensure they stay comfortable and healthy during outdoor sessions.

The enthusiasm, effort and resilience shown by our students this term has been fantastic. Well done to all and we look forward to seeing continued progress as we head into the latter part of Term 3.



KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

College Board Information Session - Monday 28th July @1.30pm in the B-H1ve Cafe

College Ball - Friday 1st August

Derived Grade Exams - 18th - 22nd August

Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences - Tuesday 16th September

Waiwaia Festival - 18th September

Term 3 ends - 19th September

