

ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Four, Week Eight – Monday 2nd December – Friday 6th December 2024



SCIENCE FACULTY

On Friday 29th November the Science Roadshow was hosted at Ōtorohanga College. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to engage with science in a dynamic and interactive way, with live shows and hands-on exhibits by twelve trained presenters.

It is great to see Year 9 students and others from the local primary schools being inspired and educated about science and technology.

Events like this not only make learning exciting, but also help connect young minds to real-world applications of science.



SCIENCE FACULTY

Growing and harvesting your own vegetables is a rewarding experience. The Let It Grow Junior Module has been busy successfully growing a range of vegetables in the College gardens and now it is time to harvest them.

Beetroot, potatoes, courgettes and onions are some of the fresh produce being grown and picked to share with staff and students. Roasted new potatoes were enjoyed by the class on Wednesday afternoon.



STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Last week Jared Paterson attended the The Blue Light Life Skills Camp at Whenuapai, in partnership with the NZ Defence Force Youth Development Unit.

“I learnt valuable life skills, like team work communication/listening skills etc. I met some awesome people that will be lifelong friends, people who have the same interest and outlook on life as myself.

It was an experience I would encourage anyone to try.”



Empowering learners to succeed

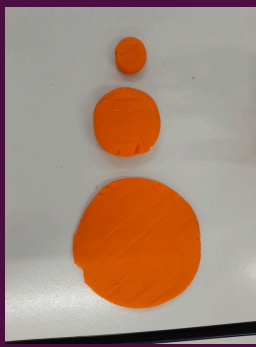
PASIFIKA JUNIOR MODULE

As part of the funds our Pasifika Module generated from the Pasifika Market Day, we were able to go on our class trip to Rainbow's End. The trip was an amazing opportunity for our class to bond outside of the classroom and experience a day filled with fun and laughter. Many students went out of their comfort zone and tried rides for the first time and should be very proud of themselves.

We genuinely appreciate everyone's support in making this day happen. Your contributions helped create wonderful memories that we will cherish for a long time and we are grateful for the community spirit that brought us all together.



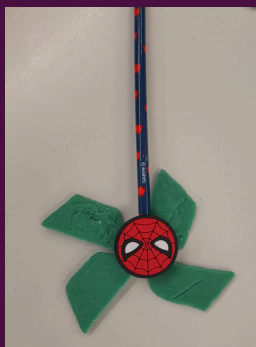
Empowering learners to succeed



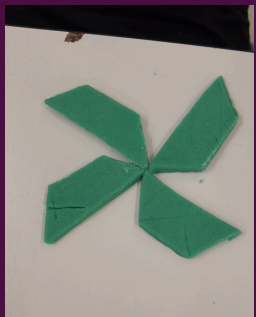
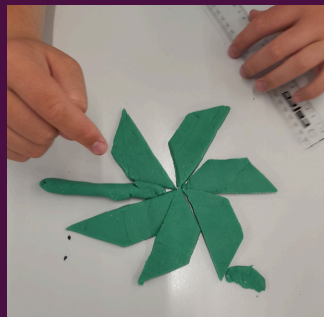
MATHEMATICS FACULTY

Transformational Geometry

To make the learning a more hands on experience Year 9 Roto got to work with playdough again! It has been a few years since most of the students had their hands on playdough so there was a fair bit of excitement in B1.



The challenge was to make a series of shapes that showed some of the following concepts being explored. Enlarging a shape by a whole number as well as using a fraction of a number that resulted in a smaller shape than the original. Students were also exploring rotation around a point in either a positive direction or rotating anticlockwise. The most obvious use of the playdough was creating a symmetrical shape using a mirror line in the middle of the shape either horizontally or vertically.



You may also notice a bit of creative license sneaking in with a snowman and spiderman appearing in the math lesson.

The final advantage of using the playdough was to remind the students about the volume of shapes when a slightly thicker trapezium or two turned up on the desks.

YEAR 8 WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA INTERVIEWS

The transition from Year 8 to Year 9 is a critical phase in a student's academic and personal development. It marks a shift toward greater independence, responsibility and preparation for future pathways as well as navigating friendships.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week the College opened its doors for the inaugural Year 8 Whakawhanaungatanga Interviews. With the aim of providing support and guidance to ease anxiety and foster confidence during this pivotal time of transition, Year 8 students and their whānau met with the Principal, Deputy Principals, Dean or Empower Whakamana teachers, for the sharing of advice and experiences all while building important relationships.

As goals were set, Modules chosen and any questions addressed, the Year 8 students and whānau left feeling more prepared for future success.



Empowering learners to succeed



EVENTS PLANNER JUNIOR MODULE

The Events Planner Module have completed their College events over the last week. There was a squash taster, with the squash rally wall. The team also ran a wall competition where the ball had to be skillfully hit against the wall within a target. The winner was Khyem Reed with 500!

The other team rolled out clothesline volleyball, pegging sheets to the net to obstruct the vision of both teams. This provided a lot of laughs and some skilful teamwork.

Finally, the fashion show was a showcase of creative talent. Teams had 10 minutes to create and model their designs. The categories were jewellery made of newspaper, a sarong-tying event and business logo design.

The teams showed great leadership. A big thank you to the Clark family for the squash rally wall.

BOX FIT JUNIOR MODULE

The Box Fit crew is pushing hard and making great progress, despite the warmer conditions in the Gym!

Fitness levels have been building as we head toward the end of the year and end of term Box Fit conditioning test to see the improvements they have made during these sessions.



SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY

Finding ways to engage and immerse students to explore Ancient Civilisations is always challenging.

Ancient Egyptian mummification is always a fascinating topic for students, blending history, science and culture.

Hands-on activities can make the learning experience even more impactful.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Corey Hobbs and Takarei Bidois who have been selected to attend the Chiefs U16 Development Clinic .

These players will attend a development clinic at Chiefs HQ which will focus on testing, fundamental skills, pathway system and opportunities and game based skills.

CHIEFS U16 DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

KING COUNTRY SELECTED PLAYERS

WILLIAM GILMER
COREY HOBBS
JOE HEMA
MATTIE WADE
RYAN HUME
TAKAREI BIDOIS
TAMEHANA CALDWELL



Empowering learners to succeed

ENGLISH FACULTY

It has been a busy and productive term for the English Faculty. We have completed our last set of asTTle testing for the year and received our latest CAA Literacy results. We have also been reading novels, creating Minecraft writing and studying the writing of the bard of Avon himself, William Shakespeare.

Year 9 Wai and Year 9 Motu thoroughly enjoyed reading, analysing and writing about the timeless tale of love and loss, Romeo and Juliet. With a special student friendly version of the play at their disposal they were able to read, understand and comment on the universal themes within the play. Here are some reflections from these students:

“The stories Hinemoa and Tutanekai and Romeo and Juliet have many similarities and share similar themes. Both stories have the main characters coming from opposite backgrounds and getting married and both include the overall theme of love. This shows the universal theme of love which is present in both stories even though the stories come from different cultural backgrounds, different countries and from different times. This demonstrates how themes are universally used in different texts varying in different cultures and societies over time.” (Maz)

“Parting is such sweet sorrow” – I like this quote because Juliet is dreading being apart from her love. (Madison)

“All are punished” – “I like this quote because it demonstrates how, if you let conflict escalate, everyone will suffer in some way or another.” (Sienna O)

“Romeo and Juliet was good, because it teaches us not to let emotions rule our lives.” (Nathaniel)

Alongside the classics, we have been exploring the more modern with a whole cohort, Year 9, Minecraft competition. This competition culminated in a creative writing survival focus. Ms Wallace coordinated this competition with Year 9 Roto taking out the prize of a pizza lunch!

It has been a busy and productive year and we are looking forward to welcoming our new and current students back in 2025.



KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday 11th December Year 9 Te Awamutu Pools Trip

Wednesday 11th December Year 10 Timezone / Movies Trip

Friday 13th December Junior Prizegiving at 9.30am in the Hall

Empowering learners to succeed