

ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term One, Week Five - Monday 26th February - Friday 1st March 2024

BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP

On Wednesday Ms Rymer, Whaea Victoria and the Year 12 Biology students headed off to Pureora Forest which is located approximately 15 minutes drive south-east of Benneydale. The weather was perfect; a clear sunny day that was comfortably cool in the shade of the forest.

The biologists' mission was to gather data to support their write-up for their current NCEA Standard which focuses on ecological patterns. Since the pattern for the report is stratification (layers) in forests, students measured humidity, temperature, wind speed and light intensity at different heights (making use of the DOC tower) in order to identify any differences. They will now use their data to write a report explaining how plants within different layers of the forest are adapted to survive and thrive in the environmental conditions of the layer they occupy.

The trip allowed students to get a glimpse of what being an ecologist out in the field might be like as well as help make connections between classroom theory and real world biology.



MĀORI FACULTY

The Māori Faculty has had a fantastic start to the year. In the Junior classes, students have been learning about whakapapa and whānau taonga. They have been exploring kōrero about whānau and learning about the importance of family connections.

The Senior students have returned to College with a hunger to learn and have been working hard to prepare for their first assessments of the year. They are focused and motivated to do well in their studies.

We are pleased to welcome Whaea Vanessa and Matua Kristofer who are now teaching junior classes in the Faculty. They have brought with them a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with our students.

Overall, it has been a productive and successful start to the year in the Māori Faculty. We look forward to seeing our students continue to grow and succeed in their studies.



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ATHLETICS DAY

This week saw House groups battle for that all important Athletics trophy and bragging rights for the remainder of the year.

A highly contested 3000m on Monday set the scene for those all valuable participation and important placings points. Eveleigh dominated this event with Alex Rye, Mya Needham, Rhys Bernsten-Maniapoto and Kiera Mansell all placing first in their respective age groups. Hotson turned up this year with the numbers, making sure no one would forget that they mean business.

It was superb conditions for this annual year's Interhouse Athletics event. All four House groups showed up with high spirits, good numbers and fabulous attitudes on Thursday, determined to change the points and see their House victorious.

Over the course of the day, the leading House moved back and forth. Student participation levels were high and the exceptional athleticism of students like Emma Clarke, Holly Church, Aviva Mudge, Lana Roach, Henry Murchie and Noah Brownlie ensured their Houses received over 50 points in placings each.

A special mention for Brown House member Riley Smith, who broke the Junior Boys High Jump record with an outstanding jump of 1.57cm. This record was previously held by L Killalea with a jump of 1.56cm in 1968.

At the end of the day, Hotson House absolutely blew all the other Houses out of the water, winning with exactly 100 more points than second place Brown. Eveleigh were pushed back to third place and Kedgley came in at fourth place.

A special thank you to whānau for coming to support and our students for demonstrating Honour Before Honours.



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Check our College Sports Facebook Page for the link to more photos

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