

ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS



Term One, Week Ten - Wednesday 3rd - Friday 5th April 2024

GOLF

2024 is full of options and one of those is now golf. After finalising paperwork and seeking support from Waitomo Golf Club 8 keen golfers took to the tee box on Tuesday afternoon. With the sun at our backs and the fairways before us we unleashed a hailstorm of golfballs in all directions!!! After a frenzy of excitement teams were selected, then negotiated again by the 3rd hole and some serious fun was had between the students.



A big shout out to Jaz Stafford who has kindly volunteered to help out with some coaching here at the College during lunchtime on Tuesdays. We look forward to more adventures at Waitomo and hopefully further afield in secondary golf competitions.



ŌRĀKAU COMMEMORATIONS

As the fog ascended in the early hours of Tuesday April 2nd 2024, whānau, hapū, community gathered to remember the battle of Ōrākau. Fires were lit, significant flags were raised, karakia recited, it was time to remember the many tupuna who had fought for the whenua and the right to assert sovereignty 160 years ago. Among the thousands that came to remember this significant day were our senior student leaders Takarei Bidois and Luke Coles.



I roto i tōku ngakau ko te tuarua ō Aperira tetahi ō aku ra tino nui i roto i nga kōrero ō mua, ā, na te noho ki Rātū i kaha ake ai tōku aroha ki tōku iwi me te mana e mau nei mātou. "Ka whawhai tonu matou" ko te tikanga kare rawa tātou e mutu te whawhai, e kore e wareware, ka noho noa tātou. Maniapoto whanui Ē Tū!! Rākina!! Ōrākau nui tōnu. Nā Takarei Bidois



Just 10 years earlier, young students Waimarama Anderson, Leah Bell, Zak Henry, Tai Jones, Kiana Ormsby and others voiced their concerns about the lack of local history in the curriculum in Aotearoa at the time. The fire was lit within these rangatahi to remember our own tupuna and ngā tohu whenua and to ensure these are remembered through education. We are proud of their efforts because today our students are able to connect to our own history, our own pūrakau and create a shared understanding of the history of Aotearoa New Zealand.

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SPORTS SNIPPET

Students are committed to their winter trainings and working on team work for their chosen sports.

College A and Junior A netball are committed to brisk trainings on Wednesday mornings from 7-8am. The other three netball teams have begun trainings with the first week of grading starting tonight.

Senior boys' football have begun their trainings on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Girls are on Wednesdays and junior boys are yet to start. Basketball and rugby trainings have begun in preparation for the start of their competitions next term.



CULTURAL VISIT - A NUI TAPUTAPUATEA, TAHITI

Today was an incredible day for our College as we welcomed a group from A Nui Taputapuatea Tahiti to share their unique culture with us. It was a momentous occasion that inspired us all to embrace diversity and celebrate cultural differences. The traditional pōwhiri ceremony, led by our student leaders, Poly Group Pasifika OC and Whaea Miriama's Māori classes set the tone for a day full of learning, sharing and joy. Matua Kristofer spoke on behalf of the College and was very inspirational. We were honoured to receive special gifts from the group, a Mauri stone that symbolises the spiritual and physical essence of our community.

The tour group filled the air with their beautiful songs and dances and we were thrilled to join them on stage to perform together. We were amazed by their talent and the passion they brought to the performance. The blessings they offered for our drums were unforgettable and it was an honour to be part of their first use. Our College presented the group with books showcasing our rohe and country and they were each given a stunning taonga designed by Whaea Miriama and created by Ms Jennifer Roughton. The exchange of gifts was a powerful symbol of the bond we share and the value we place on cultural exchange.

As we closed the presentation with a karakia led by Matua Robbie Neha we all felt a sense of gratitude and hope. Our students showcased haka from our rohe and our Poly group provided a range of delicious Polynesian food items for our visitors. It was a day filled with laughter, learning and friendship. We are grateful to Whaea Miriama for her leadership of the pōwhiri and to Miss Seilala Makasale for organising this exchange and to the Poly group for their hosting. This visit has reminded us of the power of cultural exchange to enrich our lives and broaden our perspectives. We look forward to continuing this journey of discovery and learning.

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TECHNOLOGY FACULTY

Senior hospitality students have been conducting some student lead projects of interest and on this occasion we made Parāoa Parai: fry bread.

Students arrived before interval to make their dough to allow it resting time before the big cook could begin. We explored the plate cutting technique and there were wonderful conversations around the class as students told of their experiences making fry bread with whānau. For some though, it was the first time they had been able to complete the whole process by themselves. In the end the results were delicious and plentiful so students got to share with friends.



JUNIOR MODULES

Kai Passport students are enjoying visiting a different country each week, learning basic facts about it then cooking and enjoying a dish from that country. Swedish meatballs were a hit last week, Students commented that it was the best recipe so far. This week was russian beef bourguignon.



Whenua to Whānau are completing theory on nutrition, healthy food options and cooking a variety of different foods. This week was banana fritters with icecream. Students definitely enjoyed these.



WOOD TECHNOLOGY

The Level 1 Woodwork students are positive and enthusiastic learners. During Term One they have been constructing a folding stool. Most of the students will have their projects ready to take home for the school holidays.



FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 12th April End of Term One

Monday 29th April Term Two begins

Monday 13th May Year 9 Careers Speed Dating

Tuesday 14th May College Cross Country

Friday 17th May Pink Shirt Day

Tuesday 21st May King Country Cross Country

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