

ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Three, Week One - Monday 14th July - Friday 18th July 2025



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK Lyndsay Kurth

Kia ora koutou

A very warm welcome to Term Three. I hope the recent term break was a time of rest and reconnection for you and your whānau and that you managed to enjoy some well-earned downtime amidst busy lives. Coming back for Term Three always feels a bit like setting off on a new adventure in the middle of a familiar story. We are halfway through the year, but there is still so much ahead of us to learn, do and celebrate together. It has been wonderful to see our students return to College refreshed and ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Term Three is often described as the heart of the College year. It is a crucial time for consolidating learning and setting clear goals for the months ahead. For our senior students, this term is especially important as they complete internal assessments, prepare for Derived Grade Examinations and begin to focus intently on their end-of-year results. For our junior students, it is a time to deepen their skills, try new activities and build strong habits that will serve them well in the years to come.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you sincerely for your continued support of our College and your child's learning. We know that education works best when we are in true partnership with families and whānau - when we share the same aspirations for our young people and work together to help them reach their potential.

As John C. Maxwell said, "Teamwork makes the dream work." We are fortunate to have a dedicated team of teachers and staff - and the most important members of that team are you, our parents and caregivers. Your involvement, encouragement and support at home make a huge difference to your child's engagement and success at College.

This term promises to be full and vibrant. Alongside classroom learning, there will be sports tournaments and cultural events and many opportunities for students to develop their leadership and give back to the College and wider community. We encourage all students to get involved and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

I also want to remind you that our doors are always open. Please stay connected with us - whether through Parent, Student and Teacher Conferences, contacting your child's teachers or Dean, attending College events, or simply having conversations at home about what your child is learning and how they are feeling. Your engagement helps us to better support every learner, every day.

As we head into this term together, let us keep our shared goal at the centre: that every student feels valued, supported and challenged to be their best - in the classroom and beyond.

Thank you once again for your continued trust and partnership. Together, we can help our young people grow into confident, capable and caring adults who will make a positive difference in the world.

In closing - welcome back to the adventure. Let us make this term one we look back on and say:

We did good things.
We grew.
We made a difference.

Ngā mihi nui.

Lyndsay Kurth

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STRONGER TOGETHER BE PRESENT

Kia ora,

To truly excel, students need to consistently show up. We have been so inspired by the amazing work of the Attendance Team at Kelston Boys High, we are excited to implement our own competition based on their fantastic initiatives!

Attendance will be tracked and shared with you every week. House points will be based on each week's attendance results and the Empower Whakamana class with the highest average attendance will receive a prize!

This week, the class with the highest attendance average is Mr Mudges' Year 9 Hotson Empower Whakamana, with 95.1%.

The House that is in first place is Hotson House. Will they take the top spot in Week 10?

Important Notes on Attendance:

Your cooperation is vital to the success of this initiative and to ensuring the best possible experience for our students.

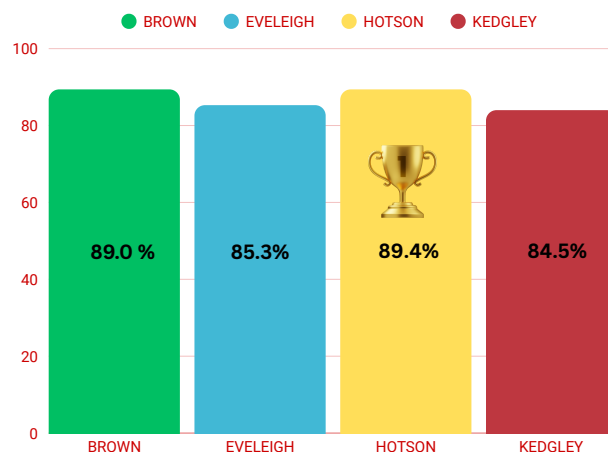
Please remember:

- If a student arrives late, they must sign in at the Office.
- If a student is going to be absent, please email or leave a message at the Office.
- If we do not hear from you regarding an absence, we will send a text alert. Please respond or send an email in reply.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring the best possible experience for our students.

Ngā mihi,

Whaea Vanessa and the Hauora Team





FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

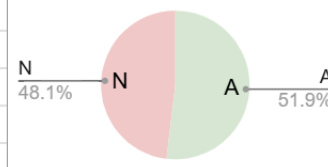
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

CAA Results

Last term, our Year 10s and some senior students undertook the Common Assessment Activities (CAAs), which are essential co-requisites for achieving any NCEA certificate. NZQA's markers have completed assessing these and the final results were released on Monday, July 14th. The detailed results are presented in the tables and graphs below.

Reading Results						
	Achieved		Not Achieved		Total attempted	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Y10	47	56.0	37	44.0	84	100
Y11	17	43.6	22	56.4	39	100
Y12	4	50.0	4	50.0	8	100
Y13	1	50.0	1	50.0	2	100

Overall Success



Writing Results						
	Achieved		Not Achieved		Total attempted	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Y10	38	48.1	41	51.9	79	100.0
Y11	2	6.7	28	93.3	30	100.0
Y12	3	37.5	5	62.5	8	100.0
Y13	1	33.3	2	66.7	3	100.0

Overall Success



Numeracy Results						
	Achieved		Not Achieved		Total attempted	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Y10	37	47.4	41	52.6	78	100.0
Y11	18	36.7	31	63.3	49	100.0
Y12	9	56.3	7	43.8	16	100.0
Y13	3	100.0	0	0.0	3	100.0

Overall Success



We extend our sincere congratulations to all students who successfully achieved one, two, or all three of their CAAs! This marks a significant milestone in their academic journey.

Students who have not yet done so can view their results online by logging into their NZQA account. The NZQA website also provides a report for those who did not achieve, highlighting areas where sufficient or insufficient evidence was provided during the assessment. Alternatively, results can be checked on the College's KAMAR Portal.

Our Next Steps

We have thoroughly analyzed the CAA results, utilising the NZQA reports and have developed a targeted approach to support students in passing their CAAs. Our plan includes:

- College-wide daily literacy activities
- Small group literacy and numeracy tutoring, specifically tailored to students' individual needs.

Next Round Of CAAs

Writing: Tuesday 9th September

Reading: Wednesday 10th September

Numeracy: Thursday 11th September

ENGLISH FACULTY

Week one of Term 3 has begun with a hiss and a roar for the English Faculty. Our junior school is jumping right into novel studies, poetry units and film units. Our seniors are finishing NCEA assessments and beginning their study programmes for our internal exams which begin in August.



Shakespeare is the focus of our learning in our junior school this term with both Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth being taught in some Year 9 and 10 classes. The poetry of World War I is also a focus for Year 10 this term. We will focus on how the poets of World War I expressed themselves, the language they used and the conditions which they laboured under in order to share their horror and disenchantment with the world. This unit is a foundational one which builds on next year's Year 11s first NCEA assessment which is to demonstrate understanding of specific aspects of studied text.

Our first round of CAA exams have been marked and returned. We will now concentrate on preparing our students for the next round, which is in September. To those students who achieved both Literacy and Numeracy we offer our congratulations. To those who are still yet to attain this qualification we say, keep trying and you will get there with support and determination!

Term three also sees our senior school exam preparation underway with our NCEA Derived Grade examinations taking place. These exams are critical to our students as they not only prepare them for externals but also provide us with a derived grade in the event of sickness or inability to attend the externals later in the year. All senior students from Year 11 to 13 will participate in these exams.



The English Faculty is looking forward to the term ahead. We are looking motivated about teaching the novels and films we have selected for our students but most importantly, we are excited about the learning that will be taking place.



KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Teacher Only Day - Wednesday 23rd July
College Ball - Friday 1st August
Derived Grade Exams - 18th - 22nd August
Parent, Teacher and Student Conference - Tuesday 16th September
Waiwaia Festival - 18th September
Term 3 ends - 19th September

BOARD MEETING DATES

Term Three

- Week 5: Tuesday 12th August
- Week 10: Tuesday 15th September

Term Four

- Week 5: Tuesday 4th November
- Week 10: Tuesday 9th December

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