



ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Term Two, Week Two – Monday 5th May – Friday 9th May 2025

HEALTH AND PE FACULTY

Health and PE Update – Term 2 Kicks Off with Colour, Challenge and Commitment

The start of Term 2 in the Health and PE Faculty has been full of energy, effort and excitement as students prepared for the much anticipated Cross Country and Colour Run. Across all year levels, classes have been building up their endurance with progressive running sessions. We began with short 1-kilometre runs and have steadily increased the distance as students grew in confidence and fitness.

More than just physical training, students have also been learning about the benefits of running, which include improving cardiovascular health, building mental resilience, reducing stress and enhancing overall wellbeing. While we understand that running can be challenging for some, we have explored simple strategies to reduce those barriers, such as running with friends, listening to music, or simply having the right footwear to make running more enjoyable.

Speaking of running, a huge congratulations to Mrs Wilken, who completed the Rotorua Marathon on Saturday! She was joined by ex-student Sam Connolly and Mr Wilken, who both tackled the half marathon. Their efforts were inspiring for us all. Well done!

The two new basketball hoops have been a hit and are a great addition to the courts. They have provided not only more opportunities for physical activity during breaks and before and after College, but also an extra area that staff can utilise in Physical Education lessons.

Looking ahead, the winter months bring fresh opportunities for our students. Our junior Modules, Box Fit and Train to Gain, have started with great enthusiasm among the new group of students for Term Two. Our Senior Athlete Development Programme (ADP) students are well into their personalised training cycles.

Meanwhile, senior PE classes are gearing up for their big practical assessments, including the Tough Guy/Gal Challenge and the 5km Road Run. Both are exciting milestones that test endurance, mental toughness and teamwork.

Our Year 11 students have been actively engaging in a range of team-based movement experiences as they work towards their 1.3 Physical Education assessment. It is been fantastic to see them collaborating, reflecting and developing key interpersonal skills. Through each activity, students have been having thoughtful discussions about what strategies and communication techniques worked well, what did not and how they can adapt to improve their performance as a team. Their growing ability to problem-solve and support one another is a great reflection of the learning happening both on and off the field.

In the junior Health space, students have been exploring the important topics of Safe Social Media at Year 9 and Fitness and Nutrition at Year 10.

There is plenty to look forward to in Health and PE this term. We are proud of the commitment our students are showing and cannot wait to see their progress continue.



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HEALTH AND PE FACULTY

The conditions were great for the championship race this morning. Well done to all the participants.

BOYS

Junior Boys: 3km

1st Luca Takao (Hotson) 13:17 - 10 Points
2nd Logan Hartman-Wade (Hotson) 13:42 - 8 Points
3rd Seth Philip (Brown) 15:00 - 6 Points

Participation Points Junior Boys

B- 8
E- 6
H- 6
K- 4

Intermediate Boys: 4km

1st - Thomas Corley (Brown) 16:32 - 10 Points
2nd - Zach Davey (Hotson) 16:52 - 8 Points
3rd - Harley Parnwell (Kedgley) 17:15 - 6 Points

Participation Points Intermediate Boys

B- 4
E- 6
H- 8
K- 10

Senior Boys: 5km

1st - Brady Cooper (Kedgley) 23:29 - 10 Points
2nd - Alex Davey (Hotson) 25:22 - 8 Points
3rd - Damien Huxtable (Hotson) 26:05 - 6 Points

Participation Points Senior Boys

B- 2
E- 4
H- 6
K- 4

GIRLS

Junior Girls: 3km - Staff member at the turn point is MT

1st - Hannah Wilson (Hotson) 14:06 - 10 Points
2nd - Delice Clarke (Eveleigh) 14:51 - 8 Points
3rd - Tanna Morrow (Brown) 15:20 6 Points

Participation Points Junior Girls

B- 4 Points
E- 4 Points
H- 12 Points
K- 6 Points

Intermediate Girls: 4km

1st - Jasmine Downs-Bryant (Eveleigh) 20:39 - 10 Points
2nd - Bayley Kerr (Brown) 21:41 - 8 Points
3rd - Morgan Kurth (Hotson) 22:04 - 6 Points

Participation Points Junior Girls

B- 6
E- 2
H- 2
K- 10

Senior Girls: 4km

1st - Sophie Pereira - (Brown) 20:54 - 10 Points
2nd - Aviva Mudge - (Hotson) 22:50 - 8 Points
3rd - Holly Church - (Eveleigh) 23:35 6 Points

Participation Points Junior Girls

B- 2
E- 4
H- 4
K- 2

Overall Points for 2025 Championship Cross Country Final Standings:

Hotson – 96 points 🏆

Brown – 66 points

Kedgley – 52 points

Eveleigh – 50 points

Thanks again to all those marshalls and helpers. You did an awesome job out there. Ngā mihi.

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Combined Leadership Day: Forging Connections and Fun!

This week marked an inspiring first as Whaea Vanessa led a gathering of 32 young leaders from across our rohe! We were thrilled to join forces with students from Te Kuiti High School, Pio Pio College, Taumarunui High School and Te Whare Kura o Maniapoto for a memorable combined leadership day.

The day was a fantastic opportunity for whakawhanaungatanga, allowing our Student Leaders to build new relationships and strengthen connections with their peers from other schools. Our adventure began with an exciting trip to Hamilton, where teams dove headfirst into the challenge of escape rooms.

It was truly amazing to witness the incredible collaboration and teamwork as students put their problem-solving skills to the test, working together to decipher clues and unlock mysteries! The sounds of groups screaming also left a long-lasting memory!

The fun continued into the afternoon as we headed to Sky City for some friendly competition and socialising at the bowling alley. The sounds of laughter and cheering filled the air as everyone enjoyed some relaxed downtime and the chance to connect more personally.

The energy and enthusiasm displayed throughout the day were truly infectious. This inaugural combined leadership day was a resounding success, fostering a strong sense of unity and shared purpose amongst the young leaders of our rohe.

We are incredibly excited about nurturing these new connections and eagerly anticipate future combined leadership opportunities, events and experiences.

Keep an eye out for what is next with this amazing group of leaders!



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COLOUR RUN

Get ready for the Colour Run!



Friday, 9th May

Despite the rain, spirits were sky-high as our students took on the first-ever Colour Run and Competitive Cross Country day mash-up. The wet weather did not dampen the day—in fact, it only added to the energy and excitement! Students showed incredible teamwork, challenged themselves and embraced the chance to get active in a fun, vibrant and memorable way.

House challenge stations added a great sense of friendly competition, with students earning points for their House as they moved through colourful, obstacle-filled zones. From sponge tosses to slip 'n' slides, every station brought laughter, effort and plenty of splashes!

The day was not just about fun—it was also a chance to recognise excellence. We celebrated our competitive cross country runners and gave out spot prizes, hand-picked by our House Leaders, during a special whole College assembly to finish off the event.

Some of the student voice we heard today included:

"I didn't think running in the rain and getting pelted with colour would be so fun – but it was awesome!"

"The sponge toss and slip 'n' slide were my favourite stations – I wish we could do this every week!"

"It was great to see everyone out there giving it a go, even if we were soaked!"

Adding to the buzz was a selection of food trucks that brought amazing smells, tasty treats and a festival vibe that kept students, staff and whānau lingering long after the finish line.

A massive thanks to all the staff, student leaders and helpers who made this epic day happen – we are already counting down to next year's event!

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COLOUR RUN



KEY DATES AND FUTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Pink Shirt Day - Friday 16th May

Photolife at College - Monday 19th May

CAA Examinations - Tuesday 20th May to Thursday 22nd May

Kyoai Gakuen High School from Japan visit the College - Friday 23rd May

Ō Factor - Friday 6th June

Inglewood High School Exchange - Tuesday 10th June

Matariki Celebrations and the Term Two Report emailed home - Thursday 19th June

Term Two ends - Friday 27th June

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