

Te Kāreti o Ōpōtiki ŌPŌTIKI COLLEGE

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KĀRETI KŌRERO

8th Poutū-te-rangi 2024

Issue 2

Principal's Message

Congratulations to all our participants and competitors who did themselves proud and their Houses at our school athletics on Friday 1 March. It was a vibrant, positive day and the beautiful weather made it even more enjoyable. The highlight of the day, as always, was the House Relays. What a way to finish the day! Well done to our organisers – Whaea Sophie, Whaea Micaela and also to all the staff who helped make this day a success. A big shout out to Maurau-Ki-Tua who placed first for athletics, Manatū placed second and Taitoa, third. Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa!

Property Update

Many of you may already be aware that some school projects have been paused while the MOE undertakes a review. Unfortunately, our college is one of those schools. The redevelopment of B Block has been identified as a project which has high cost of delivery and will require an internal review.

MOE has advised that the review will be completed internally by the end of this week. In the meantime the redevelopment will need to pause while the Ministry work through this process. The demolition of C Block will still proceed.

As much as this is frustrating news, be assured that I will continue to work closely with the Board to keep the pressure on the Ministry to complete our rebuild as per the Agreement. We would really appreciate your continued support, whānau.

Phones away for the day

As you may be aware the Government has introduced regulations that require all state schools to put in place school rules regarding the use of phones. The regulations require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a phone while they are attending school, including during lunch time and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds.

International research indicates that phones in schools are not conducive for learning and for student wellbeing. Therefore, these regulations have been put in place to ensure that the learning of all students is maximised, while minimising any potential for distraction and cyber-bullying.

Our approach is that we recommend students leave their phones at home. If you need to contact your child during school hours, then please ring our school office: (07) 3157022. All messages will be passed on to the rightful person. Any breach of the phone regulation will result in the following:

- 1. Phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day. The student may collect it from the office at the end of school.*
- 2. Repeated disregard for the rules around phones will result in the phone being confiscated for a longer period of time. Staff discretion.*
- 3. If a phone has been used for bullying purposes, for cyber bullying, to take photos or video record others without their permission, this will result in the phone being confiscated until the end of the term.*
- 4. Any other serious breaches may result in the phone being confiscated for the year.*

In order for the regulations around phones to be effective and not to disrupt our learning programmes, we ask parents/caregivers and whānau to speak to their child about the rules and reinforce the expectations of our college. Parent Representative Vacancy, Board of Trustees

Parent Election Notice

Nominations are open for the election of 1 parent representatives to the school board.

All eligible voters will receive a nomination form. These are available on the College website, Skool Loop or Facebook, and hard copies are available from the College Office.

Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided with the nomination form. If you need more nomination forms, contact the school office.

Nominations close at noon on Tuesday 19 March 2024. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination. The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours. As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until election day, which you can view. Voting closes at 4pm on 23 April 2024.

ERO Visit to Ōpōtiki College

This will be taking place on Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th of March. There have been time slots allocated for our whānau, parents, hapū and iwi to meet with the ERO staff between 10am–10.30am on both days. This will take place in the Wharenuī. Please take this opportunity to come to our kura and share your views with ERO so that we can continue to make improvements in our college for our students.

Terehia Channings—Tumuaki



TOHE NIHORAU

CONNECTED LEARNERS

2024 Head Girl—Missy (Te Ataahua) Kingi

Ko Mātiti te maunga

Ko Waioweka te awa

Ko Ngāti ira te hapū

Ko Te Whakatōhea te iwi

Ko Mātaatua te waka

Ko Hira Te Popo te tangata.

Tēnei te maro kahurua hī huruhuru nui nō manu nō Waioweka.

Ko te atua tōku piringa ka puta, ka ora.

Tēna tātou katoa. I'm a proud descendant of Te Whakatōhea. Leaping my way through our kura I was honoured to be apart of many leadership roles in which gave me the ability to stand here today as the Head girl of 2024.

“Mā te whakakotahitanga te huarahi whakamua” This Whakataukī demonstrates “if we are one, that’s our way of going forward” I strive for this Whakataukī to be a guidance for my leadership team.

I am very passionate about my kura and being able to uplift our profile following our three R’s which are Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience. I am a strong believer in doing things in the right way, at the right time. It is a responsibility for myself and my student leadership team to uphold those rights of students and reassuring that they are getting the best possible outcomes.

I am very grateful for the opportunity that holds a significant role in my life, that continues to build on the person I am becoming. Although there are many challenges that is apart of this role I am willing to come to an acceptance of it by being grounded and remembering who I am and where I come from.

Kia mutu i tēnei kōrero mai i ngā kōrero o te matua tangata “Whakatuwheratia I ngā kūaha o te tika kia mātou i tēnei rā” Tēnei ka mihi.



TOHE RAUARIKI

CONFIDENT CITIZENS



2024 Head Boy—Oliver Herrick

Greetings, Ōpōtiki College Community!
I am honoured to step into the role of your Head Boy, and I extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you.

My name is Oliver Herrick, I am deeply rooted in the heart of our beloved town, Ōpōtiki as I was born here and have lived here my entire life.

As we embark on this journey together, it is imperative that we uphold the fundamental values that define us. Among these, Respect, Responsibility, and Reduced Prices Pack'nSave \$2 Week stand as pillars of what makes a Connected Learner, Confident Citizen.

Ōpōtiki College is more than just a school; it is a tight-knit family where every voice matters and every individual is valued. As your Head Boy, I am committed to fostering an environment where mutual respect, open communication, and inclusivity thrive.

With determination and a sense of duty, I look forward to collaborating with each of you to uphold our school's legacy of excellence and to ensure that every student's experience at Ōpōtiki College is enriched and fulfilling.

Thank you for entrusting me with this responsibility. Let us work together to make this academic year one of growth, achievement, and memorable experiences.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Herrick
Ōpōtiki College Head Boy





HĀPORI ME NGĀ HĀKINAKINA

SPORTS & COMMUNITY



Bay of Plenty Athletics

On Wednesday 6th of March, 3 of our students competed in the Bay of Plenty Athletics Champs.

Takimoana Hei (Yr 9) took part in the Junior Boys High Jump, Long Jump, 200m sprints & 300m sprints.

Alex Wilton (Yr 13) took part in the Senior Boys 1500m & 3000m running events and Mia McWatters (Yr 12) in the Intermediate Girls Javelin.



Cadets

Interested in a career with the New Zealand Defence Force? Find out about more about what you could be doing in the Royal New Zealand Navy, the New Zealand Army, and the Royal New Zealand Airforce.

A Defence Careers Recruiter will be giving a presentation on Wednesday, 13 March 2024, 7:00 pm, at the Ōpōtiki College Cadet Unit, A Block, Bridge Street Entrance, Ōpōtiki College.

Contact NZCFCAPT Lorraine Lawson-Barrett, Cadet Unit Commander, for more information on 021 202 7238.



Important Dates

→ Championship Swimming Events

Tuesday 12th March

→ Level 3 Statistics trip to Whakatōhea Mussel Farm

Tuesday 12th March

→ Level 1 Science trip to Whakatōhea Mussel Farm

Wednesday 13th March

→ Level 2 Statistics trip to Whakatōhea Mussel Farm

Thursday 14th March

→ Ahumoana Whakahihiko—Maurua Year 9

Monday 25th—Thursday 28th March

→ Year 11 Science Aquaculture Systems

Tuesday 26th March

→ Level 2 & 3 Biology Aquaculture Systems

Wednesday 27th March

→ Level 2 Statistics Aquaculture Systems

Thursday 28th March

→ Good Friday (no school)

Friday 29th March

→ Easter Monday & Tuesday (no school)

→ Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd April

→ Last Day Term 1

Friday 12th April