



Otamatea High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Otamatea



Miss Haines & Trista Comer at Bay of Islands Beast



Football Competition Finalists

Principal's Comment

Term two was another action packed term with lots of exciting opportunities that the students were involved in. Otamatea again represented well in sporting activities, winning the South Zone Girls' Football for the first time and narrowly missing out in penalties against Bream Bay for the north/south play off. For the second consecutive year we won the Senior Floorball competition. Cross country continues to be extremely strong with a number of placings in both the Lower North and Northland competitions.

The poetry cafes hosted by the year 7 and 8 syndicate were great events showcasing the poetic talents of our younger students. The audience were sent on a rollercoaster of emotions as students recited their poems ranging from spring and summer to loneliness, death and depression! Parents and caregivers viewed the vibrant wall displays and enjoyed hearing about the learning of their children and of course enjoyed the nibbles provided. Some of the young leaders in the syndicate also attended an inspiring day in Auckland at the National Young Leaders' Day.

Olla Podriga was another spectacular event and once again the hall was packed out full of students, family and community members. The quality was outstanding and it was great to see so many younger students find the confidence to give it a go. As always the audience got behind everyone. The Matariki Festival hosted at Rodney College showcased our kapa haka students, as well as those from other local schools. The whakairo stall was very popular with some of the whakairo students and ex students demonstrating their work, as well as allowing people of all ages to have a go. Many of our students also won prizes in the art competition. Finally some of the adult students of the evening Te Reo Māori class, along with the Kaiwaka Te Reo Māori class, performed some waiata on the stage. All in all, it was a fantastic event, assisted by beautiful weather.

The annual senior school ball was an awesome event, organised by some senior students and Mrs Christie. The Maungaturoto Centennial Hall was decorated as a 50's diner, complete with jukebox. Year 10 students dressed accordingly as waiters and waitresses and the senior students looked amazing in their suits and dresses. Thank you to all those community members who assisted with making such a wonderful evening from the Otamatea Netball Club who provided excellent diner food such as milkshakes, burgers, curly fries and doughnuts. The parents who provided excellent security on the very cold evening and Terri Donaldson for her assistance with the hall preparations and providing numerous costumes for those attending. Thanks also go to Mrs Christie and the ball committee for the many hours of organisation and preparation.

Coming up early in term three (12th – 14th August) is the Reporoa Exchange. This year we will be hosting this competition, which is the longest senior sporting competition in the country, now in its 53rd year. We have won this for the past two years and once again will be looking to retain the shield.

On Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th August we will be holding Open Days at the school. Local school children are invited to come along with their parents and caregivers. These days provide an excellent opportunity to see what the school has to offer.

Rachel Clothier-Simmonds

Academic Mentoring Day

On Wednesday 16th May we hosted our academic mentoring day here at Otamatea High School for senior students in years 11, 12 and 13. This was an opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet with their child and their whānau teacher to discuss overall NCEA progress, progress in each of their subjects as well as the goals that students have set for themselves this year. Parents who could not make it on the Wednesday had their meeting times rescheduled.

It was a very successful day, with over 80% of all parents/caregivers managing to attend these three way conferences. This high attendance rate reflects the value that parents and caregivers place on these meetings, enabling them to see the “big picture” of their child’s NCEA achievement and progress.

We received 90 completed evaluation forms back. Thank you to the parents and caregivers who completed these. We value your feedback and always try and improve the process each year. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with over 98% of all responses either strongly agreeing (66%) or agreeing (32%) with the feedback questions. Congratulations to Georgia Denton (year 12) and to Christine Smith for winning the student and parent prize draws respectively.



Parents are able to email their child’s dean or whānau teacher at any time to find out how they are progressing overall with their NCEA studies. If parents are interested in their child’s progress in a single subject, then they should contact their child’s subject teacher.

Please contact the Deputy Principal, Dirk Smyth dirk.smyth@otamatea.school.nz if you have any questions about the school’s academic mentoring programme.

Robotics start

The school has just purchased small robotics sets to give students some experience as part of the new Digital Technologies Curriculum that is being implemented. Initially a number of year 7’s have been selected to trial and test the robot as a robotics club, and following from that it may be rolled out more widely.

On Friday 6 July students opened the package and tried to see what it could do.



Team leadership event

All self-driven pathways students participated in a team leadership event course. They set up an event for year 8 and 9 students to challenge themselves. Each team had a station where they ran one or more activities. Equipment, snacks and prizes for the participants had all to be budgeted for and bought. Teams did really well, all coming in within budget. The participant feedback was very positive.



Planning



Activity ready ...



Food prepared



Student's computer game tested



How high can the tower go?



Treasure hunt.

Poetry Café

On the 21 June the Year 7-8 English classes held their first ever Poetry Café at Otamatea High School.

This was located in A common room with lots of poetic posters on display, also some students had created booklets to show their poems.

The students had to choose a theme to focus on for the term. These ranged from depression, anger, loneliness, nature, death, fear, space and many more. They had to analyse and recognise various poems, and incorporate the style of poem into their poetry theme.

Some students chose to share their poems during the cafe. There was lots of yummy scones, pikelets, crackers and cheese to nibble on.

Thank you to everyone that helped out, it was a great success.

Ayla Legge Year 8 S



Gymnastics

STOMP! THUD!
There goes the round-off
me swinging my
legs through the air

STOMP! THUD!
I sprint to the tramp
Boing! Boing! There
goes the front-
Hand spring

I had lots of fun
Now my time is
Done!

By Jade Johnson ([7N Pukehuia](#))

Goats!!!!

He is a athlete,
jumping as high at the Olympics Games.

He eats like he is athlete
he eats anything
in his path.

He is the Flash,
racing through the field
happily with his friends.

He is a battery
powering his back wheels at a hundred
miles per hour.

By Jayden Hill ([7N Pukehuia](#))

Trigonometric application outside the classroom

The Year 10's put their trigonometric skills to the test last week when they used clinometers, measuring tapes, calculators and their trigonometry knowledge to calculate the height of objects like trees and buildings. The clinometer allow students to measure an angle then they need to calculate the height. It was a fun hands-on learning experience for our Year 10's.

Mrs M Myburgh



NYLD 2018 National Young Leaders' Day

It's 5:30 in the morning, the grass is wet and the air is cold. The sky is inky black dotted with silvery stars.

Wednesday the 9th of May. National Young Leaders' Day 2018 (NYLD). I'm getting ready to arrive at school by 6:30 where Ms. Weir and Mrs. Alcock will be waiting for me (Tayten Smart), Hannah Fergus, Elsie Holcroft, Noah Martin, Noah Dalkie, Kyin Smith and Te Ao Marama Armstrong. We were picking the other 3 up from the Three Furlongs in Kaiwaka.

Ten minutes later we picked up Devine Henderson, Morgan Bull and Mania Mikaere and the long haul to Auckland officially started. At 9:20 the van pulled up outside Spark Arena and we all fled to the front doors and stepped inside.

Ms. Weir signed us in and all 12 of us (10 kids, 2 adults) waited in the queue to enter the arena. We waited for a few minutes when the doors opened in front of us. We found our seats and waited for the day to begin.

There were four speakers, Jono Naylor, Lisa Tamati, Amanda Wilson and Riley Hathaway. Each Speaker told a mini story, like this, about their life and why they are here, they also quoted about how to be a leader and 4 kids would get to ask a question to the speaker. Jono spoke about why he thinks leadership is important and how he was a leader at my age.

(continued)

Amanda spoke about her and her sisters Horse riding careers, she also spoke about how her family were not the most wealthy people and how hard they had to work for their horses and their gear. They didn't have many friends but the ones they had cared a lot for them. They had to win the money back at shows or no competing in the next one.

Lisa spoke about her ultra-marathon running. How she ran 26 hours straight in Death Valley (desert). About how she had worked very hard for her place where she is now running for a career and being known nationally. Lisa has a big work ethic like Amanda, she got into running from seeing it on tv. Also Lisa's mum had a stroke. The doctors said she was needed to be put to sleep because she couldn't walk or talk or move very well. Lisa refused, so she put in everything she had to help her mother walk and talk alone and survive. 10 weeks later she had succeeded!

Riley spoke about how she thought leadership is important and how she has an expedition called young ocean explorers. Riley's father was an underwater photographer, which inspired Riley to start young ocean explorers. She also has a website called

www.youngoceanexplorers.co.nz you should definitely check it out!

Also throughout the day there were a couple of crowd games. The day ended at 2 o'clock. So we flowed out of the Arena and to the van. At the van waiting for us was PIZZA! Thank you Ms Weir and Mrs Alcock! We arrived at home by 4pm and that was the end of NYLD!

By Tayten Smart



Te Uri o Hau Matariki Festival

Te Uri o Hau Matariki Festival drawing all people of our community together. On Saturday 30th June a contingent of kapahaka performers, artists and the whakairo academy from Ōtamatea High School converged on Rodney College to celebrate Matariki with other schools in our community from Te Kopuru and locally. Our kapahaka performed with gusto in front of an impressed crowd in the hall while our whakairo academy exhibited the many skills necessary to create intricate carvings. Ōtamatea students also dominated in the art competition.

7-12 year category:

1st place Margaret Dunn.

2nd place Max Bull.

13-18 year old section:

1st place Amy Lawrence (picture).

2nd place Jenna Swadling.

3rd place Jordan Crosado.



It was a great day celebrating different kaupapa Māori with Maddy Lemuelu leading the event as the key presenter.

Ōtamatea High School showed our commitment to the kaupapa with the students and staff helping the wider community acknowledge Matariki. Matariki pipiri whānau, pipiri hapū, pipiri hapori whānui.



Have you seen our Facebook page?

<https://www.facebook.com/otamateahighschool/>

Board of Trustees meetings coming up

Wednesday 8 August, Wednesday 19 September

Meetings are held in the Administration Meeting Room starting at 6pm.

Northland Secondary Schools' Individual Squash Championships

On Thursday 17th May 11 students travelled to Whangarei Squash Club to compete in the Northland individual squash tournament. All students can be very proud of their playing efforts on the day with a huge 63 students taking part in the event.

Results from the day are as follows

Novice Girls' Draw Special Plate winner - Grace Kemp

Novice Boys' Draw 3rd Place - Ben Donald,

Special Plate winner - Mathias Damsted

Open Girls' Draw Champion winner - Annmarie Holst

Open Boys' Draw Consolation plate winner - Kieran Fergus

*Pictured: Annmarie Holst and Riley Jack Vette-Blomquist
(Whangarei Boys) with their medals*



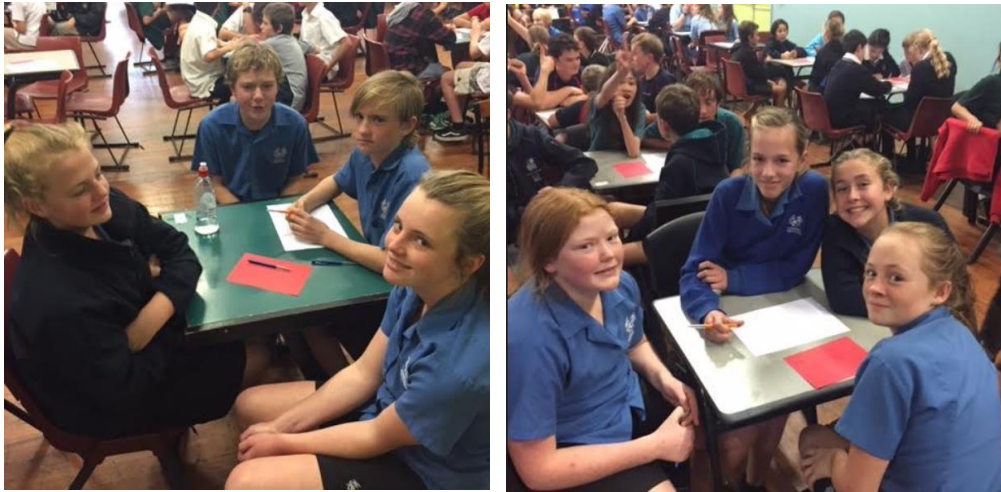
Peach Cove Tramping

The Level 2 Sports Leadership class went to Peach Cove for their tramping and camping assessment, the students made excellent time getting to the campsite. The view from Mount Lion was stunning and we were blessed with great weather.



MATHEX 2018

Eleven teams ably represented Otamatea High School at the 2018 Northland Mathex competition on Friday the 29th of June. Mathex is an annual mathematics problem solving competition where students from all schools across Northland compete in teams against each other.



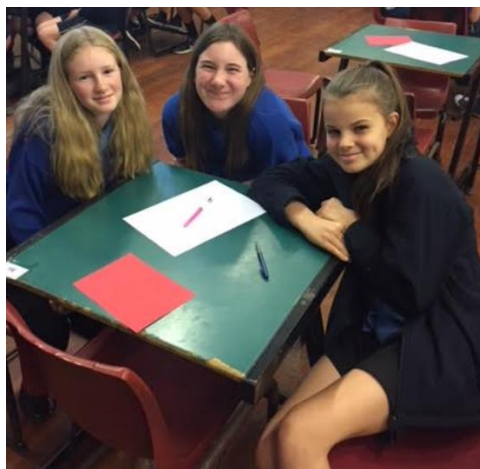
Students compete at year level and the following students represented our school this year:

Ayla Antunovich, Ella Baker, Asha Bridge, Cory Browne, Emma Browne, Max Bull, Morgan Bull, Sarah Campbell-Winter, Willow Campbell, Chloe Comer, Kate Cotching, Max Cotching, Margaret Dunn, Michael Ferguson, Cameron Fitzpatrick, Matai Hartles, Elsie Holcroft, Jim Holcroft, Lily Hosford, Toby Hydes, Amy Lawrence, Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne, Noah Martin, Chloe Millard, Vraj Patel, Meg Paton, Cortney Phillips, Korey Ramsay, Connor Sands, Joshua Sheppard, Tayten Smart, Callum Smith, Kyin Smith, Alida Spencer, Joshua Stephens, Asher Tito, Sophie Van Harlingen, Alfie Vinnels, Boyd Wintle, Alana Yardley,

Although we didn't place in the top three we look forward to seeing the final outcome results to determine where all our teams placed.

It was an enjoyable experience for all our students.

M Myburgh



Past students' visit

The library was the venue for a morning tea for the year 13's to meet up with three ex-Otamatea students who came in to talk to students about what to expect when they leave school. Several ex students were invited and the three that came are all present university students.

Lenhy Massey is studying Biomedical Science at the University of Auckland with the view of going into Ophthalmology (being an eye specialist). She highlighted the fact that classes are very big and nobody checks up on you to make sure you attend lectures and lab time. The work covered in a few lessons is as much as what is been done in a year's work at school.

Sammy Hammon is studying at Massey University's Albany campus and will be majoring in Zoology and Ecology. She said she wished she had a way of conveying how hard it is at the beginning and how important to study right from the get go.

But they both agreed that it totally worthwhile and that they are enjoying themselves tremendously and have met wonderful new people.

Rita Hames (pictured) was head girl in 2016 and she went to America for a year where she au-paired two young children for a family of professionals. Rita had to take the boy to occupational health appointments and became interested in this career which she was not really aware of. She has now finished the first semester in Occupational Health at Wintec in Hamilton and is very happy there. It is a three year degree course and she has already had a four week work placement.



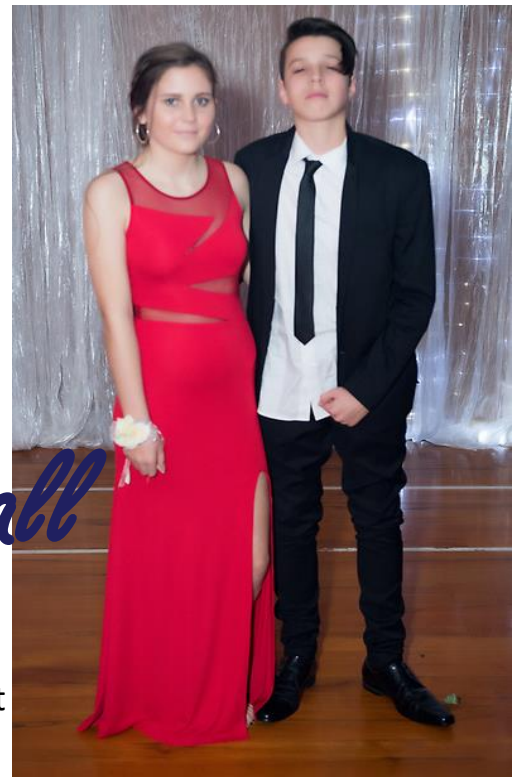
All three girls live in the university halls of their respective universities and recommended it for first year students. Their other piece of advice was to start applying for a student allowance as soon as possible because there is lots of paperwork to get through. All year 13's have been given the link to register, which is www.studylink.org.nz.

Olla Podriga

On Thursday 28th June Otamatea High School once again hosted the annual variety show, Olla Podriga. We were lucky to have a fantastic judging panel this year made up of ex-student and musician Chris Dent, successful folk musician Cameron Burnell, and the vastly experienced choir leader and school counsellor, Alexandra Smith. The band this year was made up of ex-students, former head boy and arts prefect James Findlay and Jim Bokma, with the help of Jon Clist and Fionn Murphy.

This year saw the introduction of the people's choice award, with the overall running duo of Maddy Lemuelu and Teighan Lloyd winning this and 1st place. Two Year 10s were next with Brooke Hutton claiming 2nd, with Rose Batten coming 3rd. Kate Cotching also received a special commendation from the judges, as were the number of Year 7 students who took part in the event this year.

Fionn Murphy



Otamatea High School's annual senior ball was held on Monday 9th July. This year the highly anticipated event was held at the Maungaturoto Centennial Hall for the first time in a number of years. Themed 1950s, more than 130 excited guests arrived in their best retro style to dance the night away - some people even arrived in classic cars. Upon arrival, the excitement was captured by White Door photography next to a jukebox which was kindly loaned by the Mannington family. The local hall was carefully decorated to transport us all back in time to the famous 50s. DJ Si provided a great vibe with a mix of both contemporary and twisting rock n roll music, keeping everyone dancing all night long. An amazing group of year 10 waiters helped keep everything running smoothly throughout the evening by offering soft drinks, milkshakes, curly fries, donuts and mini burgers.

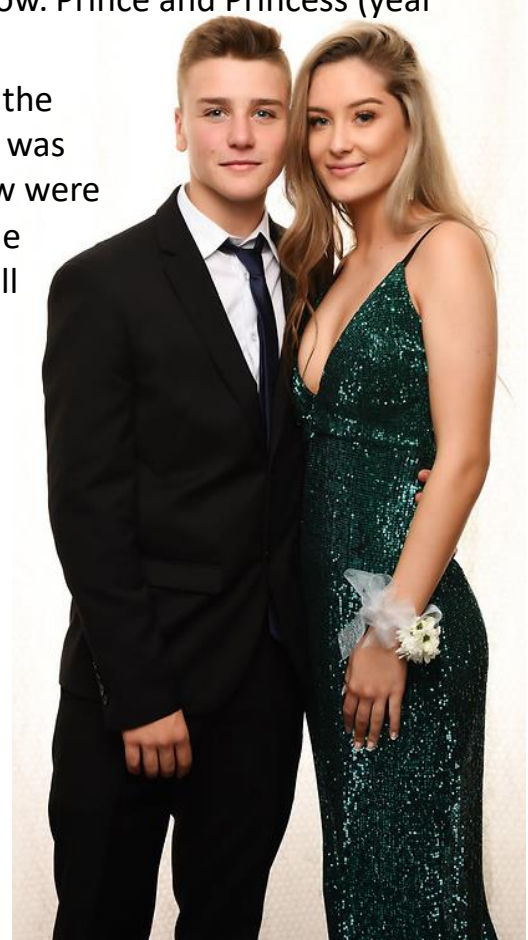
Everyone looked stunning and a groovy time was had by all. Belle and Beau of the ball (year 11) were awarded to Kayla Reid and Hunter Goodfellow. Prince and Princess (year 12) were awarded to Tyler Flanagan and Ocean Shadbolt.

Everyone had the opportunity to vote for King, Queen and the cutest couple. King was awarded to Corey Slimo, Kasey Ata was the Queen of the ball, and Curtis Stanaway & Molly Curnow were



voted cutest couple. At 11pm, the last song was finally played and all guests, with weary feet and cheeks sore from smiling, were seen out by a great group of volunteer parent security guards.

Overall, the 2018 Otamatea High School ball was a huge success. The ball committee would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped make this event the most memorable evening of the school year, and thank you to everyone who attended and danced the night away!



Floor Ball 2018 Win

I had the privilege of participating in the floor ball tournament on the 22nd of June. We took up ten players and played six a side games. Our team played five games and won the senior division, we won 3 games, lost one to Kerikeri High School, drew against Whangarei Girls' High School.

It was a hard tournament but we enjoyed the day with many smiles and laughs despite being exhausted at the end of the day. So many thanks to Teresa Brown who took us up and Refereeing the games. Also thank you to Miss Haines for coaching us.

This is the second year in a row we have taken out the Senior Division.



Anthony Kim

Success for OHS at Bay of Islands Beast

Teresa Brown and Miss Haines took 9 students to participate at the Bay of Islands Beast in Paihia.

A great day and fun was had by all. With Amanda Haines winning top female teacher. Trista Comer came 2nd in the U16. Approximately 400+ competitors. All did well on the challenging course. An awesome day.



Novice Table Tennis Championships

Four students attended the Northland championships at Kensington on June 19. Captain, Jeff Smith, Corey Brown, Yuri Suzuki and Connor Sands competed along with 80 others from Kerikeri to Dargaville.

Jeff and Corey came second in their sections and lost in the knockout round coming in the 16-24 placings. Yuri and Connor finished 3rd and 4th in their section.

Wayne MacLennan



Girls Football Success for Otamatea

Girls football has gone from strength to strength this year at Ōtamatea. Initially we had to play against our nearest and dearest rivals twice: Bream Bay College (BBC), Dargaville (DHS) and Rodney College (RC).

The results are as follows:

OHS 3- 0 BBC

OHS 9-0 DHS

OHS 4- 1 RC

OHS 1-2 BBC

OHS 3- 0 DHS (Default)

OHS 2- 1 RC

After the pool round, we won the south division. This is a first for our school and was such a great result.

During the semi-final we played Ōkaihau College on a windswept and rainy afternoon in a pool of mud. With a litany of supporters we came out on top. OHS 5 -1 Ōkaihau. This meant that we would have to play the winner of the inter-pool match. The winner of the northern pool had to play BBC who came second in our pool. Bream Bay College were victorious and we had to play them again in the final.

Again surrounded by supporters and co-coaches Laurinda Bokma and Samid Buksh our girls headed to Ruakākā ready to take on BBC. OHS took first blood and led for most of the game 1-0. Towards the end of the game BBC equalised and we headed to a penalty shoot out. The end result was a loss with a penalty shoot out (2-3) but our team played with integrity and every member played their hearts out. A very young team, we look forward to their continued progress. Bring on 2019!



2018 Cross Country at Otamatea

School Cross Country Thursday 31st May

The day was a lovely sunny day but the ground was still very wet under foot. There were 194 students involved in the event. The outstanding results for the day go to Trista Comer beating the record set by Hayley Linton in 2017 of 14.32 with a new record of 14.00. Ethan Van Waveren beat the record set by Nathan Harris in 2017 of 14.48 with a new record of 14.27. A third record was nearly broken by Joshua Sheppard when he only missed beating his Uncle, Lee Sheppard's record by 3 seconds. The Level One PE class were chief organisers and did a great job of making sure all students knew what to do and where to go.

The winners and runners up of the event were:

		Girls	Time	Boys	Time
Sub Juniors	Winners	Ella Crum	14.57	Ethan Van Waveren	14.27
	Runners Up	Tayten Smart	16.49	Cameron Fitzpatrick	14.29
Juniors	Winners	Sara Anderson	18.32	Joshua Sheppard	12.47
	Runners Up	Ashlie Huggett	19.15	Morgan Bull	13.09
Intermediate	Winners	Trista Comer	14.00	Kyrin Harris	17.27
	Runners Up	Amyee Sheppard	14.36	Zayde Wyatt	17.42
Seniors	Winners	Jessie Allen and	22.08	Isaac Sheppard	23.03
		Annmarie Holst		Tyler Flannagan	25.40

The Iwi competition was won comfortably by Ngāpuhi Iwi.
Runners Up were Maniapoto, 3rd Whātua and 4th Arawa.

2018 Lower North Cross Country

Lower North Cross Country 6th June

Otamatea put in a strong team to compete against schools in the area. Rodney, Bream Bay, Ruawai and Wellsford Primary all provided runners for an excellent day of competition. The weather again played its part and only drizzled briefly throughout the event, but due to so much rain over the weekend the course was a lot wetter than for the school cross country making it a much more challenging course. The top 8 placed runners for each age group on the day were:

	Girls		Boys	
Sub Juniors	Sophie Van Harlingen	1 st	Jesse Goodfellow	2 nd
	Ella Crum	3 rd	Max Cotching	3 rd
	Analiese Allen	4 th	Cameron Fitzpatrick	7 th
	Tayten Smart	6 th		
	Monique Sheppard	7 th		

	Girls		Boys	
Juniors	Billie Le Mesurier Cowbourne	5 th	Joshua Sheppard	1 st
	Sara Anderson	8 th	Morgan Bull	3 rd
			Ben Donald	4 th
Intermediate	Trista Comer	1 st	Keanu Taiaroa	4 th
	Sophie Gribble	3 rd		
	Danni Mckie	6 th		
	Cassidy Allen	7 th		
	Grace Kemp	8 th		
Seniors	Ocean Shadbolt	3 rd	Isaac Sheppard	3 rd
			Claude Smyth	6 th =
			Rubin Paikea	6 th =
			Caleb Hayes	8 th

Northland Cross Country

Otamatea sent a strong team of 21 students to Northland cross country. The weather on the day was overcast and raining in the morning. This did not deter the students from competing and achieving great results on the day.

The top result from the day goes to Trista Comer winning the 3 KM U16 junior girls' race with a time of 12 minutes and 32 seconds.

Congratulations also go to the following students who finished in the top 12.



	Girls		Boys	
Yr 7 and 8	Ella Crum	6 th	Morgan Bull	4 th
	Sophie Van Harlingen	8 th		
Year 9			Joshua Sheppard	8 th
			Ben Donald	12 th
Junior U16	Trista Comer	1 st		
	Sophie Gribble	7 th		
Seniors	Amyee Sheppard	4 th	Isaac Sheppard	7 th

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Training

Tangihuas / Pre expedition Crosbies /Pinnacles Huts

On the 23-25th March a group of six silver level DOE students completed their training in the Tangihua Ranges covering all aspects of bush craft. The group had torrential rain late Saturday afternoon which saw the Pikawahine stream turn into a raging torrent. The stream had dropped by Sunday morning, but the group had to adjust their training route due to its fast flowing and discoloured water. Fun was had by all bush bashing on a set compass bearing!

The group completed their pre expedition to Crosbies Hut and the Pinnacles on 12-14 May. The rain that was forecast set in as we began our tramp. Sophie and Mr Mac found some slippery rocks on the first river crossing and entertained the rest of the group as they tried to avoid a soaking! A large, unstable slip was negotiated before Crosbies Hut was reached. Perseverance from a number of people saw a coal fire finally come to life and wet tramping clothes got aired out. A game of five crowns saw beginners luck for Joe and Zayde! By lunch time on Sunday the rain cleared and the group made their way up to the Pinnacles hut with the Webb Creek track still showing signs of previous storm damage from 2017. As quite often happens though, the Pinnacles disappeared into cloud as the next belt of rain came through.

Monday morning saw the group climb amongst the Pinnacles in white out conditions. We had to retrace our steps down the same track due to the Kaueranga river being unsafe to cross from the Billy Goat Track.

Sophie enjoyed her 15th birthday with ice creams "all round" on the way home.

The group finished their outdoor qualifier for this level by completing the Tongariro Northern Circuit 9-11th June.

Thanks must go to our volunteer instructors and shadow party: Matt Blainey, Andrea Orchard, Mark MacKenzie, Pete Hames and Robyn Bruce



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Qualifier Mount Tongariro

Seven silver students travelled to Mt Tongariro to complete their silver adventurous journey. The weather was perfect for the three days, but due to the snow fall earlier in the week, the group adjusted their plans and tramped on and off track. The off track terrain provided the "wow" factor with frozen rivers to explore and sheets of ice to be broken! Snowballs to be thrown, snow men to be made, melting and eating snow, snow slides and the armchair rock to navigate to. This was all capped off with a soak in a hot stream running into the Waikato River. All agreed that this had been their BEST DOE experience so far and some would have loved to have stayed at the volcanic plateau and had more adventures.

A HUGE THANK YOU to Stephen Orchard for imparting his knowledge and skills to the group in a magical, winter environment. Thank you also to Andrea Orchard, Paul Chambers and Robyn Bruce for being our "shadow party" and assessors so we could complete our silver adventurous journey.



Duke of Edinburgh Kepler Track in Fiordland – Gold Group

In mid April a DOE group of seven students set out to tramp the Kepler Track in Fiordland National Park for their gold adventurous journey. We flew to Queenstown and then bused to Te Anau to visit the DOC centre to get track and weather updates.

The tramp started at the control gates at Lake Te Anau and we headed off along the Waiau river terrace to Rainbow Reach and onwards to Moturau Hut, arriving just on dark. It was a long day after a 3am start but the students still had time to try and beat Ken and Sharlene at a few games of Mafia before climbing in their bunks.

The next morning we had a discussion on how best to proceed as the track through the mountain tops was closed due to heavy snow and avalanche danger. So we put Plan B into place and went for a walk up the Iris Burn valley for the day, returning for a second night at Moturau Hut.

Day 3 dawned and we were keen to get up in the snow. So we backtracked to the start and continued onto Brod Bay camp site for lunch. After a quick lunch stop we spent four hours climbing up a long ridge to emerge out of the tree line and into the snow. We put a few extra layers on and headed across the exposed ridge to Luxmore Hut. After a quick cup of tea a few of us went off and explored the nearby limestone caves. Prior to Dinner Quintin, Isaac and Phin had a great time building a snowman.



Our final day was cloudy and cold. We put all our layers on and Ken warmed us up with a snow fight. Great fun. Then it was back down the previous day's track and into Te Anau by mid afternoon to finish our tramp. It was a new experience for some of our group who had never been in the South Island mountains or snow. Thanks to Areti, Sharlene and Ken for being our shadow party and a big thanks to all the parents and teachers who have supported us and helped us with fundraising throughout our DOE journey.

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Qualifier Mt Taranaki

On 6th to 9th April a silver qualifying group of seven students travelled to the Dawson Falls visitor centre. Here the weather and tracks were checked out before commencing our three day tramp. Bas, the doc ranger was very friendly, knowledgeable and helpful. Our climb to the 1950m Symes Hut on Fanthams Peak was exhausting. The last part was a route following 70 numbered poles mostly on a scree slope...very challenging with back packs on! The views as we got higher up were amazing. We were only 600m from the summit of Mt Taranaki. Mt Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe could be clearly seen through the fast passing cloud. The ten bed hut was over flowing with 18 people . It was anchored to the mountain and the strong winds lashed it all night. Our group was all in bed at 6.30pm (with out being asked!)



The next morning, all layers were worn as we began our descent in semi white out, very windy conditions. The group kept tightly together but still managed to get blown over by a freak wind gust!

We revisited the Dawson Falls visitor centre and then tramped on to the Waingongoro Hut for the night.

Sunday saw us tramp to the Maketawa Hut. We ended our tramp at the North Egmont Visitor's centre.

Thank you very much to Andrew Swadling, Andrea Orchard, Gerald North and Robyn Bruce for being our shadow party and assessors

OPEN DAYS at OTAMATEA HIGH SCHOOL

2019 Year 7 & 8 students - Thursday 9th August at 9.45am
Come along to our hands on interactive day.

2019 Year 9-13 students - Friday 10th August at 9.45am
Be a high school student for the day.

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze training and Peach Cove Pre exped

March 23-25 saw 14 eager new bronze level students tramp in to the Tangihua Lions Lodge for a weekend of learning about bush craft from Stephen Orchard. Torrential rain on Saturday afternoon turned the experience in to reality as the group tramped. Sunday saw them learning techniques for climbing up a waterfall and crossing rivers. The whole weekend was just one big adventure enjoyed by all (especially Mr Buksh). Thank you very much to Stephen Orchard for all the time and expertise he puts in to our DOE groups.

Thank you also to Mr Burnell, Mr Buksh and Mrs Cullen for your help to make this training weekend successful and for your voluntary time given to the DOE programme. We appreciate it very much.

The same group did their practice tramp around the tracks at Whangarei Heads. A swim was enjoyed at Peach Cove and communal dinners were cooked on hikers' stoves. Again, torrential rain struck the Peach Cove camp site on Saturday night and made for muddy, wet track conditions on Sunday. The steps on these tracks were felt by all as were many new aches and pains! The history of the area was learnt and Sunday lunch was enjoyed under the gun shelters at Urquahats Bay.



This group have completed their qualifying tramp to the Pinnacles on July 7-8.

Thank you very much to Sheryl Cullen, Heather Troost, Mark MacKenzie and Andrea Orchard for volunteering to be the shadow party for this group. Your help is very much appreciated.

Year 11 Rangatahi / Youth Futures

This is a careers programme developed by CareersNZ for year 11's that centres around the theme of "our place in the economy". It started off with an historical view on careers in the early years of New Zealand, such as farmers, builders, tour guides. Then students explored New Zealand businesses such as: Eat my lunch, Fisher and Paykel, Air New Zealand, Maori Maps, Kaikoura Whale Watch.

Whakatauki Proverb

Slide 4

To link the information to students themselves, they identified the industries they are interested in and then looked at the qualifications needed to get there.

The programme was run over four weeks of Monday and Tuesday whānau times of which the last one was the last week of term.



Ka whati te tai
ka pao te tōrea
When the tide
ebbs the pied
oystercatcher
strikes

- How does this whakatauki relate to making your own career choices?
- What kinds of career opportunities are in your environment? (learning opportunities, obtaining qualifications, new experiences, networks)

The underpinning message was to take all opportunities that come your way as symbolised by the Pied Oystercatcher.