



Otamatea High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Otamatea



Josie Gritten photography

Principal's Comment

Final 2016 NCEA results are in and Otamatea High School has punched well above its weight with a set of outstanding NCEA results, as reported in the NZ Herald in April. 91% pass rate in NCEA level 1, 90.9% pass rate in NCEA level 2 and 88.5% pass rate in NCEA level 3. We also achieved 97.5% pass rates in NCEA level 1 literacy and numeracy, and 66.7% of our year 13s gained university entrance (UE). All of these results are above the national averages. We also received a special mention in the NZ Herald as the most improved of all decile 4 schools in the country over the past year. Well done to all our hardworking students and staff, and a big thank you to our amazing families/whānau who provided the valuable support that enabled our students to succeed.

At the end of term one our Kapa Haka students performed an outstanding unique set at Te Tai Tokerau Festival which was hosted at Bream Bay College this year. Later this term will be another opportunity for the community to see kapa haka in action with the first inaugural Te Uri o Hau Kapa Haka competition which will be held at Otamatea High School on Saturday 10th June. We have 13 local schools registered at this stage. In the few days prior to this (Wednesday 7th – Friday 9th June) we will also be hosting Nga Manu Korero, which is the Regional Māori speech competition for all schools in Northland. The powhiri for this event is at 10am on Wednesday 7th June. Community members are very much welcome to join us.

Coming up:

Wednesday 17th May: Parent Student Teacher Conferences for years 11-13, careers activities for year 10.

No school for students in years 7 – 9.

Monday 22nd May – NCEA Assessment week begins.

Tuesday 30th May – OHS Cross Country.

Friday 2nd June – Staff Only Day. No school for students.

Wednesday 7th – Friday 9th June – Nga Manu Korero
Regional competition

Saturday 10th June – Te Uri o Hau Kapa Haka



Te Uri o Nga Waka – Kapa haka

Rawe!!! What an amazing campaign this year for our kapa haka roopu. Bream Bay College hosted Te Taitokerau Festival this year in the wind and rain and did themselves proud. Preparation for our roopu has been awesome – more about whanaungatanga and being mean Māori mean!

Two performances, with huge acknowledgements from the crowds. “It was the best we’ve seen” was one comment. Familiar tunes like songs from “Moana” was a crowd favourite – and a special composition for Tahu Potiki which was sung so beautifully by our roopu.

The next day the wind and rain didn’t stop our roopu heading down to Parakai Hot Pools for a well-deserved swim and kai.

Many thanks to all, whanau, staff and tuakana support at the wananga. Special acknowledgement to our tutor Nga Roimata Morgan, whom we have signed for the next 100 years!!! She is just so amazing. Next up, the Te Uri o Hau Festival held on the 10th June at Otamatea High School, another opportunity to show case Maori kapa haka.



Academic Counselling/Coaching 2017

Wednesday 17th May

Academic Counselling/Coaching

Three way Parent/Student/Teacher
(PST) Conversations

On Wednesday the 17th May, Otamatea High School will be hosting our annual three way Parent/Student/Teacher (PST) conversations as part of our 2017 Academic Counselling/Coaching programme. This is for senior students (years 11, 12 and 13). Invitations have been sent to parents/caregivers to attend these three way

PST conversations to talk to their child's whānau teacher about NCEA progress, their progress in each subject, their goals for the future and support that may be available at school or at home. All whānau teachers are the academic counsellors/coaches for senior students. Later in the year, the academic counselling/coaching programme will be expanded to include junior students.

We believe that these PST meetings will allow the family and the school to work together to help our students achieve. **There will be no school for senior students on this day and students will only be expected to come to school with their parents for the 20 minute**

interview. (There will be school for the year 10s, who have careers activities until 12.30 pm, at which time the buses will run). All students attending school on the Wednesday can wear smart/casual mufti.

Over the last month, senior students have been setting their goals for the year. These include long term goals; academic NCEA goals for 2017; short term academic NCEA goals to be achieved by the end of May; self-management goals and personal development goals.

Please contact your child's whānau teacher if you have any questions about the goal setting process.

You can also contact the Deputy Principal, Dirk Smyth at dirk.smyth@otamatea.school.nz if you have any questions about the school's academic counselling/coaching programme.

Otamatea High School Goal Setting for Senior Students 2017

1. What is your long term goal (for when you leave school)?

E.g. I want to study art at university; I want to go to the army; I want get a job on a farm; I want to get an apprenticeship in the building industry.

2. What are your academic NCEA goals for 2017?

E.g. To pass NCEA level 2 endorsed with excellence. To gain UE. To gain entry into the University of Auckland's Biomedical Science programme. To pass my level 1 literacy and numeracy. To gain a merit course endorsement in NCEA Level 3.

3. What are your short term academic NCEA goals, to be achieved by May 2017?

E.g. To gain 20 level 2 credits. To pass my level 1 numeracy. To complete my first Gateway placement.

4. What are your self-management goals for 2017?

E.g. To have a 90% at school attendance record. To meet all deadlines. To set and review my goals. To be more organised with my school work.

5. What are your personal development goals for 2017?

E.g. To play for the 1st XI football team. To complete my DOE silver award. To participate in the Nga Manu Korero competition. To learn to play the guitar.

6. Which universities are you interested in going to in the future (if any)?

Welcome to our new staff

Alex Cowie Kia ora, My name is Alex Cowie. I have worked locally at Kaiwaka, Paparoa and Maungaturoto Schools. I have two daughters, Penny and Esme, who are 7 and 5 years old. My hobbies include playing all sorts of sports, but a favourite of mine is Tag Rugby. Cooking delicious food is another interest of mine.

It is really exciting to be part of the school whanau, and I am looking forward to working with students, staff and the wider community.



Chris Gill Hello my name is Chris Gill and I am the new Mathematics teacher and Arawa Dean at Otamatea High School. My wife Mary and our two boys have recently moved to Maungaturoto from Queenstown where I have been working as a Mathematics teacher and a Dean at Wakatipu High School. My interests include sports and spending time with my family, and I am looking forward to working with the students, staff, and the wider community to continue the strong tradition of successful teaching and learning at Otamatea while also returning Arawa to it's rightful place atop the Whanau competition.



Huia Coll Kia-Ora,
Ko Ngapuhi taku Iwi
Ko Patuharakeke raua ko Te Mahurehure oku Hapu
Ko Huia Toia-Coll ahau

My Name is Huia Coll, I am so excited to be joining the team here at Otamatea High School as the Special Education Needs Co-ordinator. My interest in Special Education stems from my belief and philosophy that ALL children should be included in the classroom alongside their peers. I hope to meet many of you in the coming months, and I look forward to working with the staff, whanau and wider community in Otamatea.



Alexandra Smith I am delighted to return as relieving Counsellor while Jocelyn McKenzie is on maternity leave. When people asked me this weekend how my first week at Otamatea was I could honestly answer "I love being back". I was the Otamatea School Counsellor between 2006 and March 2013 then reluctantly resigned so I could be in London with my husband. We had an amazing time representing NZ in the UK and have arrived home having made lifelong friends and with wonderful memories. I'm really happy to be home on our farm, breathing the fresh air, working in our garden and now also counselling.



NZQA Fees and Financial Assistance

Students completing NCEA courses in 2017 will be charged a \$76.70 entry fee by NZQA for all NCEA standards entered. This will affect all year 11, 12 and 13 students. Students completing scholarship subjects will be charged an additional \$30 per subject.



NZQA fees are collected by Otamatea High School on behalf of NZQA. The due date for payment to NZQA of all fees collected by schools is 13 September 2017. If any fees remain unpaid after this due date, then fees must be paid directly to NZQA. NZQA will write to students advising them of unpaid fees by November 2017. A late fee of \$50 will be applied to all fees still not paid by 1 December 2017.

Financial Assistance: You may be eligible for financial assistance if you receive a Work and Income or Study Link benefit, or hold a current Community Services Card. You may also be eligible if you are entitled to a Community Services Card but do not have one. If you have two or more children studying NCEA and would otherwise be paying more than \$200 in fees, then you may also be eligible for financial assistance.

How much will I need to pay?

	I am eligible for beneficiary or income-based assistance	I am not eligible for beneficiary or income-based assistance
I am paying for one child who is a candidate	\$20.00	Full fees ² (\$76.70 for all NCEA standards, \$30 for each NZ Scholarship subject entry)
I am paying for two or more children who are candidates	A maximum of \$30.00 per family. ¹	A maximum of \$200.00 per fee-payer ³ .

If you think you are eligible for financial assistance please contact Kay in the office as soon as possible to complete an application form, otherwise the full fee will be charged.



Learner Licence Course – 100% success!

Over the school holidays, while most students were chilling out and enjoying the break, four dedicated students came into school to complete a free learner licence course offered by Te Roroa Learning Assistance. Linda Cowbourne, Te Roroa tutor, offered her time to put our students

through the ins and outs of the NZ Road Rules. With practise test, after test, so that they are fully prepared.

All students prepared well and it showed as all four passed with ease. “That was so easy” one student commented. All thought the course was well worth it and fun. As part of the course Linda invited Police in to talk about road safety and various scenarios about what the hazards are.

Congratulations to all students who passed!



10S Social Science students donate to Ronald McDonald House

Last term, students in 10S Social Science completed their topic 'The Economic World' by organising bake sales, and accounting for all of their costs and revenue to work out their gross profit. This profit was taxed (to be used for fish and chips later in the year.) and the class decided that the net profit (around \$150) would be given to Ronald McDonald House.

Pictured are representatives from the groups holding the cheque.

Tanika Rutson, Jemma Kurupo, Summer Ford and Tyler Young.



Relay for Life



Thank you to the Otamatea High School community for their support in this fundraiser. This is a chance for us to not only raise funds for a cause that affects many families but also gives us a chance to walk alongside people of all ages. It also gives the Staff and students a common cause that they can not only fundraise for but also walk alongside each other during the event. The Staff always come away from the event feeling very proud of the students who attend, not only for

their efforts but also for their behaviour. This year we were also privileged to see them perform the school haka several times for the survivors who completed the opening lap.

With the students raising in excess of \$7,000 and the staff raising just over \$3,000, our school has contributed approx. 10% to the final total of \$105,000 for 2017. This brings the total fundraising for OHS since 2012 to \$37,000.

This would not have been possible without your support. Thank you again.

OHS Competes in IRB Long Haul Race

Otamatea High School students Quintin Brown, Bailey Hudson and Tyler Flannagan participated in the Bay of Plenty IRB Long Haul Race on the weekend of 6-7 May.

The 95km race starts at Ohope and finishes at Mount Maunganui. The competitors stop at 4 beaches (Matata, Pukehina, Papamoa, Omanu)

The boys, the youngest crew competing, finished 2nd in the U21's and 7th over all from the 13 teams.

This is the first time the Waipu Cove Club has sent a team down to the event. Great effort boys.



Originality and thoroughness, the keys to success in Textiles Technology

Whether students are in year 9, 10, 11 or 12, those who learn the most and become the most proficient are the ones who think outside the box and the ones who are prepared to test different ways to do things. They are not always the same students because there is room for both these attributes in a Technology class. Students with original ideas might become the innovators and designers of the future and those who can pay attention to detail might become the researchers, engineers and manufacturers.

Have you ever seen pencil cases like these? Aren't they original? They are the work of year 9 students.

This skirt was made by a year 10 student, the peg bag by a year 11 student and the very neat shirt by a year 12 student who gained excellence for her planning and execution of the techniques.



Kids' Lit Quiz 2017

On Thursday March 23 Vicki and I took two teams of four students to Kerikeri to compete in the 2017 Northern Region Kids' Lit Quiz. There were seven year 8 students and one year 7 student. Six of the students competed last year, with only two new team members this year. We prepared well with pop quizzes at interval and extra reading of both new books and old favourites. The questions this year were a welcome change from last years very challenging offerings: the scores reflected the difference with the winning score being 94 out of a possible 100, which went to Kamo Intermediate 1 team who will be off to represent Northland at the National final in July. The topics this year were varied and covered from cutlery to ghosts to princesses. There was a round of questions about Roald Dahl where our Team 1 scored a perfect ten and Team 2 scored 9 (it was their joker rounds so the score was doubled to 20 and 18 respectively). Otamatea Team 1, consisting of Alana Yardley (Captain), Coryn Yorke, Bo Osbourne and Lukas Rockell came in sixth place, our best ever placing, with 77 points. Otamatea Team 2, consisting of Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne (Captain), Poppy Scott, Michael Ferguson and Joshua Stephens came 15th equal with 64 points. Both teams were wonderful competitors and they tell me they had a great day.

Catherine Pilkington, Librarian



Year 8 Hard Materials Technology

The first group of Year 8's have finished their project and have produced a great range of designs. They have had the opportunity to use a range of materials, from sheet metal, manufactured boards, timber and resin, to produce an original wall clock.



Josh Sheppard & Flynn Powell



Candace Smith & Poppy Scott



Alana Yardley

At the start of the project the students decided on whether they wanted a 12 hour, 24 hour, tide or a backwards clock mechanism. They also chose the style and size of hands that would suit their design.

One of the issues the students had to solve is how to think of way to show where the numbers are on the clock face. Some students chose to wood burn the numbers, some used Paua pieces and others used the design of the clock face.

Year 12 Construction



The first project for the Construction class is coming to an end and they have produced some extremely high quality work this year. The Garden Bench project has proved very popular and we have had lots of positive comments from members of the community and visitors to the school about the quality of the students work.

(Pictured left: Sam Daniels. Below Ruebin Paikea and Simon Parker)

The course has proved very popular and the students are relishing the challenge of producing work that people are willing to buy. They are offered the choice of paying the course fees and keeping all their work, or selling their work and paying their course fees, with any profits being kept by them. To date, the highest price achieved by a student was \$300, giving them a \$200 profit.



Careers Expo in School Hall



This year our school was the host for the Careers Expo where 32 providers of tertiary education came to talk with students about the opportunities that are available for them once they leave school. Students from year 7 to 13 had time to talk to the various providers. Bream Bay College and Tauraroa Area School brought some of their students over to visit the exhibitions.



Teachers Have to Keep Learning

Lifelong learning is necessary in most jobs these days as technology, working methods and environments change. This is true for teachers too. Some teachers at Otamatea High School are enrolled in formal study courses through universities and polytechnics. Most others attend longer and shorter courses in their speciality areas through the year.

One most enjoyable such course was held at the QRC Culinary Kerikeri who have students doing level 4 Cookery diplomas and is expanding now to take these students up to level 5 diplomas. The Culinary School is part of the Queenstown Resort College's campus in The Bay of Islands where students can study tourism in and be accommodated in a hotel during their studies at a very reasonable rate. A trip for Tourism and Hospitality students to these facilities is in the planning stage.

Career advisers and gateway coordinators got a chance to try out their sushi making skills at the QRC Culinary.



Another very informative course was the Technology Day held at Takapuna Grammar school called Through the Looking Glass. This focused on Innovative Entrepreneurs, such as Nick Hindson from Wonder Room who shared their roads to success with teachers and highlighted some new ways to encourage engagement and new thinking.



Leadership Course

As you may be aware, this year students who take our self-driven Pathways class, were a part of the an exciting team leadership course that ran here at school. The full cost of this course was covered by the school.

On the 4th and 5th of April 2017 trainers from Vertical Horizonz worked with 50 students to gain unit standards associated with being able to speak to an audience in a predictable situation, give oral instructions and be able to describe a team environment and what tools you need to be in a leadership role.

The course was action packed with an enormous amount of learning that assisted students to push out of the comfort zones and lead with confidence.

All students were fully engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the course whilst gaining valuable credits.

We thank Vertical Horizonz who did an amazing job, staff and parents for their support, and students for their amazing enthusiasm and energy that they brought to the course.

Rolla Rodriga

A night not to be missed!

Singing Talent competition

(backing band Spiral)

Variety Acts

Thursday 29 June, 2017

Tickets on sale from Monday 5 June \$10 Adult and \$5 student/child



Ngā Manu Kōrero:

Whakapakaritia te reo, whakanuia te ako, whakamanahia te ahurei.

Ngā Manu Kōrero Speech Competition:

Ensuring language quality, celebrating learning and recognising our identity.



Ngā Manu Kōrero 2017 Tai Tokerau Regionals will be held here at Otamatea High School on Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th June. A prestigious speech competition that is in its 52nd year and continues to be a platform for some of the movers and shakers of the Māori world.

The pōwhiri is held at 10am on Wednesday 7th June in the school hall followed by the Tā Himi Henare bi-lingual section which is unique to Te Tai Tokerau.

The impromptu and prepared sections for Pei Te Hurinui (senior te reo Māori) and Korimako (senior English) take place on Thursday 8th June.

Followed by Tā Turi Kara (junior English) and Rāwhiti Ihaka (junior te reo Māori) sections on Friday 9th June.

We wrap it up with the prizegiving on Friday afternoon where we get to celebrate the 3 days of exceptional speakers who stand with mana for their respective kura.

For regular updates 'like' the Ngā Manu Kōrero Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ngamanukorero2017/>



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Te Kura Tuarua o Otamatea

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Success for Equestrian Team success

On the 22nd March a group of four students from Otamatea High School traveled down to Coatesville to compete in the Kristin Intercollegiate Ribbon day. The first half of the day was competing in flat work classes with stiff competition and the second half was jumping. Our team seemed to excel in the jumping events. The day saw a big turnout with over 30 teams competing and about 100 riders. Prize giving came with a surprise when our team won first overall in the team's section, our team consisted of Tyler Porteous, Lexi Porteous, Zarlina Martin and Holly Brunt. Thank you to the organisers of the event.



Written by Holly Brunt



North Island Secondary School's Track and Field Championships

Trista Comer travelled down to Inglewood with her parents to compete in the junior girls 800m race. Trista placed 11th in the final which is a fantastic result.

We look forward to hearing of more of Trista's achievements in running over the rest of the year.

Northland secondary School Athletics 16 March at Kensington Park

This year, Otamatea High School had thirteen athletes representing the school at this event.

Trista Comer came first in the junior girls 800m with a time of 2.24.10. Trista also came first in the junior girls 300m with a time of 47.12

Sophie Gribble came first in the junior girls 1500m with a time of 5.36.66. Sophie came 1st in the junior girl's triple jump with a distance of 8.96m and 3rd in the junior girls 800m.

Shuntel Rika came third in the senior girl's discus.

Amyee Sheppard came third in the intermediate girls 400m.

Well done to all the athletes. You were a credit to your school! Thank you to Mrs Parsons for her official time keeping duties on the day and to all the parents/family who supported our athletes.



OHS Senior Triathlon

Swim 500m – Bike 15km – run 4km

There was a great turn out for the triathlon this year with three individual competitors and 12 teams. The course has been measured so this year all times will be new records as the distance is different on the bike section from previous years.

Boys Individual

1st David Hames with a time of 1.15.09

Girls Individual

1st Trista Comer with a time of 1.10.15 2nd Annmarie Holst

Mixed/Boys

1st Annmarie Holst, Lee Holst and Sam Stephens with a time of 1.01.46

2nd James White, Bailey Hudson and Claude Smyth

3rd Joe Rose, Haylen Moir and Kyrin Harris

Girls

1st Maggie Hames, Hayley Linton and Cassidy Allen with a time of 1.09.53

2nd Azariah Ingham, Tyler Porteous and Sam Allen

3rd Grace Kemp, Lola Smyth and Sophie Gribble.

The overall combined results for the junior and senior triathlons together saw Ngapuhi 1st, Maniapoto 2nd, Whatua 3rd and Arawa 4th.

OHS Junior Triathlon

This year saw the junior triathlon run at the same time as the senior triathlon which meant the course had to be changed slightly. With a new course comes a new record.

The individual girl's event was contested by Poppy Scott, Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne in the girls division and Kieran Fergus, Rikki Beazley and Kyrin Smith in the boys division. Poppy held the lead though out the entire race to win with a time of 34: 52 setting the new record. Billie was not far behind with a time of 36.22. The individual boy's event was won by Kieran Fergus with a time of 45.30 setting the boys new record. Second place was Rikki Beazley and third was Kyrin Smith.



The team event had one boys and one girls team enter and also brought in new records with the boys team of Kevin Kim, Marshall Scott and Nathan Harris time 35.18. The winning girls' team of Milly Hodgson and Emma Browne setting a new record with a time of 48.08.

Are you receiving the weekly
Te Panui o Otamatea
via email every Friday?

If not please call Nikki Donaldson 0800 682 628

Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Bronze Groups Bush Craft

On Friday 24-26 March 12 DOE bronze and 14 silver level groups headed to opposite ends of the Tangihua Forest to complete their bush craft training.

The bronze group tramped 2km(30mins) into the Tangihua Lions' Lodge to set up their tents outside and the silver group tramped 2km (one and a half hours) into the Tangihua Hut to set up their tents outside. The terrain tramped over explains the time difference and how the silver level is quite a step up from bronze!

Throughout the weekend, the bronze group learnt all aspects of bush craft from Stephen Orchard and his team, while the silver group did the same from their instructors, as they tramped through the challenging tracks of the Tangihua Forest to a new camp site below the lodge. Jaime built a cosy bivouac to sleep in... that's when much attention was brought to the pillow that he'd hidden well in his back pack!

The highlight for the silver group was on Sunday when they used their mapping skills to find stream junctions and then learnt a new compass skill to find their way back to their campsite. The two hours or so in the stream and the bush bashing being SO much fun! The final fun was the river crossing/pack float training and getting totally wet again.

The bronze group enjoyed cooking on hiker's stoves and also a highlight for them was the river safety training and a chance to get wet! They also enjoyed their short introduction to tramping in the bush and learning how to work together as a team.

The groups will now be putting their training into practice. The bronze group heads to the Mangawhai tracks 8/9 April and the silver group is heading to the Whirinaki Forest 28-30 April.

For the OHS DOE Hillary Award training weekend to operate so smoothly and successfully, a HUGE THANK YOU goes out to instructors: Stephen and Andrea Orchard, Robyn Bruce and Matt Blainey. Staff member: Dave Burnell. Helpers: Natalie and Mark McKenzie, Andrew Swadling and Pete Hames. Thank you all very much for giving up your weekend to help us!



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Group travel to Mt Ruapehu

On April 28 to 30 a DOE silver group travelled to Mt Ruapehu to complete their pre expedition. On Friday afternoon the group drove to the top of the Bruce Road and practised their navigation skills off track, climbing up and down the rough volcanic terrain, eventually linking up with the "Round the Mountain track" and reaching Whakapapaiti Hut for the night (6km). Saturday saw the group tramping at 8am towards Whakapapa Shelter. This involved an early morning crossing of the Whakapapaiti River

and a cold dip for some who lost their footing on slippery rocks! The track was well formed and was in beech forest mostly. Lunch was cooked in the shelter and as the rain set in, so did the white out conditions. The group stayed closely together practising their leadership roles as they tramped. The lakes were invisible and we returned via the Taranaki Falls track (22km day). Dinner was cooked in the shelter and tents were put up at a DOC campsite near by. That night saw Hamish and Hyde's tent have a small river running through it and Alex and Jeremiah's tent was completely saturated (as was everything and every one inside it!) Some valuable learning was done by those boys regarding tent sites.



Sunday saw the group exploring an historical redoubt and a walk to the edge of Lake Rotopounamu.

The group have chosen to return to the mountain and to tramp the Tongariro Northern Circuit 13-16 July.

A huge thanks to Andrea and Stephen Orchard, Andrew Swaddling and Robyn Bruce for accompanying us as our shadow party.

Duke of Edinburgh Silver to Great Barrier Island

Imagine hoping on a plane heading off to a sunny Island for a few days. That's what a recent DOE silver group did with a trip to Great Barrier Island in the second week of the last school holidays. Unfortunately once they got there were no swimming pools and having drinks under coconut trees, but rather exploring the island on foot.

We left Auckland Airport on a beautiful sunny day and as we flew we got a great view of Auckland city, the Hauraki Gulf Islands and the top of the Coromandel, landing in Claris half an hour later.

Upon arrival we got a bus ride to Whangaparapara, shouldered our packs and headed off along the Tramline Track to Maungapiko where we stopped and cooked up a hot lunch.

We continued on along the Forest Road arriving at Kaiaraara Hut just before dark.

The morning of Day 2 arrived too soon with Ken waking us up in the dark as we had a big day ahead. After breakfast and a tidy up of the hut we set out for Port Fitzroy, then up the old ladies track where we stopped for morning tea.

Continuing on up the Coopers Castle track we stopped for a feed at the top with magnificent views out to Okiwi and the ocean beyond. Then it was down, down, down till we met up with the Kaiaraara track and up up up to the top of Mount Hobson where we took time to admire the views before the sun set. A quick walk down a thousand stairs saw us at Mt Heale hut as daylight ended. A hot meal and a few games of Mafia were played before bed.



Continued next page

The next day it was back up those thousand steps to Mt Hobson , and out through Windy Canyon. From there we caught the bus down to the Kaitoke hot springs track . It would have been possible to walk down to the hot springs but DOC had closed some routes due to kauri dieback. After a welcome soak in the hot springs we walked back out to the road and headed for Claris for some hot chips and a debrief.

Thanks to Areti Alexandrou, Ken Hames and Sharlene Tornquist for accompanying us on the trip.



Our school regularly participates in the World Vision 40 hour famine. Last year we were tasked with fundraising for the people of Syria who have been displaced by war. This year, we are continuing fundraising for Syria, but we are concentrating on creating “Child Friendly Spaces” which are places that are safe for children to be. In these spaces, the children of Syria will have access to arts, sports, education, as well as all-important counselling to help the children recover from the trauma of war.

This year we are going to be doing things a little differently – instead of famining from food, we are all going to come up with different, more interesting things to go without. For your famine, you could go without technology, talking, furniture, or take the weekend to live as the children of Syria are living. It is not just about what you do, it is about what you are doing for the good of our global whanau.

Our prefects will be issuing booklets and sponsor information in the coming weeks to those students wishing to participate.

Job Opportunity at Otamatea High School

New vacancy: Part time cleaner

Cleaner required for 15 hours per week. Must be physically fit and able to work on own as well as with the rest of the cleaning team. This is a permanent role. Start date as soon as possible.

Application process: Apply in writing (CV and completed support staff application form which can be found on the school website) to ohs@otamatea.school.nz by 4pm, Thursday 18th May 2017. Job descriptions are available on the school website.



Otamatea High School

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Office Hours: 8am – 4pm

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