



# Otamatea High School

*Te Kura Tuarua o Otamatea*



Students in Year 12 Engineering are starting to complete their major project; a mini dirt bike.

The students have been fabricating the frames and assembling their bikes.

Jenna Swadling's bike is now completed and has been finished to a very high standard.



Have you seen our Facebook page?

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

## Principal's Comment

Term three kicked off with a senior sports exchange against Dargaville High School which was organised by the Head Prefects. Students played in a range of sports, enjoying the comraderie of this new exchange. The Reporoa exchange a few weeks into term was a resounding success with us again retaining the shield. The comeback from 3 - 0 down to win 4 - 3 was a real testament to the character of the players. All the students enjoyed participating and were superb hosts. Thank you to all the parents who were involved in billeting students and supporting the teams in various ways.

The open days gave prospective students, parents and teachers from local primary schools a chance to see the school in action. Many parents enjoyed soaking up the sun whilst enjoying a coffee prepared by our hospitality students. Lots of students were involved in leadership roles by running activities and being tour guides. The Science Roadshow was another opportunity for our students to showcase their leadership skills as explainers to the younger students from across the region.

We have introduced a number of new inter-iwi competitions this year and this term the inaugural inter-iwi mathex challenge was a fantastic end to Maths Week. Inter-iwi debating was well fought and our new debating teams are going from strength to strength. Four junior students entered the inaugural Readers Cup and won the competition, having the honour of being the first school name on the shiny new trophy.

A group of senior students have been championing student wellbeing and have been supported by a team of staff members. This has seen the first wave of students being trained in Lifekeepers, which equips them with skills to support their peers who may be struggling with their wellbeing. We will be offering Lifekeepers training to more students, staff members and the community once further funding is secured, either in term four or early next year. Well done to the senior students for promoting this initiative. In the last week of term these students held a 'chalk day' where students were encouraged to write positive messages on the asphalt courts. The theme was Strength, Hope and Support. Year 13s and staff wore yellow to symbolise hope.

During term three all students and staff had the opportunity to give feedback regarding the prefect roles which we have at the school. In response to the feedback some changes have been made including applicants creating a two minute video about who they are, what their strengths are and what they hope to achieve in 2019. In the first week of term four all the students and staff will get to watch the videos before voting takes place. As usual the prefects will be announced at senior prizegiving. One change this year is that the new prefect team will set goals and plan for the year ahead at their leadership day in November. This is when actual roles will be assigned, depending upon strengths and specific tasks which the team decide to prioritise. Congratulations to the first prefect for 2019, Hayley Linton, who has been voted by the students as the new Board of Trustees Student Representative. Thank you to Alex Parr, current BOT Student Representative, who has done a great job serving on the Board of Trustees and leading the Student Council.

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October we are hosting a parent evening which has been advertised in Te Panui and the school's Facebook page. Joseph Driessen is the guest speaker and is communicating on Becoming the Parent your Teenager needs you to be. Joseph is an excellent communicator who speaks internationally and I highly recommend that you attend this evening.

*Rachel Clothier-Simmonds*

## Horror Film Achievement Standard

On August 16th the level one and two Digital Media Studies class went to the Warkworth Cement works to create their short horror films for their achievement standard media product. Students have been working for weeks planning and designing their films which includes writing a screenplay, designing storyboards, planning all their props, costume and make-up and casting other students as actors. Students have enjoyed working collaboratively in groups and were highly motivated to shoot all their footage. It was a chilling, over cast day and the lake was utterly still creating an eerie backdrop with the old, crumbling ruins of the cement works. The Media Studies students had specific production roles within their group which was as directors, camera-operators, and producers. They had to manage sound and lighting and keep to a tight schedule which they wrote together as a whole class. Their acting friends were outstanding and actively participated in the film, being patient with the many takes and willing to try sequences from a variety of angles. Frightening monsters were created with creative make-up teams and terrified victims gave good chase with the odd blood curdling scream thrown in there. To top it off we had a pizza feast to fuel up at lunchtime and even then students were quick to eat and get back into it. All in all it was an exceptional day and the students should feel proud of their excellent work ethic and team work.



They are now editing their films and adding all the special effects and sounds needed to make their horror films super spooky. We will be screening their films at a special event on the 1st of November here at school - watch this space for more details to come!

## Critical Thinking Skills at OHS

This term a collection of students have been participating in a extracurricular activity. They have been doing Critical Thinking run by Mrs Bosch.

It's been really cool, so far we have covered "what is an argument?", "identifying reasons", "patterns of reasoning", "deductive and inductive arguments" "hypothetical reasoning" and "flaws". This has been extremely helpful when forming arguments because we know how to structure it properly and (if need be) derail an opponent ..... We have had lots of funny conversations and learnt some very interesting facts.

Thank you to Mrs Bosch for giving us her time so far it's been amazing and super fun!

*Sarah Campbell-Winter, Alana Yardley and Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne*



## First XI Mixed Hockey Team

The First XI Mixed Hockey team had a great end to their season with a 3-0 win against Hora Hora.

This year the 1st XI Hockey team played in the second division competition in Whangarei. Some new players were brought into the team this year and their hockey improved dramatically as a result. The team struggled with the loss of a key player towards the end of the season, but eventually found their rhythm and played some great hockey against

tough and determined opposition. Tyler Flannagan captained the team this year, his energy and spirit encouraged us all to be better. This was the last season of hockey for Anthony Kim, he has served his school with distinction and his presence in the backs will be sorely missed. A huge thanks



to Teresa Brown for all her work with managing the team, she organised transport, fundraising and the end of season dinner - what a star!

*Bruce Alison & Huia Coll*

## UNISS 2018

UNISS 2018 was an awesome fun filled experience held in Tauranga at Harbourside Courts. Our UNISS squad came into the tournament focusing on this year's vision of development and a great team culture. Our young team faced some experienced seasoned teams, winning half of the games we faced. We fought hard and placed 26<sup>th</sup> in C Grade, which is a massive improvement from last year's final rankings that took us into D Grade.

The players and management had such a great time. Thank you to Nikola and Wiki for all your hard work throughout the season and during the week. Thank you Martyn and Jodie for adding value and support to the week. Also Paige's dad, Craig, and Jodie with the changeover of players. Much appreciated.



Thank you Melissa for your support coming down to watch the girls as well.

A huge thank you to whānau who tirelessly helped fundraised and brought their daughters to trainings and games. Literally, the core reason we get to go and enjoy UNISS. Without a doubt, this was by far the best UNISS I have been involved in, a credit to the girls, management and whanau.

*Fiona Kemp, Coach*

## Readers Cup

The inaugural Northland Readers Cup competition was held at Whangarei Girls' High School on Wednesday 29 August. A team of 4 Year 9 students, Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne, Alana Yardley, Michael Ferguson and Sarah Campbell-Winter, represented Otamatea High School at this event. The students competed against students from seven other schools. All of the entrants had to read six books and were questioned on their knowledge and understanding of the characters, plot, setting, and details of each book. It was a close fought contest but Otamatea eventually were the victors by one half of a point from Whangarei Girls'. Well done to the team, they worked hard to achieve this result and had to give many hours out of school to prepare for this competition.

*Mrs Pilkington*



## Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Ceremonies

February 17 saw David Hames receive his Gold DOE award from Sarah Hillary at a formal ceremony at Government House in Wellington.



July 14th saw Rita Hames, Kate Hallissey, Ben Morley and Rebecca Robertson receive their gold awards from Peter and Sarah Hillary at a formal ceremony at Kristen School, Albany.

September 1st saw Lee Holst receive his gold award from Ken Hames, chairman of the Board of The Duke Of Edinburgh's Hillary Award at a formal ceremony held in the Aurora Centre, Burnside High School, Christchurch. Later that day, Lee got to meet the Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, Governor-General of New Zealand at a formal afternoon tea at the Wigram airbase to celebrate the recipients' receiving their gold awards





## DOE Gold Training Weekend July Holidays

July 14 to 16 saw eight gold level DOE students travel to the Kaimais to complete their training before they can undertake a six day pre expedition to the Kawekas in the September holidays and their qualifying tramp to the Nelson Lakes / Lewis Pass area in the South Island in December.

Due to river levels and heavy rain forecast for the weekend our schedule had to be adapted. The Waitawheta river was only half a metre from going over the track in one place and all the side streams had suddenly become raging torrents of water all running into the main river. This was amazing to see and experience. It reinforced the river crossing training....do you need to cross ?

Our favourite part of the training was exploring the tunnels and learning about the gold mining history of the Karangahake Gorge, along with the night games of Phase Ten.

Thank you to Andrea Orchard and Robyn Bruce for their instruction and to Andrew Swadling for helping us out.



## DOE Bronze Qualifiers July Holidays

The July holidays saw two groups travel separately to the Pinnacles for their bronze qualifier adventurous journey.

Fourteen students went on the 7th-8th July. This group had fine weather all weekend although their view from the top of the Pinnacles was lost due to evening cloud.

Yuri was amazing as she conquered her fear of heights and got safely up and down the steel ladders and rungs. The whole group were amazed at the size of the largest hut in New Zealand and enjoyed cooking their communal dinners and interacting with other trampers from around New Zealand.

Ben and Nasah ran up to the top of The Pinnacles (759m) again early the next morning creating a first for Otamatea High School students...aptly named the Ben Donald challenge for future groups. Check with Ben for his time!

The history of the kauri dams and logging in the area also interested the group with the Dancing Creek Kauri Dam replica providing a good photo opportunity.

A huge thank you to Andrea Orchard, Cheryl Cullen, Andrew Swadling and Robyn Bruce for being our shadow party so we could complete this award.



### **Third Time Lucky!**

This was on all fourteen students' and their four shadow party members minds as they travelled to the Pinnacles on the 9th/10th July.

Their two previous attempts to complete this tramp were foiled by extreme weather events that had either seen them have to turn around as the hut was closed by DOC while they were en-route or postponed their departure date.

After checking in at the visitor centre, they couldn't believe what was now stopping them getting to the Pinnacles.... A large tree had just fallen across the road one kilometre before the car park.

There was no way the group were going to let it stop them getting to the Pinnacles now that they were this close! They all piled out of the vans and began to strip side branches off and then to all get under the trunk and move it off the road. No waiting for DOC and their chain saws. Pinnacles here we come!!

The group crossed the Kauaeranga River and tramped up the Billy Goat track to the hut. The view of the Pinnacles had gone, so they decided to climb them early the next morning. After climbing for fifty minutes to 759m, strong winds were buffeting the Pinnacles ahead of the incoming front. This only added to the experience and the photos!

A huge thanks to Dirk Smyth, Samid Buksh, Michelle Kemp and Sharlene Tornquist for accompanying the group as their shadow party.





## Board of Trustees meetings coming up Thursday 1 November and Wednesday 12 December

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

### Level 1 Primary Industries Trips

On the 27th August the Primary Industries class travelled to Kumeu and the farm of Len Kay. The farm is operated by share milker Paul Tyake, an ex OHS student. Paul and Len's farm uses a newly installed robotic milking system which we were able to see in action. The students were further fascinated by a rumen trial being conducted on a sample of four cows, investigating methods of reducing methane emissions. Everyone found it a fascinating visit and appreciated seeing the future of dairy farming.

We then travelled a short distance to see a sheep and beef farm operated by Ian Houghton which supplies meat to the Kaipara Lamb company. Thanks to Ian and Paul for hosting us and to Teresa Brown for accompanying us.



On the 3rd of September the Primary Industries class went to visit a local organic dairy farm of the Kenworthy-Thompsons which may also be the future of dairy farming. After a tour of the operation we then helped Mark Vincent for the Otamatea Harbour Care group plant trees along a waterway on the Kenworthy-Thompson farm. Thanks to Les and Mark for hosting us and to Ladene Hunter for accompanying us and planting three trees and only complaining mildly when a light shower passed.





# Otamatea High School – Reporoa College Annual Sports Exchange

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August, Otamatea High School hosted the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual exchange.

This year there were many nervous students as we had returned back to billeting the Reporoa students into our homes. This was after two years of visiting students staying at each other's schools.

After the initial introductions and the first nights stay, all students returned with huge smiles and many new friendships forged.

Sunday proved a challenging start to the Reporoa team when their initial bus broke down which put them two hours behind schedule. To Reporoa's credit this did not hold them back for Sunday's basketball games.

All games held on Monday were played with great spirit and were highly competitive. By the time the rugby started it was clear that the overall shield for the exchange was going to be decided with this game as both schools had three wins each.

At the prizegiving it was lovely to see the bonds between the students had grown even more with a happy relaxed atmosphere along with a wonderful spread put on by our Duke of Edinburgh students.

To finish off the exchange a social was held in the school hall which was run by our UNISS and AIMS netball tournament teams. Here all students got to mix and mingle again.

It was wonderful to have Reporoa visiting us once again and great to see how the traditional billeting of students forges lasting memories and friendships.

**Basketball Boys and Girls** Reporoa showed their strength in their basketball skills with both the girls and boys coming away with convincing wins. The Otamatea girls and boys teams both played with great spirit with Ocean Shadbolt putting up some great shots for the girls and Cole Doyle playing a great defensive game under the attacking hoop.

|      | Reporoa | Otamatea |       | Reporoa | Otamatea |
|------|---------|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| Boys | 54      | 35       | Girls | 38      | 10       |

A huge thank you must go to Danyon Tana and Gerrin Taiaroa for refereeing both of the games. Also a thank you to the Otamatea coaches Amanda Haines and Paul Chambers/Bruce Alison.

*Annamarie Holst – Girls Captain, Curtis Stanaway – Boys Captain*

Monday morning started well with the sun shining contrary to the forecast of rain. First up for the day was the **debate** with the moot –“This house would aggressively wind down NZ's dairy Industry in the interest of the environment.” Reporoa held the affirmative and Otamatea the negative.

After both teams giving many facts, opinions and convincing statements it came down to the judges decision. The win went to Reporoa. I would like to thank the Reporoa team and coach



for putting up a good clear moot. A huge thank you to our judges Lockwood Smith and Deb Clapperton. Thank you also to our wonderful staff, Frances Maclennan and Huia Coll, for leading the Otamatea debating team.

*Quintin Brown – First Speaker*

Next up was the **Boys Football and Girls 6 Aside** hockey

**Boys Football** We had quite a gripping match against Reporoa College with both sides providing a great performance. Both Matthew Hamilton and I scored early on in the first half giving a comfortable lead. Reporoa then came back with some well-played goals. The weather then broke with a steady downpour of rain, making for a real struggle scoring more goals.

The second half came with an excellent 30 yard half volley from the Otamatea captain securing a definite win for Otamatea. The final result being 6-4 to Otamatea (Mathias Damsted-3 and Matthew Hamilton-3.) Cheers to Mr Chambers for reffing the game and also coaching the boys football team.

*Captain – Mathias Damsted*

**Girls Hockey** It was an amazing game we had with Reporoa girls, and our performance was even better. Otamatea played girls that had never picked up a hockey stick in their lives. Reporoa played amazingly. It was great to see the level of skills and to play a team that we wouldn't usually. Both teams played really well, with Otamatea coming away with the win 12 - 1.

Thank you to all the supporters and everyone who watched our game.

Thank you also to Mr Alison for refereeing and being our coach. Also a thank you to the Reporoa girls and their coach/supporters for being able to come all this way to play an awesome game.

*Hayley Linton – Team Captain*

**Netball** The game against Reporoa was a great build up game, leading to our team travelling to the Upper North Island Tournament. The team performed really well coming away with a good win 37 - 18

It was great to play a team we do not usually play and to build new friendship bonds through the billeting. We look forward to travelling to Reporoa next year.

Thank you to Jodie Bennetto and Taira Phillips for taking time out of their working days to umpire the game. Thank you also to Fiona Kemp and Nikola Kemp for coaching/managing the team this year. Thanks also to Jader Fairburn, Kathleen Criag and Renee Patterson for being bench officials.

*Jayme Curtis – Team Captain*

**Rugby** A nail biting game right through until the end. It was a very tight game and could have gone either way. In the end Otamatea managed to stand our ground, but Reporoa put up a real fight and kept their heads held high all the way.

I was very proud of our team, seeing as we were filled with a lot of young talent with the majority of the team being year 11 boys. I would also like to thank Dave Burnell for coaching/managing our team and organising for Peter Hugo from Northland Rugby to hold a session with us.

Thank you also to Brendan Mahi from Northland Rugby for coming down and refereeing our game.

*Rubin Paikea – Team Captain*



## Science Roadshow



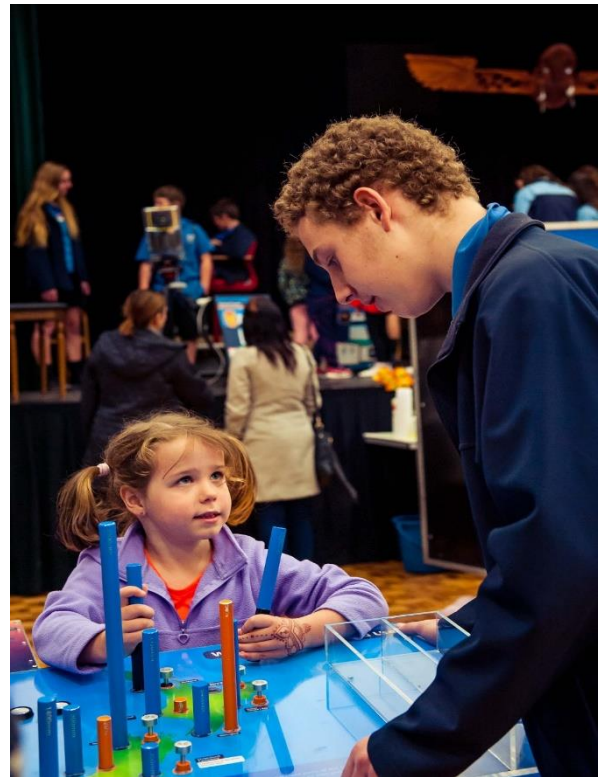
On the 31st of July, Otamatea High School hosted the 2018 Science Roadshow. The students who visited it seemed to really enjoy the experience.

The Science Roadshow is a mobile science discovery centre, which travels around New Zealand, giving students the opportunity to get hands on and explore various science and technology concepts. This year it included two shows:

1. Fire and Ice Concepts of temperature and combustion.
2. Am I Living? Characteristics of living things: humans, other animals and plants.

There were also many hands on exhibits, that a team of Year 10 students from our school helped to explain to visiting students and teachers.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our students and we are very thankful to the Otamatea High School PTCA who paid for all the Year 7 and 8 students at OHS to attend.







## Science Fair 2018

The Otamatea High School Year 7 and 8 Science Fair was held in week 2 of this term. The students came up with a wide range of ideas to test both inside and out of the science laboratory, from the food choices of cockroaches, to using custard and other materials to power a hydrodam. Many of the projects compared different brands of products, such as sun-cream, balloons, stain removers and paper towels. Others were based on nature - dyes made from vegetables, the stickiness of mud from different locations and factors that affect plant growth. Some students worked in pairs and others opted to work individually.

This year the difficult job of judging was done by Stella Clyde and Eileen Parsons. We would like to thank them for giving up their afternoon to do this. Marks were given for scientific understanding, technical skill, x-factor, thoroughness/effort and presentation.

### Year 8

**1st equal:** Kate Cotching, Ayla Antunovich

**2nd:** Cortney Phillips

**3rd:** Quentin Barber

**Presentation award:** Elsie Holcroft and Monique Sheppard

**Effort awards:** Piper Donald, Morgan Bull and Rikki Beazley,  
Ella Baker and Willow Campbell

### Year 7

**1st:** Callum Smith

**2nd equal:** Kellan Antunovich, Max Cotching

**3rd:** Sophie van Harlingen and Chloe Comer

**Presentation awards:** Tayten Smart and Paris Ford, Jade Johnson and Ashley Greig

**Effort awards:** Sonya Steiner and Brookie Hyndman, Leayah Buxton and Saffron Kemara

**Overall Best Presentation:** Meg Paton

