

AORERE COLLEGE

Terms 1 & 2, 2025



Important Dates

- Term 3 (14 July 19 Sept)
- Cook Islands Language Week (Mon 04 - Fri 08 August)
- Teacher Only Day (Wed 06 Aug)
- Tongan Language Week (Mon 18 Fri 22 Aug)
- Malaysia/Japan Trip Whānau Evening (Wed 20 Aug)
- Academic Conferences (Wed 20 & Thur 21 Aug)
- Art Exhibition (Wed 27 Fri 29 Aug)
- CAA Literacy & Numeracy testing (Mon 01 - Fri 12 Sept)
- Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Assembly (Fri 12 Sept)
- Senior Exams Study Leave for Ys 11 13 (Mon 15 - Fri 19 Sept)
- Term 4 (6 Oct 11 Dec)
- Senior Prizegiving (Thur 30 Oct)
- NCEA External Exams (Tue 04 Fri 28 Nov)

FROM OUR TUMUAKI

Tēnā koutou katoa, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Kia Orana, Fakalofa lahi atu, Assalamu alaikum, Namaste, Bula vinaka, Chao

Welcome to Term 3

It is good to see our students back at school ready for the challenges ahead. Despite the rain we have had a positive start to the term and have settled quicky into focused work. This is an important term for academic success.

It was good to see the many students who came during the holidays to either complete or rework assessments they had missed earlier in the year.

This term we look forward to celebrating language weeks where we celebrate the cultural identities and languages of our school community. Language is an important aspect of Aorere College culture.

We have three bilingual programmes up and running already:

- Reorua [Te Reo Māori]
- Amatakiloa [Tongan]
- O le Ta'iala [Samoan]

Next year we will start Vaka Reo Kuki 'Airani [Cook Islands Māori].

We are very excited about the potential of this new development.

Wishing you all a productive and successful term.

Ngā mihi nui Leanne Webb Tumuaki



Useful Links

About the NCEA Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite requirements:

https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/subjects/litnum/

Download your Guide to NCEA from the NZQA website:

https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/news/ncea-for-parentsand-whanau/

Senior External Exam Timetable 2025:

https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/NCEA/2025-Exam-Timetable.pdf

NCEA MATTERS Essential Literacy & Numeracy Exams!

The second opportunity to sit Common Assessment Activities for Literacy and Numeracy will happen from **Monday, 8th of September through to Friday, 12th of September.** This is the last opportunity for Year 11, 12, and 13 students who have yet to gain these qualifications to sit these external assessments. Students MUST gain the Literacy (reading and writing) and Numeracy co-requisites to be eligible for a NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3 certificate. These co-requisites can also be gained through English and Maths standards.

Ettendance Matters

A reminder that if your child is absent from school then please let us know as soon as possible:

> Call Alyssa Filivaa: 09 278 5608 ext: 754 Email: absentees@aorere.ac.nz

Attendance at Aorere

Overall, we continue to work with whānau to improve attendance rates of our students.

We aim for EVERY student to attend regularly (90%+). This will lead to more successful outcomes at school.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance and would like to discuss this then email Mr Richard Talbot.



Youthline and Wellbeing

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing then please feel free to contact the Guidance team at Aorere to discuss your concerns. **guidance@aorere.ac.nz**

If you have noticed that your child has become withdrawn or easily upset then they may need to talk to someone.

Youthline is a 24/7 online support service for youth who are experiencing low mood or challenges. It is a free service and staffed by qualified counsellors 24/7.

Rich Talbot Director of Student Services rtalbot@aorere.ac.nz 0211022248

Congratulations!

Our NCEA Achievement Assembly celebrated and acknowledged the 2024 achievement in NCEA Level 1 and 2 of our current Y12 and Y13 students. Certificates and badges that are worn with pride, were awarded. Congratulations to all successful tamariki!



Three of our 2024 L2 Excellence students, from left, Anisha Philip, Mariam Khan and Anav Chand.



ASB POLYFEST

In March 2025, the ASB Polyfest celebrated its 50th anniversary. This

year's theme was "Legacy - a treasure handed down", "He oha nō tua, he taonga tuku iho!"

This year it was a significant event for us as we were one of the original the four schools who first performed. Following on from our very successful Fia Fia evenings, the largest number ever of our tamariki performed in eight groups - Māori, Samoan, Tongan, Niuean, Cook Islands, Filipino, Indian and Fijian. Aorere College was Mana Kura on the Diversity Stage and an amazing team of staff and students did a fantastic job of organising and managing 117 performances including dealing with the terrible weather! Congratulations to those groups that earned places and students who were placed in the speech competitions. Ngā mihi nui to everyone who gave their all and participated in the special 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the ASB Polyfest 2025!

















ASB Polyfest Results 2025 Cook Islands Stage Y11 Speech Comp - 3rd Ephraim Sionetuato Niuean Stage - 3rd Tauteuteaga Tino Foou (traditional costume) Samoan Stage - 3rd Ulufafo (exit) Samoan Stage Y13 Speech Comp - 3rd Bailey Umusaga Tongan Stage - 1st 'Otuhaka Tongan Stage Y12 Speech Comp - 2nd Crystal Vea

WHĀNAU ATHLETICS DAY

Miharo! Chants, costumes and the colourful march-on started a fabulous February day. Whānau spirit ruled with high participation and determination to earn those points. Excitement and energy of our rangatahi continued to the finals and the announcement of who took it out this year. Huge congratulations to Jean Batten whānau.

Winners - Jean Batten 2nd - Self 3rd - Manukau 4th - Puketapapa

Ngā mihi nui Mr Penny and his team for organising such a fantastic athletics day.





Athletics Team Success!

At the 2025 North Island Secondary School Athletics Track & Field Championships our junior boys' hurdles team and our junior girls' javelin athlete represented our kura and Counties Manukau well, qualifying for finals. Congratulations to Temaeva Pirake, who won a bronze medal in the Junior Girls Javelin, and to LJ Faavesi, who won a silver medal in the 200 m hurdles. From this success our small but talented team have been invited to compete at the Nationals in Hastings in December. Ngā mihi nui to Mr Waggie and Mr Links for your ongoing support.



OUR ENVIRONMENT

The new signage around the school is a celebration and acknowledgment of our bicultural heritage in both Te Reo Maori and English. The signage features Te Hononga which was gifted to our kura as we stand in the Tainui rohe.

We have built a brand new wharepaku for our student's use which include accessible, unisex and single gender cubicles.

New student art adorns the walls and corridors and recognises the talents of our current ākonga.



Aorere College

Proudly Presents

10TH MAY 2025 - 6:00PM ELLERSLIE EVENTS CENTER 100 ASCOT AVENUE, ELLERSLIE, AUCKLAND 1051

A huge thank you to alumnus Kevin Vi and his team from Southsidemedia for the great photography.

https://www.southsidemedia.co.nz/



SCHOOL BALL

Earlier in May, our 2025 Year 13 cohort had their 'Old Money Ball Night' at the Ellerslie Events Centre. The night was filled with non-stop dancing and singing, and seeing everyone looking their finest was awesome. It was a fun-filled night with good music and vibes where our Year 13s could dance and celebrate their final school year. Ngā mihi nui to everyone who made this fun night happen.



ANZAC

During the Term 1 holidays, a number of our students and staff represented our kura at the Papatoetoe Civic Commemoration Service and parade.

Six members of our Ngā Manu Aorere - Paul, Ane, Akosita, Bella, Fa'amolemole and

Chanel, marched in the parade with Mrs Kimiangatau. Chanel Filiva'a read scripture from the bible during the service.

A group of our present and past kapa haka tauira and kaiako performed a haka and waiata to the veterans and members of the Papatoetoe RSA and wider community, which was very well received. Ngā mihi nui Papa Numia, Matua Anaru, Mr Marshall-Harding, Miss Morrison, Rawiri, Daniel, Sam, Xcavier, Drasire, Izarian, Michaela-Chez and Mere.



NGĀ MĀTĀPONO

As part of our kainga programme, kainga roopu work collabratively on a project to demonstrate the school values of manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, hiranga, kaitiakitanga, rangartiratanga and tikanga. Ngā mihi nui to 13JPTAW with their effective 'AO Cleanup' competiton on the last Thursday of Term 1, and to 13RA for the fun break time activities with prizes run at the end of Term 2. Mahi whakamataku!



SCIENCE NEWS

PRIME MINISTER'S SCIENCE TEACHER PRIZE

Aorere College is immensely proud of our Dr Aidan Kiely, HOD Science, for receiving the very prestigious Prime Minister's Science Teacher Prize 2024, which was awarded in a May ceremony at Parliament attended by Aidan's whānau and our Tumuaki, Mrs Leanne Webb.

Dr Kiely has taught at our kura since 2016, starting as an Ako Mātātupu Teach First NZ trainee and has led the Science Department as HOD since 2023. His PhD is in molecular biology - How insects are able to use their sense of smell to detect a wide range of odours.

Congratulations and Ngā Mihi Nui, Aidan, for all the awesome mahi you do, inspiring our ākonga and also for our wider community. This recognition of your commitment and dedication to the learning of science in real contexts is well deserved.

https://www.rnz.co.nz/.../our-changing-world-2024-prime... https://pmscienceprizes.org.nz/2024-winner-of-te-puiaki.../

HEALTH SCIENCE ACADEMY

The Health Science Academy held a very successful fono with whānau to start the year. Students were presented with their badges and our amazing Y13 presented. Microbiologists and genetic counsellors from Te Whatu Ora visited and shared the opportunities for med. Iab career pathways. Students shared the impact of the HSA so far this year at a followup fono in May.



ASTRONOMER'S VISIT

Recently we hosted Dr Michelle Thaller, a renowned astronomer, astrophysicist and science communicator, as well as students from across South Auckland. She spoke wonderfully about the connection between the atoms that make up our body and the explosions of stars. We are immensely grateful to the United States Embassy and The Royal Society Te Apārangi for enabling Dr Thaller to visit us.



The Minister of Science, Innovation and Technology, Hon. Dr. Shane Reti, with Dr. Aidan Kiely and The Right Honourable Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister

WAOKAURI STREAM

Our year 9 students have visited the Waokauri Stream in Self's Park to work on our continuing restoration project. The students counted native trees, observed the water quality, detected predators in the area and drew maps. They now take this data back to plan an action that will help improve our community. Great to see the engagement from our young kaiawhina!



TIRITIRI MATANGI TRIP

Our Year 9 students had the privilege of visiting Tiritiri Matangi Island, one of New Zealand's most successful conservation sanctuaries. From spotting native birds like the tūī, takahē, hihi, and the little spotted kiwi, to hearing powerful stories of ecological restoration and kaitiakitanga, the trip was a handson, inspiring lesson in caring for our environment.



INTERNATIONAL

Our International Department has had an exciting, busy year so far. Students and staff have travelled to:

Saudi Arabia - a cultural and spiritual journey visiting Madinah, Makkah, Taif and Jeddah. It was an unforgettable experience that created life time memories for students.

Tahiti - a cultural exchange where we welcomed students from Taiarapu Nui in April, followed by a keen group of our students who travelled to French Polynesia and enjoyed Tahitian hospitality.

Japan - A group of our Commerce and Digitial students and staff attended the World Expo in Osaka in a trip that blended culture, business, technology and friendship.

Singapore - A group of our Y11 students had an exciting, immersive stay in Singapore as part of a cultural leadership exchange programme. At the end of last term students from Beatty Secondary School visited us participating in a joint inquiry project focused on water and sustainability across both countries.

Thailand - Our first all-boys group had an exciting cultural exchange experiencing Thai education, culture and friendship attending schools in historical cities Ayutthaya and Sukothai and hosted by local families.

More 2025 trips coming up are:

China - Kapa haka scholarship trip is fully funded where 13 of our Māori students will travel to Shanghai and Wenzhou to share Maori culture and kapa haka and experience Chinese culture.

Japan - Six of our student ambassadors will go on a cultural exchange to our sister school, Jishukan High School, in Kanagawa.

Malaysia/Japan - 12 day trip to explore the rich cultures of two of Asia's most diverse and innovative countries.

International Students:

We welcomed 10 students from Brazil who have been with us for six months as part of the Aorere whanau and immersed in NZ school life, hosted by our wonderful host families. They have just left us to return to their home country. We currently have students from Japan, Vietnam, Tonga and Fiji, and this week welcomed a large group from Taiwan.

Scholarships:

Ten students who have, or are still to travel this year were awarded International Travel Scholarships that fully fund a trip of their choice. Meeting the selection criteria to go on the trips is essential as attendance, academic progress, and pastoral record are considered as well as attitude and whether the student would not otherwise have the opportunity to travel internationally. A key question being asked is "Will this student be a great ambassador for Aorere College, their culture and Aotearoa, New Zealand?"

All international travel trips are fully supervised by experienced staff and go through a rigorous proposal process to meet all necessary requirements and Board approval.

Applications for 2026 trips will be open soon - students will receive notification by email.

Go to the International Instagram page for fabulous photos and coverage of all trips. @aorereinternational





HEALTH MATTERS!

Our Health Centre not only supports our ākonga with health concerns but also raises awareness of health issues within the wider community.

Community Announcements

Measles Alert and Sore Throat Programme posts



For any health-related questions please contact:

Vivian Centeno Tapuhi Kairuruku/Nurse Co-ordinator vcenteno@aorere.ac.nz

"WHY IS EATING AND DRINKING AN ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILL?"

Acacia Lemanu (11 PT) was among the numerous students who sent in their entries to the quiz "Why is eating and drinking an essential life skill?" Her answer was well-thoughtout and original. She was the worthy winner!



BLOOD DRIVE

Members of the Hauora Roopu, in collaboration with the Health Centre, ran a very successful Blood Drive with 76 attempts and 52 successful donations being made. Roopu members looked after everyone both before and after donating with water, juice and cookies, including some goodies to those donating. It was a great effort with more students keen to contribute to the community and save lives!

Feedback from the NZBlood Service said that 156 Kiwis' lives improved from our donations.

Vivian Centeno (below left) with Hauora Roopu members.



PRIDE WEEK!

We celebrated diversity, inclusion, and identity across an amazing lineup of events during Pride Week. From art and appreciation activities and a vibrant rainbow cupcake sale, to our online Pride Quiz and powerful Kāinga lessons exploring LGBTQ+ history, the spirit of Pride was everywhere.

Students and staff showed their colours with pride accessories, while the photobooth and Pride Cinema (yes, with free popcorn!) brought plenty of smiles. We wrapped it all up with our senior and junior Pride assemblies — and, of course, the unforgettable Teacher Lip Sync Battle to close out the week in style.



ART INSPIRATION

WETA WORKSHOP

"It was inspiring to see just how exciting pursuing a career in the creative arts would be."

Year 12 & 13 Art Design students went to Weta Workshop in Auckland City in May. They had a fantastic time exploring three different movie sets and learning how the intricate details of each set design had been created. Learning about how these worlds began with a simple idea by the artist, and each member of the huge team of creatives at Weta Workshop played a part in developing this idea into movies was a great experience.



PAT HANLEY AWARDS

Our L3 Art students attended a workshop as part of the upcoming Pat Hanley Awards. This is a different format from previous years as they created a work in response to the question Ko wai au? Who am I? A winner from each school will be selected and go into the competition with an opening night and exhibition at the Auckland Art Gallery 15-31 August.



@aorere_college_art

"WE'RE IN BUSINESS"

Our Year 13 Business students at Aorere College are part of the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES), which gives students an incredible opportunity to start and run their own real business, gaining hands-on experience in entrepreneurship, teamwork, and financial management.

"The Pitch" event at the Auckland Business Chamber in Manukau was an opportunity for our young entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas to a panel of judges, gaining feedback and confidence along the way.



"THE PITCH"

Bollywood Playhouse game team, pitching their business idea.

From left: Aryan Dawar, Anav Chand, Shayan Singh, Rheashna Prasad, and Tanvi Nand Challenge 1 is a key part of the YES programme where students create and pitch innovative business ideas, showcasing their creativity and planning skills. It was a tough competition, but 'Jewel Roots' stood out and earned the top spot being named the South Auckland Region Winner for Challenge 1!



Jewel Roots business team - Challenge 1 winners!

From left: Ella 'longi, Nurin Noor Zamal, Blessing Siamani Sanele and Jan Taulagi loapo. Not shown: Mistellia Rimoi and Roma Solia

TRADES ACADEMY

The success of our Trades Academy continues with over 160 Year 12 and 13 students involved in Building and Construction, Automotive, Hospitality, Tourism, Electrical, Engineering, Early Childhood, and Hairdressing. There are also opportunities to gain forklift licence, drivers licence, and site safe training.

Student of the Week recognises students who are focussed and making excellent progress with a positive, can do attitude in their courses at MIT (Manukau Institute of Technology). Their certificate of achievement is displayed with many others on the TA@AO Wall of success.

ARA Renovation Project is an opportunity that was given to us by the ARA Education Trust, where our students work with experienced builders to reclaim houses due for demolition and restore them to sell to deserving families at no profit. **Apprentice of the Month** recognises students who demonstrate a great work ethic and attitude.



PINK SHIRT DAY

The purpose of Pink Shirt Day is to speak up and stand up against bullying. In support of Pink Shirt Day, we wore pink to stand together to stop bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting kindness and inclusiveness.

https://pinkshirtday.org.nz/about #pinkshirtday @pinkshirtdaynz

PJ DAY

On the last day of term, we hosted a pyjama-themed mufti day to raise money for the Kindness Collective - an organisation that provides families who lack adequate resources with necessities for the winter season, through their 'PJ Project.'

Awesome work L2SOS for organising this event. To all participants and supporters your kind donations will make a difference in our community, helping dozens of families across Auckland.

https://www.kindness.org.nz/pjproject #kindnesscollective



Tukua kia tū takitahi ngā whetū o te rangi

Let each star in the sky shine its own light.

We celebrated Matariki with a range of meaningful and memorable events. The week began with a heartfelt Kawe Mate ceremony, honouring and remembering the loved ones we lost over the past year. This was followed by a flag raising and waiata.

To support our Matariki celebrations, we

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI

visited and performed for our youngest community members at Koru Kids Early Learning Centre (Papatoetoe) and Early Discoveries Learning Centre (Manurewa), creating beautiful moments of connection. A larger group later performed at the Papakura Night Markets, where all performances were warmly received and appreciated.

At the Engagement Centre, our rangatahi showcased their creativity by designing and crafting taonga pūoro (traditional Māori instruments). Ngā mihi to Maha Tomo and Laura Annan from Auckland Bone and Stone for generously sharing your knowledge and skills.

We wrapped up the week on Rāmere (Friday) with a delicious staff lunch inspired by the Matariki whetū:

- * Tupuānuku food from the ground
- * Tupuārangi food from the trees
- * Waitī food from freshwater
- * Waitā food from the sea

Wiki rawe! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Matariki celebrations such a meaningful success. Ngā mihi nui!



'REVIVAL' - Tangata Beats Success!

It was an amazing night for our 'Revival' band at the Auckland/Tamaki Makaurau Regional Competition held at AGGS recently. 'Revival' was the first band on stage out of ten bands, and their performance was so polished and memorable that they took it out ... First Place in the Band Category and straight to Nationals in September!

Congratulations to you all - Line Ikafoli, Janiah Siva, Penina Uasi, Myzahn Ngaruhe-Taihia, Israel Tapui, Nau Pasikala and Ezekiel Peni. Ka mau te wehi!



https://www.rqp.co.nz/tangata-beats

OED - OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Coromandel Trip

Recently, our Y13 OED class spent six days at the Hillary Outdoors Camp in the Coromandel. It was a great experience and opportunity to work collaboratively to analyse and manage safety aspects around a variety of outdoor activities undertaken.



MODEL UN



In May, four students — Mariam Khan, Jamal Khan, Ayush Singh, and Sahararose Ughy — represented Portugal at the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA). The event simulated UN proceedings, focusing on global issues such as climate change reparations and the role of the World Trade Organisation. The team spoke with confidence and clarity, actively participating in debates, forming alliances, and engaging fully in the experience.

BOLLYWOOD SHOWDOWN

proudly Indian Dance Our Group cultural participated in a dance competition, with an all-student-led team showcasing exceptional energy, talent, and unity. A dedicated group of girls took full charge-designing costumes, choreographing the routine, and leading the team with confidence. Their creativity, leadership, and teamwork shone through in a performance that truly reflected their hard work.



CAREERS EXPO





Bus loads of our Year 13 ākonga visited the South Auckland Schools Career Expo '25 at the Due Drop Events Centre. The event offered a great chance to discover a wide range of career and study options, with plenty of engaging exhibitors to explore. Students returned to school with tote bags full of brochures and goodies, describing the experience as both valuable and informative.

SPORT

SNR BOYS VOLLEYBALL - NATIONALS

Our Senior Boys Volleyball team competed in the Secondary Schools Volleyball National competition in Palmerston North in Term 1. The competition was challenging with our team playing in the division with the most teams - 20 in total. Congratulations to our boys for placing 4th overall in their division.



SNR GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Premier Senior A Girls Basketball team celebrated the milestone of their promotion to the Senior A premier grade with a formal jersey presentation ceremony attended by whanau and friends. Alumni, Krystal Tuliloa, Veiongo Finau, and Kelly Williams, our basketball leadership group in 2024, presented the new uniforms and offered some great words of encouragement for the coming season.

We are proud to announce our leadership team for 2025:

- Captain - Jaylah Roi (13HG)

- Co Vice Captains - Shirani Singh (13HG) and Makerita Gordon (13JPTAW)

- Coach Mr Ray Penny and Manager Miss Ana Kauvalu

@aoreresport

1st XI GIRLS FOOTBALL

We are excited to announce Sorted Logistics as a sponsor for our girls' 2025 season!

Sorted Logistics are committed to supporting our local community and are passionate about the benefits of participating in sport for our young people as they develop camaraderie, fitness and discipline, as well as enjoy some healthy competition, helping them thrive on and off the field.

We are very grateful to the team at Sorted Logistics for supporting our girls as they prepare for the Kathy Seaward tournament this August.



Our Senior Girls Tag team backed themselves at the South East Zone competition. They had a rocky start in the morning, with a win, loss and draw in the pool games. The girls were able to come back stronger, winning their quarter finals, semi-finals and the grand final, with AO 6 - AGGS 5

The girls continue to show their leadership and passion for the game both on and off the field. Congratulations for their hard mahi and amazing win!







For more ...

https://www.facebook.com/aorerecollege



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