

Our year, our week.

The Year

Our school year is divided into four terms, each of approx 10 or 11 weeks duration with term one beginning late in January or early February. Term four finishes in December. There is a two week break between terms and a longer 6-7 week break from December through until school recommencement in January/February.

In New Zealand the national assessment system is the National Certificate of Educational Assessment (NCEA). This is a multi-level grading system with levels 1, 2 and 3 being offered at High Schools. The levels correspond with the years 11, 12 and 13. Each subject offers a number of credits that are attained, either, through the internal assessment of specific tasks or by external moderation which involves the sitting of exams at the end of the year – usually mid November.

Our school year concludes with formal prize-givings to acknowledge achievement in the cultural, academic and sporting fields. The timing of the Senior function varies depending on when the external exams are held but is generally in mid November, while the Junior school – years 9 and 10 have theirs in early December.

The Week

Otago Boys' High School operates on a five period day with each period being of one hours duration. There are 3 periods in the morning session and two after lunch. School begins at 9-00am and runs through to 3-20pm with a 20 minute break at 11-00am and lunch being taken at 12-20pm through to 1-20pm. Reading is seen as a necessary part of our students' education and a 20 minute period is assigned to silent reading mid afternoon every day.

On Tuesdays we finish a little earlier (2-45pm) to enable our students to participate in their chosen sports or to attend practices.