

Edgewater College



27 MARCH 2008

Principal's Comment

In striving for excellence, Edgewater College is acknowledging the excellent achievements of its students in an elite EEE [Edgewater Excellence in Education] Society breakfast once a term for the first three terms this year. This new initiative is designed to encourage students to strive for excellence in everything they do, to celebrate their successes and to acknowledge the support they get from their families.

The 'Triple E Society' breakfast will be held at the end of each term for the College's nominated highest achieving students and their parents, to honour and commend those who have performed exceptionally well throughout that term. Students will be nominated in four categories, namely:

- Academic Excellence
- Contribution to the College
- Cultural Excellence
- Sporting Excellence

Local dignitaries and a guest speaker will also be invited. The students will be awarded certificates, lapel badges and gift packages as well as being lauded in the local press and school community in various ways.

Sanitarium Health Food Company is kindly supplying the cereals for the breakfasts and other sponsors are being approached to underwrite the event. The meal will be nutritious, the occasion elegant, and the speakers inspirational, so the occasion becomes a significant feature of the academic calendar at Edgewater College.

A J Vester
Principal

REPORTS

An appointment sheet has been given to all students so they can book times for you to meet with their teachers at the "Progress & Target Setting" evening on Monday 31 March. Students must arrange these appointments on behalf of their parents.

Eight Year 13 Economics students, with Mr Kumar (HoD Economics), will attend an Export Breakfast Seminar at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Auckland City on Monday 4 April.

Edgewater College is one of just five schools in the Auckland region invited to the seminar to hear New Zealand's Trade Commissioners to France, Germany and Spain.

The seminar will give an overview of the European business environment, Europe's underlying wealth, stable currency, position of influence on global market trends, and consumer appreciation for quality, safety, design and innovation, and value-added products and services. There will also be an interactive question and answer session.

The function is sponsored by New Zealand Trade and Enterprise Trust.



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

Monday 31 March
Parent-Teacher meetings - all year levels
"Progress & Target Setting"
4.15 – 8.15 p.m.

APRIL

Wednesday 2 – Saturday 5 April
Level 2 Outdoor Education kayaking trip to Taupo

Friday 18 April
Last day of Term 1

MAY

Monday 5 May
Term 2 commences

Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 May
Senior exams

JUNE

Monday 2 June
Queen's Birthday holiday (school closed)

Tuesday 17 – Friday 20 June
School musical production

Wednesday 25 – Friday 27 June
Senior Economics trip

JULY

Wednesday 2 July, 7.00 p.m.
Careers Expo

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next Board meeting will be held on
Wednesday 16 April at 6.00 p.m.

UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesdays 1.00 to 5.30 p.m.

Uniform items may also be ordered in advance and collected from the office on Mondays or during shop hours. Please allow two days for processing. Order forms are available from the office or website: www.edgewater.school.nz.

The Uniform Shop will be closed for stock-taking during the last week of term.

POLYFEST 12 – 15 MARCH

Congratulations to the Kapahaka team for their second placing at the Polyfest. We have not had a Kapahaka team at the Polyfest for a number of years so it's an especially exciting achievement. Many hours of training were put in to achieve such an excellent result. The Niuean group also competed and performed very well. Although they did not get a placing this year, Aarie Tamatoa (Yr 11, RI4) came second as boys' leader and Avina Hausi (Yr 13, RI5) came third in the speeches.

BASKETBALL: Our teams did well at the Battle of the Colleges at Tamaki College earlier this month. Our junior girls came first and our senior girls' and boys' teams were both runners-up.

ROWING: At the North Island Secondary Schools' Championships at Lake Karapiro we rowed in eight events, making the finals in five. Kate and Jaimee Christie achieved third in the U-17 double, a very good result given that 48 crews competed in the heats.

JAZZ COMBO was invited to perform at the opening of the rugby season in Pakuranga on 15 March, and gave a superb performance.

International Students

International Students have always been an important part of the community and culture of Edgewater College. This year we have 42 students from Japan, Germany, Taiwan, Thailand, Korea, China and Hong Kong. Most of them are staying in 'kiwi' homestays.

Educating and caring for international students has many rewards, but they do not always come easily. It is often difficult for these young students to adapt to the New Zealand lifestyle and to the school's expectations. Our cultures are very different in many ways. It is only when the students, the homestay families, the school and educational brokers work together as a team that we can ensure that students feel welcome, nurtured, encouraged and part of our community.

To encourage the feeling of being nurtured in our community even more this year, we have selected eight experienced senior students to be members of an International Student Council. Over the next year these student leaders will be part of the Peer Support Programme already operating in the College with our Year 9 students. They will be involved in regular meetings and assemblies, and plan programmes to meet the needs of international students. They will 'buddy' all the new students and make themselves available if one of them needs some peer support. We can already see a positive effect of the programme by the smiles on the faces of the students who have only been in the country for a few weeks.



Mr Peter Cornelius, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, congratulates the members of the International Student Council after presenting them with their badges of office.

One-Day COMMUNITY CLASSES

Edgewater Community Education will hold several one-off classes on Saturday 29th March. Learn to make Sensational Sushi, take a basic Maths refresher with Number Magic, get started with Drawing for the Novice or explore the World Wide Web with Internet Basics. To enrol phone 576 4731 or visit: www.ecep.homestead.com

EDGEWATER RUGBY SEVENS

On 25 March Edgewater sent a team to the Auckland Secondary School Rugby Sevens Championships at Sacred Heart College. With very little experience and even less training (just three sessions) the team felt their speed, courage, enthusiasm and team unity may give them a chance to make the top 12 of 24 schools represented.

The team played well above everyone's expectations, just losing their first game against giants Kelston Boys' High School. They learned from this and went on to win the next three games. Although they lost in the Plate Final to Tangaroa College, their results have seen Edgewater now ranked sixth out of 24 schools in the Auckland area. With a start like that, all looks promising for an excellent 15's season.

THANKS to all those involved in organising the Whanau Sports Day on Friday 7 March, and to all who came and participated. Despite the changeable weather, around 150-200 people took part in this enjoyable event.

FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

At the end of each year a survey is conducted with all year 13 students to find out our students' plans after leaving school. Of those who left school at the end of 2007:

- 40% were enrolling at the University of Auckland
- 22% at Auckland University of Technology
- 19% to private training courses
- 8% to Manukau Institute of Technology
- 5% to Otago University
- 3% to Unitec
- 2.5% to fulltime employment
- 0.5% to other universities

CAREERS EXPO

The annual Careers Expo will be held on Wednesday 2 July from 7.00 p.m. (last week of Term 2). Over 70 exhibitors will offer a broad range of career pathways and tertiary study or training options. This is a community event - invite your friends and family.

CONTACT DETAILS;

Mr Whickman, HoD Careers and Year 13 Associate Dean
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SCHOOL OFFICE

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Office hours: 8.30 am to 4.00 pm during term

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for
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