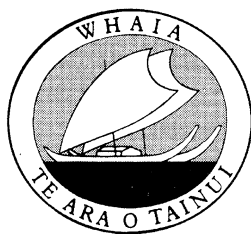


# Edgewater

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## College



### Principal's Comment

We are now past the half-way point in the year for our senior students and entering the countdown to NCEA. As part of the regular check on progress I recently received a list of names of the Year 11 students who are very unlikely to achieve NCEA Level 1 this year.

Certainly there were names on that list of students who find learning difficult but far too many of them shared another common characteristic, which was very poor attendance. While a minority of the students on the list attend regularly and really try hard, as a group their attendance is poor. They have missed on average 42 half-days in the year to date. That's 20 percent of the year, or a day a week. Put another way, if they were in the workforce, they would either have been laid off or would have already used four years' of sick leave in the first 22 weeks. The worst 10 students in the group had missed 69 half-days, or over 33 percent of the year to date.

For the majority of our students, attendance at school is very much better and, not surprisingly, levels of achievement are much higher. As a simple rule, the more often your son or daughter attends school, the better chance they have of success.

A J Vester  
Principal

### Enrolments for 2010

**If you have a student to enrol at Edgewater College for 2010, please contact the school office for an enrolment pack, if you have not already received one in the mail. In-zone enrolments may be completed by post, or you can make an appointment. Out-of-zone ballot applications close Friday 4 September. (You do need to apply, even if you already have a child here at Edgewater.)**

### NZQA Fee Payment & Financial Assistance

NZQA fees of \$75 must be paid by **Friday 11 September**. After this date we will not accept any fees for NZQA and you will instead be given a form to post with your payment direct to NZQA. Late payments will incur a penalty of \$50 (even if you have applied for financial assistance).

If you are eligible for financial assistance, the \$75 fee will be reduced. Financial assistance for NCEA fees is available to families who:

- Hold a community services card (and students who personally hold a community services card may use this for their application);
- Receive a Work & Income or Studylink benefit, or
- Have more than two students entering NCEA, whose fees total \$200 or more.

Students with a brother or sister doing NCEA at another college this year, and whose parents are on a benefit, should complete ONE application form, listing both students and the schools. Hand this form in at one of the schools, which will notify the other school. However, fees should be paid to the separate schools. Application forms are available from Student Reception for seniors and IOE students wishing to apply for financial assistance. Your deadline to return the complete and signed form to Student Reception is **Wednesday 9 September**.

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## AUGUST 2009

Please note the following dates in your calendar:

**Tuesday 25 August, 7.00 p.m.**  
Music Concert (see below)

**Wednesday 9 September**  
Last day for returning applications for financial assistance for NZQA exam fees (see below)

**Friday 11 September**  
Closing date for NZQA payments

**Saturday 12 September**  
Cultural & Fashion Extravaganza

**Monday 14 September**  
HPV Vaccinations

**Monday 21 – Friday 25 September**  
Senior examinations

**Friday 25 September**  
Last day of Term 3

### TERM 3

**Monday 12 October**  
Start of Term 4

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**BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**Wednesday 12 August**  
6.30 p.m. in the Boardroom

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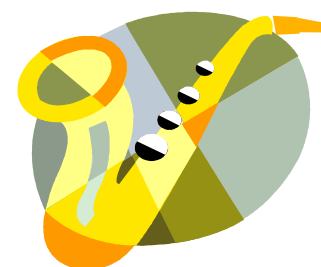
### The Edgewater College Music Department

presents its annual

## MUSICAL CONCERT

**Tuesday 25 August**  
**at 7.00 p.m.**

**School Hall – Tickets \$5**



# Careers

## PLANNING FOR 2010

We encourage students leaving College this year to **apply early** for next year's courses. Currently, MIT and AUT report a 20-25% increase in student numbers, partly due to increased numbers of adults seeking entrance. Students will be competing for places in a wide range of courses, with the possibility of waiting lists, students being turned away and the raising of entry qualification requirements.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr Whickman has information on a wide range of scholarships available. You do need to start the application process early – it takes longer than you think to put together a high quality application, so see Mr Whickman NOW. Most scholarship applications require a reference from your Dean or Mr Vester. **Please allow at least a week when requesting a reference.** Students need to be well-organised and look at several options for their higher education.

## COMMENTS FROM CAREERS EXPO EXHIBITOR

We received a lot of positive feedback about the Careers Expo, such as: *"So far Edgewater College's career evening has been the best of its kind this year. I was absolutely blown away by the welcoming smiles and helping hands. ... The students were well-behaved and very helpful. Thank you, Edgewater College, for the humbling experience."* Shobit Khanna, Sales & Marketing Group, Air New Zealand.

**SPIES: South Pacific Indigenous Engineering Students**  
Maori and Pasifika students recently enjoyed a visit from students of the School of Engineering at Auckland University. The very interactive presentation opened up the possibilities of studying engineering at the University.

**Tuesday 1 September:** Indigenous Engineering Day (Yr 11-13 students). See Mr Whickman if you are interested in attending.

Mr Whickman, Careers Advisor      Phone: 577 0406 (DDI)

## INTERACT CLUB

Interact Club strives to help people and communities that are not as fortunate as us. This year we had special days in school like Rose Day and Poppy Day, and we expect many more days like these. The money raised goes towards helping organisations. This year we helped the Pakuranga Children's Health Camp. The children there are taken into the school for six weeks. Every six weeks a new group of children is enrolled. At the end of the six weeks we attend a farewell disco where the kids just dance and enjoy themselves. A group of Interactors makes goody bags for them, which we hand out at the end of the night. The joy and smiles on their faces are just priceless. We are looking to do a lot more charity work and help change people's lives.

Natasha Kumar, Interact Local Director.

## CONTACT DETAILS:

**Phone:** 576 9039      **Fax:** 576 9037  
**Attendance line:** 576 9039 Option 1  
**E-mail:** enquiries@edgewater.school.nz  
**Website:** [www.edgewater.school.nz](http://www.edgewater.school.nz)

# Congratulations

**Dylan Wharton** (Year 13) is a finalist in the NZ Post National Schools Poetry Competition, selected from over 330 entries. Dylan is one of six finalists in the "Best Lyric Poem" category, judged by Op Shop singer Jason Kerrison. Winners will be announced at a ceremony in Wellington on 28 August. The winning lyric poem will be made into a song to be performed by Jason Kerrison.

**Rosie Prins** (Year 9) was voted Best Speaker for the Eastern Sector in the Open Junior Debating Competition. Edgewater College fielded five teams in the competition this year, the teams collectively winning over half their debates, against some tough competition.

## LEVEL 3 ACCOUNTING COMPETITION

The first week of the holidays was a bit stressful but altogether fun for us. While all the other school kids were at the movies, watching T.V. or even overseas, we were at the University of Auckland preparing for our presentation. Natasha, Lupita, Wilmon and Melissa volunteered to take part in a competition where we competed against 12 schools. In the heats, we were up against Saint Kentigern College and Takapuna Grammar School. When we went into the preparation room we were hopeful, but in the back of our minds knew that those schools had way more resources than we had. Well guess what? We knocked Saint Kentigern and Takapuna Grammar and made it to the finals against Westlake Boys' and Macleans College. The second day we were much more confident. We were excited, nervous and, just before going into the presentation room, we were expecting a huge adrenaline rush. After our presentation, the tension was building, it was a nail-biting moment. We all wanted to know who won. Finally, the announcement was made – "and the winner is ... Westlake Boys." The good news is – we came second equal with Macleans College (boy, were they stunned!). We had a great experience and proved that Edgewater College is as capable as any other school:

*Striving for Excellence.*

Natasha Kumar, Year 13



## MUSIC ON TOUR

The Jazz Band and Boys' Choir recently toured the Bay of Plenty for four days, where they performed at five schools to appreciative audiences:

*"On behalf of the students and staff of Waihi Beach School I would like to thank you again for the outstanding concert your students provided on Thursday July 30. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the music and the enthusiasm your students showed. One of the great things for us was the role model of boys singing as a choir. Many of our boys have been quite taken by this and it adds to the traditional sporting role model often put in front of boys."*

Mike Tilyard, Principal, Waihi Beach School