

Edgewater College



MARCH 2008

Principal's Comment

In conversation with some senior students recently, it became clear to me that some students at least have an interesting approach to what they will do when they finish school.

Rather than see what they can do to improve their grades to get into a tertiary institute, to study something they really want to do, they instead look around for a course that will let them in with the grades they have.

What can we, as a school, do about that? What can you do as a family?

I believe the answer lies in constantly reminding our students that making that extra effort is something to be applauded. Rather than always looking for something we can do easily, we should be encouraging our students to place the highest value on those things that are only achieved through effort. It's actually of more merit to achieve through hard work than it is to do well simply in those things that come easiest to us.

A J Vester
Principal

CURRICULUM MATTERS

Reports (for all year levels) will be mailed to parents after Easter. An appointment sheet will be included so that your son or daughter can book times for you to meet with his or her teachers at the "Progress & Target Setting" evening on 31 March.

Students arrange these appointments on behalf of their parents - please remind them to do so.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The next Board meeting will be held on
Wednesday 12 March at 6.00 p.m.

WHANAU SPORTS EVENT

FRIDAY 7 MARCH, 3.30 to 8.30 p.m.

Tickets for the hangi are available from
Student Reception at \$10 per ticket
Limited places available - be quick!
If you don't have a ticket - no hangi
No refunds will be given.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

Friday 7 March

Whanau Sports Event - 3.30 to 8.30 pm

Friday 14 March

Teacher-only day (school closed)

Polynesian Festival

Sunday 16 - Tuesday 18 March

L3 History Field Trip to Bay of Islands

Friday 21 - Tuesday 25 March

Easter weekend (school closed)

Monday 31 March

Parent-Teacher meetings - all year levels
4.30 - 8.00 p.m.

APRIL

Wednesday 2 - Saturday 5 April

L2 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

And looking further ahead ...

Tuesday 17 - Friday 20 June

School musical production

Wednesday 2 July, 7.00 p.m.

Careers Expo

UNIFORM

Shop Hours:

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.

SENIOR BLAZERS

We hope to have the blazers in stock next week - students will be advised via the Daily Bulletin when they are available for collection. The cost of \$160 is subsidised by the school.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

DEBATING: Edgewater College performed well in the opening session of the 2008 Secondary Schools Debating Competition on Monday 3 March, with two of the junior teams winning their debates convincingly against Macleans College and Sacred Heart College.

ROWING: The team competed at Lake Karapiro on Saturday 1 March, achieving four second placings – the under-15 girls' double, under-17 girls' double, under-17 girls' quad and under-18 girls' quad. The under-17 girls' and under-17 boys' singles achieved second and fourth respectively in their events. The team will return to Karapiro for the North Island Secondary Schools Championships next week, and are working towards the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Championships at Lake Ruataniwha, Twizel, in April.

ROAD SAFETY

We are very aware of the dangers students face crossing Ti Rakau Drive and there are concerns about the way some students ignore the crossing and wander through the traffic, even 'playing chicken'. Parents' support for our safety rules would be appreciated:

- Parents should encourage students to cross Ti Rakau Drive ONLY at the crossing and ONLY when the lights allow pedestrians to cross.
- Parents are not to drive into the front school carpark to drop off or pick up students unless authorised (i.e. those with special requirements such as wheelchair access).

WATER VENDING MACHINE

Our new water vending machine was launched last month. Wet Planet is a machine that sells bottled water at a fraction of the usual cost. It relies on students refilling their plastic bottles and includes a bottle washing function to ensure bottles are clean before use. Not only is it environmentally friendly, it also encourages students to drink more water, and less fizzy drink. Everybody wins.

JAZZ BAND CAMP

From 27 February to 2 March, the Edgewater College Jazz Band returned to Redhill Camp on the Poutu Peninsula for four days of rehearsal and team-building. Despite the weather, a fantastic time was had by all, visiting the tranquil splendour of the Kai Iwi Lakes and the following day taking on the pounding surf at Glink's Gully on the west coast.

The students worked extraordinarily hard throughout their rehearsals and the fruits of their efforts and those of their teachers are already evident. The opportunity to spend extended hours learning and polishing new material is certainly apparent in the huge improvements in their playing.

Heartfelt thanks must go to Mr Arthur, who joined us on Friday night and Saturday and really put the band through its paces, and also to Masterchef Stickland, Sous-chef and conductor-extraordinaire Holmes and Maitre-D Benjamin for preparing some of the best food a camp has ever seen.

All in all, it was a superb experience both musically and socially – thanks and congratulations to all involved.

Mrs N Haddock, HOD Music

FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

ASSEMBLIES - YEAR 12 AND 13

Assemblies are held approximately four times per term for Year 13 students, often including an outside speaker. This term there will be speakers from MIT, AUT, the University of Auckland and more ... This year we will also hold regular assemblies for Year 12 students so they too can benefit from hearing speakers from a range of organisations.

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The University of Auckland has advised that from 2009 there will be no open entry courses offered – ALL courses will be based on a limited entry ranking system. This change affects a lot of courses and means it is VERY important to gain as many Merits and Excellences as possible in NCEA if you hope to study at the University of Auckland.

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
Direct line: 577 0406
Email: wnm@edgewater.school.nz

TOUGHLOVE

Loving through the tough times

ToughLove Auckland runs several Parent Support Groups, which meet weekly in different parts of the city. By sharing our stories we find we are not alone and need not feel isolated.

ToughLove shows parents how to come up with loving solutions to help with family problems by teaching self-responsibility.

Meetings for this area are held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursdays at the Girl Guide Den, 50 Vincent Street, Howick.
For more information phone 624 4363 or visit the website: www.toughlove.org.nz

SCHOOL OFFICE

Phone: 576 9039 Fax: 576 9037

Website: www.edgewater.school.nz

E-mail: enquiries@edgewater.school.nz

Office hours: 8.30 am to 4.00 pm during term

Striving
for
Excellence