



Edgewater College

July 2005

Principal's Comment

Last Tuesday we hosted a very successful conference involving the Pakuranga West cluster schools – Pakuranga Intermediate, Pakuranga Heights, Riverhills, Riverina and Anchorage Park Schools and Edgewater College.

The theme of the conference was “Our Place – Building a Shared Learning Community”. The keynote speaker was Professor Guy Claxton from the University of Bristol, an acknowledged expert on building learning power. He was inspirational, not least because he was able to speak so clearly about those things that make a real difference to students’ ability to learn.

His message also strongly supported a current initiative to build a shared vision for education in our cluster. By sharing a common vision about quality learning, by having the same standards and by speaking the same language about learning I was totally convinced that we can build a Year 1 – 13 education environment second to none. The next few years promise to be very important and exciting. This is not rocket science but it is cutting edge and I look forward to sharing it with you over the coming months.

A J Vester
Principal

Thank You ...

...for supporting our fourth annual Careers Expo. We appreciate the assistance of students and staff who helped to organise the event, and the support of all our exhibitors and sponsors – Bunnings Ti Rakau branch, National Bank Pakuranga, and National Starch and Chemical, East Tamaki.

Mr M Whickman, Careers Advisor

Mid-winter Music Spectacle & Art Extravaganza

Wednesday 6 July

College Hall & Foyer

Entry from 6.30 p.m. – the concert starts at 7.00 p.m.

Cost: \$3.00



MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

JULY

Wednesday 6 July

7.00 p.m. Mid-winter Music Spectacle & Art Extravaganza (see below for details)

Thursday 7 July

4.00 – 8.30 p.m.
Parent/teacher interviews (Years 11, 12 & 13)

Friday 8 July

Last day of Term 2 (School closes at usual time)

Monday 18 – Thursday 21 July

Niuean Group trip to Wellington

Monday 25 July

Term 3 begins

AUGUST

Wednesday 3 – Saturday 6 August

School band trip to Kapiti Coast

18 August

4.00 – 8.30 p.m.
Parent/teacher interviews (Years 9 & 10)

Next Board of Trustees meeting:

Wednesday 6 July, 6.30 pm

UNIFORM

The Uniform Shop will be closed for stock-taking on Thursday 7 July and is not open during the school holidays. Next open on Tuesday 26 July.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the members of the two junior debating teams who won six of their eight debates in Round One of the Auckland Debating Competition: Olivia Patterson, Alyson McIlroy and Lisa Mulgrew (Year 9) and Anne Yu, Hadassah Devis and Emily Redwood (Year 10). Well done.

Advanced debaters (Keerthi Kumar, Kathleen Sheahan, Terri Smyth and Emma Gordon) won one of their four debates in the SSDA competitions, and senior debaters (Nicky Ferguson, Joanna Kelly and Teena Gamage) won two of their four debates. These students also participated in the Russell McVeagh Debating Competition, and Emma Gordon and Terri Smyth took part in the University of Waikato Mooting Competition.

We also had a team take part in the Mini United Nations Association Conference, representing Kuwait.

It was an honour for the **Niuean Group** to be invited by the Prime Minister's office to take part in the launch of the Pacific Youth Development Strategy at the Ellerslie Convention Centre on 24 June. Fifteen members of the group performed a rousing haka at the event.

OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES

Edgewater College has an exchange arrangement with Nakutsu High School in Japan. Exchange students spend a full school-year overseas.

Pilgrim College in Winchester, England offers the opportunity for senior Edgewater students to spend a Gap year working as house matrons in the school. One or two places are available annually.

A trip to France in 2007 is being planned for students of French. A fund-raising committee is organising activities to raise money towards costs.

Students interested in any of these opportunities should see Mrs Mackereth.

Graffiti

You see it in the community. It damages our environment and almost everyone dislikes it. We certainly don't like it.

As part of a wider education programme we are moving to ban it from school bags and school books. Students will be given the chance to remove it or cover it up. If that is not successful they will be required to replace the offending items.

Perhaps by stopping it in the small ways it occurs we can help rid our community of what is both damaging and expensive to repair.

Senior parent / teacher interviews:

Some of you received a notice that contained an error with the date of the parent / teacher interviews. The correct date is **Thursday 7 July**. Please use the booking form to make appointments with the appropriate teachers.

NZQA Fees

From the beginning of Term 3 statements will be posted or given to students.

Junior Reports

Will be mailed out at the end of Week 3, Term 3 and parent / teacher interviews held on 18 August.

Absences: A telephone message left on the school's absence line is necessary when a student is absent for two days or more (phone 5769039 ext 813). Absences must be covered by a note signed by the parent / caregiver and handed to the Tutor Group Teacher on the first day back at school. Requests for special leave for one week or more should be addressed to the Principal in writing before the leave is taken.

Edgewater Adult Education Programme for semester two is now available. We welcome your suggestions on courses to offer or you may know someone who would like to tutor a course. Call in or phone us on 576 4731 for your personal copy of the course booklet.

Phone: 576 9039

www.edgewater.school.nz

Fax: 576 9037

email: enquiries@edgewater.school.nz

Striving

for

Excellence