



Edgewater College

November
2005

Principal's Comment

If the following sounds like a message from someone who is very proud of the school they are fortunate to be the Principal of, then you have read it correctly.

We have just finished a very successful co-curricular prizegiving, a wonderful academic prizegiving, a Year 13 graduation dinner which showed just how good our senior students are and a really positive visit by the Education Review Office.

It really is a good time for me to stand up and say that I am very proud of this school and the people who work here, and enthusiastic about the attitudes and achievement of our students. We can hold our heads up and be confident about what we are achieving.

While I am still waiting for the final report from the Education Review Office I can share some of the feed back we have had to date.

The overwhelming impression that ERO left us with was of a school that has its focus set on the things that matter and which is doing those things very well. Comments included "teachers smile at the students a lot, students smile at the teachers a lot – we found we were smiling a lot".

There are very good reasons for those smiles that relate to:

- "a real sense of calm professionalism"
- "teachers looking at 'how' they teach, making changes to the way they teach and making use of achievement data to inform their practice"
- "affirming and supportive attitudes and practices"
- "settled classrooms that make it possible to develop good dialogue about learning"
- "positive and well behaved students"
- "a very positive tone in the school"
- "high student and staff morale".

In the final analysis it is these things that are important:

- Students who feel safe and supported.
- Teachers who reflect on their teaching and look for ways to improve what they teach but also how they teach it.
- A focus on high standards and every student reaching their potential.

Thank you to all who signed up for the Telecom School Connection. Since promoting this recently our points have increased by 48%, to a total of 24,820 points. We will report back to you on how these points are utilised.

A J Vester
Principal

Year 9 Enrolments for 2006

We still have vacancies for Year 9 applicants. If you have not yet enrolled your student for Year 9 next year please phone the College office on 576 9039 to make an appointment.

MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Thurs 10 – Mon 14
Junior exams

Monday 14 November
First NZ Scholarship exam

Tuesday 15 November
NCEA exams start (until
Friday 2 December)

DECEMBER

Saturday 3 December
The NZ Scholarship exams
resume (until Saturday 10
December)

Tuesday 13 December
Year 10 prizegiving
2.00 pm in the Hall
Year 10 leave for the year

Wednesday 14 December
Year 9 prizegiving
9.30 am in the Hall
Year 9 leave for the year

Next Board of Trustees meeting:

Wednesday 7 December 6.30 pm

UNIFORM

The uniform shop will be
open on Thursdays:

15 November
22 November
29 November

from 2.00 – 5.00 p.m.

It will re-open on **31 January**
(11.00 am – 5.00 pm) and **1**
February 2006 (10.00 am to
5.00 pm).

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students were awarded tertiary scholarships at the Senior Prizegiving on 8 November. We wish them well in their future studies and careers.

University of Otago Scholarship for Dux 2005:

- Joanna Ly

Manukau Institute of Technology Scholarships:

- Stephanie Frazer
- Michael Une
- Astrid Koopman

Auckland University of Technology Significant Student and Vice Chancellor's Scholarships:

- Alfred Pongi – for Leadership Excellence
- Jared Bird – for Academic Excellence

Graham King Scholarship for assistance with tertiary fees for a course in the technology field to:

- Jasmine Kaur

Plantation Business Challenge Scholarships:

- Tupea Sifa
- Pratishma Payal

Changes to finish time until end of the year
For the remainder of the year, school will finish at 3.00 p.m. Buses will be asked to come early.

LEAVERS – TESTIMONIALS

Year 13 & 14 students who want a testimonial must complete a Leavers Form, available from Student Reception. Please return the form to the office as soon as possible and no later than **Friday 18 November**.

Other students who are not returning to Edgewater in the New Year must complete leaving formalities.

Phone: 576 9039

Fax: 576 9037

Website: www.edgewater.school.nz

email: enquiries@edgewater.school.nz

CAREERS UPDATE

Reminder to Year 10 parents/caregivers:

If you have not yet returned your student's Designing Careers Plan, please complete your part and return it as soon as possible.

Careers advice is still available to senior students after exam time. Contact Mr Whickman, Careers Advisor, on direct line 577 0406.

Arrangements for 2006

Thursday 2 February

Option confirmation for those contacted by Mr Wood and any other students wanting to change options.

9.00 – 10.00 am A – I
10.00 – 11.00 am J – Q
11.00 – 12.00 noon R – Z
(First letter of family name)

Friday 3 February

Teacher-only day – school closed

Monday 6 February

Waitangi Day – school closed

Tuesday 7 February

8.45 am

- Year 9 and new International Students to Hall. Students will stay all day and should wear uniform and bring pen and paper.
- All Year 13 students arrive and go to Gym. Peer Support Leaders will stay for orientation. Year 13 students who are not Peer Support Leaders may be dismissed early unless they have timetable clashes.

12.00 noon

- Year 12 to Hall (in mufti). Option changes if needed.

Normal school bus service commences

Wednesday 8 February

8.45 am

- Year 10 & 11 to Hall
- Year 9 & 12 to their Tutor classrooms
All students to wear uniform and bring pen and paper.
- Year 13 stay at home.

Thursday 9 February

All school back in class and in school uniform (except Year 13 who wear mufti).

Striving
for
Excellence