



Edgewater College

Oct 2005

Principal's Comment

On Thursday 13 October we were saddened to learn that long-serving teacher, Cameron Martin, had died following a long illness. On Monday I attended his funeral, along with many of my teaching colleagues and Cameron's students, past and present.

Cameron Martin first taught at Edgewater College from 1975 until 1986, returning in 1995 – in total almost 21 years at this College. Some of his current students are the children of former students of Edgewater College.

The qualities that made Cameron the loved and respected person that he was also made him a wonderful teacher. He liked and respected his students and the subject he taught. He was warm and caring, and in return received warmth and understanding. He was curious about maths and maths problems and in return had students who were motivated to work hard at a subject that does not come easily to many.

Many former students have contacted me about Cameron. Lots more won't yet know of his passing but as they surely come to find out they will think fondly of him. It won't really be the maths that he taught them that they think about. Some won't even remember the maths but they will remember Cameron the teacher and Cameron the person.

If we think back to our school days, we all have warm memories of a small number of teachers who stood out and who were very important to our development and our attitude to school. I have no doubt that for a great number of the students he taught, Cameron will be one of those teachers.

The following quote from John Steinbeck is rather sad, but also uplifting and inspirational. I believe it reflects the Cameron Martin we were so fortunate to have with us for so long at Edgewater College:

When he went away, a sadness came over us, but the light did not go out. He left a signature on us, the literature of the teacher who writes upon children's minds.

I've had many teachers who taught us soon-forgotten things. But only a few like him who created in me a new thing, a new hunger, a new attitude.

I suppose that to a large extent I am the unsigned manuscript of that teacher. What deathless power lies in the hands of such a person.

I am confident that around Auckland, around New Zealand, and in all the places Kiwis travel there will be people, some not so young, who were taught by Cameron and every time they think of their time at school, he will be one of the people they think about. When they are reminded of people who are kind, patient and caring, they will be reminded of Cameron.

A J Vester
Principal

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As school was closed on Monday 17 October to enable staff and students to attend Mr Martin's funeral, we are required to make up an extra day before the end of the school year. The last day of term will now be Wednesday 14 December.
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MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Monday 24 October
Labour Day – school closed

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 2 November
Co-curricular Prizegiving
7.00 p.m. in the Hall

Tuesday 8 November
Senior Prizegiving
7.30 p.m. in the Hall
Last day for senior students

Wednesday 9 November
Year 13 Graduation dinner

Thurs 10 – Mon 14
Junior exams

Monday 14 November
The NZ Scholarship exams start (Day 1 – resuming Saturday 3 December)

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

Wednesday 14 December
Year 9 prizegiving
Term 4 ends

Next Board of Trustees meetings:

Wednesday 26 October *
Wednesday 9 November
Meetings start at 6.30 p.m.
*change from date originally scheduled

New Student Representative on Edgewater College Board of Trustees

Elections were held in September and **Darshana Nair**, Year 12, was elected as the new Student Representative on the Board of Trustees. The appointment runs from October 2005 to September 2006.

Thanks to **Tema Dave** for his involvement on the Board as Student Representative over the past 12 months.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Under-15 Rugby team won the local Quadrangular Tournament played at Macleans College in the final week of Term 3. They played three games, winning all three, against:

- Pakuranga – 17:0
- Macleans – 19:12
- Botany Downs – 60:0

The boys were excellent ambassadors for the school and were complimented by the coach of the Macleans team, who described their play as “awesome”.

Kimberlee Cobb, Year 11, had two of her poems selected by The Correspondence School for publication in their next magazine. A published writer – well done Kimberlee!

Plantation Business Challenge 2005

During the term break, four Edgewater College students took part in the Plantation Business Challenge run by AUT, MIT and the Pacific Business Trust. The aim of the challenge was to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit of Pasifika students. Nine Counties Manukau schools competed.

The Edgewater team members were Alfred Pongi, Tupea Sifa, Gallagher Hausi and Pratishma Patel. The business idea they developed and presented to judges was a cell phone that not only takes photos but can also print them. Although the team did not win, both Tupea and Pratishma were awarded individual scholarships.

Pratishma won the Hibiscus Scholarship of \$3,500 to study at MIT and Tupea the Outstanding Individual Scholarship of \$2000 to study at either MIT or AUT.

CAREERS UPDATE

The first year of the Ministry of Education Designing Careers contract has been completed and all Year 10 parents/caregivers have been sent a copy in the post with a covering letter from Mr Vester. Please complete your part and return in the stamped addressed envelope enclosed.

Students are to be commended on their positive and insightful approach in completing their Learning Careers Plan (LCP). A big thanks to Mr Vanderpeet and his Social Studies teachers whose classes were used for this programme. We will be running this careers plan for next year's Year 10 students.

Recent inaugural Pacific Island Plantation Business Awards saw Edgewater College team win two out of the eight awards (see column to left). These students willingly gave up a week of school holidays to attend workshops at AUT / MIT / Pacific Business Trust and the final presentation at the Manukau City Council. Students came from Mr Kumar's senior Business Studies class. A big thanks to Mrs Hausi (Board of Trustees) for her support. We look forward to next year's competition!

The school year is disappearing fast. Students who will be leaving school should now be applying for external courses (eg. AUT, MIT, Universities, training courses, apprenticeships, etc.) Please remember to organise all school reports, record of learning, certificates, diplomas, sporting/cultural achievements, etc. with an up-to-date CV. See Page 4 for scholarships you may be eligible to apply for.

Students who are still NOT SURE about what to do on leaving school please see Mr Whickman, Careers Advisor, your House Dean or Tutor Group Teacher to seek advice.

Mr Whickman
Careers Advisor

For parents / caregivers, the Careers Office direct line is 5770406.