



# Edgewater College

Sept 2005

## Principal's Comment

Before we even think about spending for Christmas I want to draw your attention to school costs. We have been very fortunate in the past to be able to supplement our Government income with international fee-paying students. That market is becoming increasingly difficult and we are now faced with reducing the opportunities offered or looking to our school community to help raise the funds.

In simple terms, Edgewater College has one of the lowest school fees of any secondary school in Auckland – something we are going to have to revisit if we are to continue to offer the level of opportunity that parents have come to expect for their children and which compares with what is offered elsewhere. I don't imagine that any parent is going to be overjoyed at the thought of higher school fees, but in terms of the big picture it is really a very modest personal investment in a quality education.

Of course there are some small things we can do that will help us help your children while at the same time costing you nothing. The best example of this is the Telecom Schools Connection. If you are not already part of this programme, either here or through a primary or intermediate school, you should be! It is an absolutely fully proven win-win situation and I have set a target of 800 members of this programme by the end of this year. Please help me meet this target and help your children. We have enclosed a joining form – if you are a Telecom residential customer please fill it in and return it to school. If you are already a member, thank you for your support – you might like to give the form to grandparents, aunts/uncles or neighbours to sign up.

Another scheme is the Educard through Placemakers. This discount card for retail customers entitles the cardholder to a discount off cash or credit card purchases at PlaceMakers Pakuranga, at the same time giving a nominated school a 1.5% rebate on the value of your purchase. To sign up, pick up an enrolment form from PlaceMakers Pakuranga or from the College Office.

An unnecessary cost is the loss of library books that are not returned. We have many books outstanding, some of them years overdue! To date we have been lenient about accepting back late books without penalty but need to toughen up the procedures in future. Possibly the most effective penalty will be to block a student's computer / Internet access until books have either been returned or paid for if they are lost. Students should be careful about allowing friends to borrow books under their name. If a book is issued in YOUR name, you will be the one we expect to take responsibility if it is not returned.

A J Vester  
Principal

## YEAR 9 ENROLMENTS FOR 2006

If you have a current Year 8 student and you live in our zone, please phone the office on 5769039 to make an appointment to enrol. This will ensure a place for your child before the ballot is held for out-of-zone applications. Applications for out-of-zone enrolments close on **Friday 2 September**. Ballot application forms are available from the office. A ballot will be held on 13 September, under Police supervision, and you will be advised of the outcome.

## MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

**Friday 2 September**  
Yr 13 International Dinner

**Thursday 8 September**  
Blood bank visit

**Tuesday 13 & Thursday 15 September**  
6.30 – 10.00 p.m, School Hall, Culture Festival

**Monday 19 September**  
Enterprise Studies Market Day

**Wednesday 21 Sept**  
4.00 – 6.00 p.m. Parent / Teacher interviews – Years 11-13 only

**Friday 23 September**  
Last day of Term 3

### OCTOBER

**Monday 10 October**  
First day of Term 4

**Mon 10 – Fri 14 October**  
Senior exams

### NOVEMBER

**Thurs 10 – Mon 14**  
Junior exams

### DECEMBER

**Tuesday 13 December**  
Term 4 ends

## Next Board of Trustees meeting:

Wednesday 7 September  
at 6.30 p.m.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Auckland Secondary Schools Tumbling Gymnastics Competitions, North Harbour, on 5 August:**

**Boys' A Team:** (Daniel Zheng, Brad Wang and Luther Blakelock) – 1<sup>st</sup> in B grade.

**Girls' B Team:** (Daniel Sou, Kieren Mullooly and Nihal Alexander) – 1<sup>st</sup> in C grade.

**Girls' Individual:** Catherine Chiwona – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Novice C grade.

**Jenna Brockett**, Year 12, earned a highly commended certificate for the outfit she designed, modelled by her sister, in the Wearable Arts Festival at Macleans College.

**Girls' Basketball Team** finished the season tied for the second spot overall in their league. They've worked really hard this year and there are some great players on the team.

Congratulations to **Nawfal Mudafar**, Year 12, who won an iPod in the Odyssey Reading Competition.

**Jahne Potgieter**, Year 12, will be competing in the NZ National Synchronised Ice Figure Skating Championships in Dunedin during the school holidays – her third National competition. Good luck, Jahne!

A number of our students took part in the Australasian Science Exams, many of them gaining Achievements and Credits. **Congratulations to Anne Yu**, Year 10, who achieved High Distinction, placing her in the top 1% of New Zealand participants. In addition, **Zoe Cornelius, Hadassah Devis, Michael Duffy, Maia Jones, Stephen Leach, Simon Corkery, Skye Lee and Hannah Sheahan** earned Distinction, placing them in the top 10% nationwide.

### [School Band Trip to Kapiti](#)

The school band and a small group of singers travelled to Taupo and the Kapiti Coast from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> August. The trip was a huge success with performances at four different schools. The students on the trip were a credit to both their families and our school. Their musical talents were enthusiastically appreciated at all the venues. Students are asking when the next big trip is!

We have two more out of school events happening before the senior students leave for their exams. This week we are helping at the Pakuranga Heights Arts Alive week and also doing a tour of local schools. We hope to encourage many students from the local schools to take up music and show that Edgewater College has a thriving music department. The final events for the year will be the Senior and Junior Prizegivings.



### [Edgewater College won two awards at the International Education Excellence Awards in Christchurch last week:](#)

- The Community Relations Award for excellence in fostering and improving community relations between New Zealanders and international students.
- The Professional Development Award for excellence in professional development programmes within the industry.

[We were also one of three finalists for the Pastoral Care Award.](#)

We were thrilled to receive the awards as they confirmed to us that the initiatives we had put in place not only worked but are also recognised by our peers as effective and innovative. The processes and systems we have put in place are part of a school-wide strategy to ensure our students feel safe and supported and recognise that they have a role to play in making our local community a better place.

**Congratulations** to Mrs Wheeler, Director for International Students, and Mrs Lim, International Student Support for this wonderful recognition of their hard work in this area.

## Curriculum News

This section contains important information about NZQA examinations – please read it carefully.

### NZQA Examination Fees

- All 10E, Y11, Y12 and Y13 students have received fees billing notices through the mail.
- For the majority of students the NZQA fee is a flat \$75 regardless of the number of standards being examined.
- For the small number of NZ Scholarship candidates (Y13 NCEA Level 3) who have entered in 1, 2 or 3 Scholarship subjects, there is NO additional charge.
- Overseas fee-paying students have to pay \$375 because they do not qualify for the NZ taxpayer subsidy.
- NZQA fees must be paid to Student Reception by 15 September. This is the actual deadline. The College will NOT process any exam entries after this date.
- All families who are eligible for financial assistance should have applied some time ago. If your family is eligible for financial assistance and you have not yet made the application you must do so NOW. Please get the necessary form from Student Reception.

### Parent-Teacher Interview Evening for Senior Students

- Will be held on Wednesday 21 September 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm.
- Some parents may be specifically requested to attend, although all are welcome.
- Students will make “bookings” on behalf of parents.
- Parents will receive through the post a print-out of the student’s “Provisional Record of Achievement”. This will indicate each student’s progress to date.
- Parents need to be aware of the subject areas that students need to work on during the holidays in preparation for the school exams.
- Remember – Term 4 is VERY short. There is not much time for students to correct ‘gaps’ in their knowledge before going off to sit the external NZQA examinations.

### College Examinations

- The school exams for senior students start immediately they return from holiday (Monday 10 October to Friday 14 October).

- Parents and students are reminded that attendance at these exams is compulsory, and the local shopping malls are out of bounds during this time.
- Students are expected to have studied very hard for these exams in preparation for the coming NZQA external examinations. There are only three weeks of tuition left after the school exams before senior students are released to sit the NZQA exams.

### NZQA Examinations

- Students are reminded to read carefully all of the instructions about the exam procedures.
- Students are reminded to highlight their exam timetables. There is no compassionate consideration given to students who “miss an exam”.
- Students are reminded to make travel plans that do not cut into the exam period. There is no compassionate consideration for missed exams because of overseas travel plans.
- In the event of sickness or accident injury, the student or family must contact Mr Bull as soon as possible for advice and guidance on applying for a compassionate consideration.
- Students must turn up and attempt the exams they are entered for. Class placements in 2006 will depend on progress as indicated by the student’s exam results.
- Students must come to their NZQA exams with their entry slip, which includes their National Student Number. This is essential ID for the exam.

### Change of Contact Details such as Address

- It is essential for families to contact the school office and up-date any changes in address or phone numbers (including work phone numbers if you change job).
- All official documents will be sent to the addresses stored on our data base.
- This will include such things as official NZQA information.

Students who want documents sent to another address (different from Residential Address) must inform the school office.

# Cultural Festival

**Tuesday 13 & Thursday 15  
September  
6.30 – 10.00 p.m.**

**Admission \$3.00**

**Over 12 cultures will be represented this year. Come and enjoy a great night.**

**Tickets on sale from Monday 5 September at lunchtimes in the Student Centre.**

## KIWI LIFE COURSES

A free programme for new settlers in New Zealand, funded by Manukau City Council, runs for one week every month. Workshops cover:

- Finding a job
- Driving education
- Education in New Zealand
- The Kiwi Lifestyle
- Investing in New Zealand
- The Health Service in New Zealand
- Buying Property in New Zealand

September workshops will be held next week, 5-9 September, at the Highland Park Community House. Phone 5345584 or 5378132 to enrol.

*More detailed information about these workshops is available from the College Office. Please contact Ms Boyce for a leaflet.*

### UNITEC IN SCHOOLS – STEP UP Revision Classes

For students needing help with NCEA Level 1-3 exams, STEP UP offers intensive revision, exam preparation and reassessment classes.

Covering most NCEA subjects, revision classes are held in the September holiday break and exam preparation classes over the first two weekends in November.

Fees: \$40 per half-day level 1 or 2 classes  
(including GST) \$165 per three-day level 3 subject

Further information available from Mr Whickman or visit the website:  
<http://stepup.unitec.ac.nz> .

### UNIFORM

The uniform shop is open during term on:

**Tuesday:** 1.00 – 5.30 pm  
**Thursday:** 1.00 – 4.00 pm

Remember to **name** your uniform articles so they can be returned to you if found. We often have unclaimed articles in Lost Property with no names in them.

### Enterprise Studies Market Day – Lunchtime, Monday 19 September – School Hall

Students from Enterprise Studies and Year 10 Technology will be selling innovative products that they have made in their groups, as part of the nationwide **BP Innovation Project Competition**. Students are asked to submit a 1-page summary, including a photo, of how their contribution to their ESP Market Day demonstrates innovation. This could be through: the type of product or service they offer; an innovative sales technique; the presentation of their product; or the process of managing their team. The most innovative teams will be displayed on the ESP website and are eligible for awesome prizes. The awards include prizes ranging from \$250 to \$1,500 and the overall winner will be flown to Wellington for an all-expenses paid "Capital Experience".

Parents are welcome to visit the school on the Market Day. Phone Mr Kumar at school for additional information.

**Phone: 576 9039**

**Fax: 576 9037**

**Website:** [www.edgewater.school.nz](http://www.edgewater.school.nz)

**Email:** [enquiries@edgewater.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@edgewater.school.nz)

**Striving**  
for

**Excellence**