



# Edgewater College

March 2006

## Principal's Comment

It is with regret that I have to announce that Mr Ray Bull, Deputy Principal, has resigned from his position, effective early in Term 2. We wish him the very best for his forthcoming retirement. He has been a valuable member of our Senior Management Team since 2003, when he returned to Edgewater College after four years at Papakura High School. Previously he had taught at Edgewater College from 1986 to 1999. We are in the process of recruiting his successor and have received a number of high quality applications.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an invoice for 2006 school fees. We rely on parents paying these fees promptly to allow us to offer the level of opportunities we want to provide for our students. While the amount of the donation has increased since last year it is still one of the lowest in Auckland, and will be discounted if payment is made by the end of March.

The co-curricular fee of \$40 is particularly good value for students involved in sporting or other co-curricular activities. This covers all costs such as transport, team uniforms (including laundering) and registration fees for events. If your son or daughter is involved in a variety of activities, you will be getting far more for your \$40 than what it actually costs the school. Please help us by paying this fee.

Now that the weather is starting to show a hint of autumn and colder days to come, you may need to purchase uniform jerseys, vests and jackets if you have not already done so. We are changing the uniform jacket this year; however, this does not mean that students cannot use their existing jackets. During a phase-out period of two years, students will be able to use existing jackets or purchase the old-style jackets at a reduced rate of \$68 while stocks last. The new jackets are now available at a cost of \$92.

A J Vester  
Principal

**Next Board of Trustees  
meeting:**

Wednesday 15 March 6.30 pm

## MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

### MARCH

**Thurs 9 – Sunday 12 March**  
Year 12 Geography Trip

**Tues 14 March, 7.00 pm**  
Course & NCEA information  
evening for parents of Yrs 10-13  
students (see note overleaf).

**Friday 17 – Sunday 19 March**  
World Vision 40 Hour Famine

**Monday 27 & Tuesday 28 March**  
Enrichment Courses – Study Skills  
for 9E, 10E & Year 13. Parents  
may attend on Monday evening at  
7.00 pm (see note overleaf).

### APRIL

**Week 9**  
Reports mailed (senior & junior)

**Tuesday 11 April 4.30 – 8.00 &  
Wednesday 12 April 4.00 – 6.30**  
Parent / teacher interviews

**Thursday 13**  
Last day of Term 1

### MAY

**Monday 1 May**  
Start of Term 2

### JUNE

**Wednesday 28 June**  
Careers Expo 7.00 pm

## STUDENTS' GEAR, EQUIPMENT & UNIFORM

Like all schools, we realise we have a small number of dishonest students. We cannot take responsibility for lost or stolen items such as ipods, CD players, cell phones or other valuables. **These items should be left at home.** We are not able to do general bag searches and the type of student who steals will also make sure they are not found in possession of stolen items.

- If students do bring cell phones to school, they must not use them during class time. When cell phones are seen or used in class, they will be impounded until the end of the day.
- A suitable bag is a requirement. Students must be able to bring their books and other classroom materials to and from school in order to meet their school work requirements successfully.
- We have high expectations of uniform standards. Students are required to wear the correct uniform, including footwear. Where non-regulation items are seen at school, they will be impounded. (Note: Knee-highs and black socks are NOT acceptable for girls.)
- Every student has been issued with a homework diary and we strongly encourage them to use it.
- Please name uniform items, bags and other personal items for easy identification. Lost property can be claimed from Mrs McKinley or Mrs Tait in C3/C4.

### **ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Attendance is directly related to results and achievement. Sickness should be the main reason for not attending school. Please leave a message on the school's absence line, especially when a student will be absent for two days or longer. Absences must be covered by a note signed by the parent/caregiver, which should be handed to the Tutor Group teacher on the first day back at school. Regular absentees will be followed up.

### **LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY**

A note should be taken by the student to the Deans' Room after signing in at Tutor Group in the morning. The student then signs the Exit Book at Student Reception at the appointed leaving time. Parents will be spared waiting time and parking difficulties if this procedure is followed. Where possible, please try to make appointments for the doctor, dentist, etc outside of school hours.

### **SPECIAL LEAVE**

Requests for special leave of one week or more should be addressed to the Principal, in writing, before the leave is taken.

### **LIBRARY BOOKS**

**Has your student got overdue library books at home?** A number of students have had library books in their possession for many months, even years. It is the responsibility of all students to return library books by the due date. If books are lost, the replacement cost must be paid. There will be consequences for all students who do not resolve these issues - these may include referral to the Principal and removal of computer privileges.

### **Did you know ...?**

Up to 85,000 more New Zealand families will become eligible for Family Assistance from Inland Revenue from 1 April 2006. Higher income limits and a new In-Work Payment for eligible families will mean that families who weren't previously eligible for Family Assistance may now find that they are. To check whether you qualify, call 0800 257 477 or visit [www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz](http://www.workingforfamilies.govt.nz).

**Phone:** 576 9039    **Fax:** 576 9037

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

**E-mail:** [enquiries@edgewater.school.nz](mailto:enquiries@edgewater.school.nz)

**Office hours:** 8.30 am to 4.00 pm term time

**Uniform shop:** Tuesdays 1.00 – 5.30 pm

**Careers:** 576 0406 (Direct line: Mr Whickman)

**Community Education:** 576 4731

**The NCEA Course Information evening on Tuesday 14 March** for parents of Year 10 to 13 students is a MUST to understand the qualifications framework (students are also welcome to attend);

**Enrichment Course on Monday 27 March** for parents will be an interesting and enjoyable evening, presented by Stuart Wright, a visiting specialist on learning techniques. He will make presentations to some classes during the day on aspects of study skills. This evening session is offered to parents who have an interest in helping their children learn.

We are very fortunate to have a wonderful group of employers who provide valuable work experience for our Employment Skills class. The students in this programme gain high quality skills in these work-places and the benefits to their learning and future prospects are enormous. I would like to acknowledge all the employers who supported this programme by accepting students at their workplaces in 2005.

Bunnings Warehouse, East Tamaki & Manukau; Horton Media; Paradise Ice Skating; Penrose Autoglass & Car Stereo; The Mad Butcher, Botany; Pakuranga Youth Centre; Hobden Screen Art; Bennett Plumbing; Village Sky City Cinemas Highland Park; A1 Devine Promotions; Repco Botany; Quality Automotive; Farmers Pakuranga; Jansens Pet Aquarium; Sign Formula; Aussie Butcher; Rebel Sport, Botany; The Warehouse, Pakuranga; La Cova Hair Designs; Family Boats; Valentines Restaurant, Pakuranga; Speedy Signs; National Starch & Chemical; New World, Botany Town Centre; Metlife Care, Pakuranga.

Without these employers, this programme would not exist and I am extremely grateful for their continued involvement and encouragement of this programme. Please support these businesses as they provide an invaluable service to our school and our students.

Ms Luisa Lui, HOD Employment Skills

### **WORLD VISION 40 HOUR FAMINE**

**Saturday 17 – Sunday 19 March**

Before being issued with a Famine book you will need to have a permission letter signed by a parent / caregiver. Students wishing to take part should see Mr Banks.

### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

**Driver Learner Licence Theory**

**Course starting 14 March, 7.00 – 8.30 pm**

If your student is 15 or older this course may be of interest. Step-by-step road traffic law and basic driving principles. All you need to know to sit your learner driver test. \$40 fee includes Road Code and all relevant stationery. **For this or other courses visit the adult education office by the Student Centre.**

**Striving  
for Excellence**