



Principal's Comment

On the last Friday of the school holidays I had two meetings with parents. Both wanted to talk to me about their child's progress. Both meetings were very productive and brought home to me just how powerful and important it is for the school and parents to work together. Minor problems can be sorted out before they become major problems.

Students recognise that there are clear and open lines of communication, which encourages positive behaviour. Parents clearly show the importance they place on education. We also gain a better understanding of the wishes and needs of our parents and their children.

Some parents reading this might think, "I don't want to be a nuisance" or "Perhaps the problem will go away". Yes, you might catch us at a busy time and yes, the problem might go away. However, the potential benefits of making contact will out-weigh the possible difficulties, and we will try to meet your needs. I believe we already have a good reputation for being approachable and I am keen to see us do even better in this respect.

Having just said how approachable I want us to be in Term 2, I will not generally be available as I have a one-term sabbatical. This is a government initiative which will give me uninterrupted time to research and think about schools and education. Hopefully I will learn some new things or come up with initiatives that will help make us a better school than we already are.

A warm welcome to Mr Rosie, our new Deputy Principal, who started with us this term. For the first two weeks of Term 2 we will have four Deputy Principals as Mr Rosie overlaps with Mr Bull, who is retiring on 12 May. The Deputy Principals are more than capable of dealing with any issues that arise and the school is in good hands during my absence.

A J Vester
Principal

Teacher Profile

Mr Terry Gordon, HOD Science

Since coming to Edgewater in 1998, Terry has completed a Postgraduate Diploma in School Management, and is currently enrolled in a Postgraduate Diploma in TESSOL. This qualification is useful for teachers in any subject area as it not only builds skills in teaching students for whom English is not their first language, but also in teaching literacy to all students. Terry says this is the best professional development programme he has ever undertaken. "I am no longer just a science teacher, but a teacher of English language and literacy within a science context."

Terry brings enormous enthusiasm to both his teaching and his study. He is a teacher who is also an HOD, and who gets involved in the co-curricular life of the school, including coaching junior girls' soccer. He has been teaching for over 25 years yet never tires of learning himself, with a real desire to undertake training that will help him be an even better teacher. We tell our students that learning does not stop when you leave school and Terry is a very good example of that.



MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR CALENDAR

MAY

**Wednesday 24 & Thursday
25 May, 7.00 p.m.**
Study Skills evenings (see p3)

JUNE

Monday 5 June
School closed for Queen's
Birthday holiday

Tuesday 6 – Friday 9 June
Senior Exams

Saturday 24 June, 7.00 pm
Senior School Ball, Skycity

Wednesday 28 June 7.00 pm
Careers Expo (see page 2)

Friday 30 June
Last day of Term 2

JULY

Monday 17 July
Term 3 commences

**Thursday 20 July, 4.30 – 8.30
pm**
Parent/teacher interviews
(senior students)

Next Board of Trustees meetings:

Annual General Meeting:
Wednesday 17 May 6.30 pm in the
Board room, followed by the normal
monthly Board meeting.

UNIFORM

Please note sandals are not to be worn during Terms 3 and 4. School uniform shoes are to be black, leather lace-up. A number of girls are wearing black slip-on "ballet" shoes, which are NOT acceptable.

**Uniform shop hours: Tuesdays
1.00 – 5.30 p.m. term-time.**

Student Achievements

Congratulations to **Simon Corkery** (Yr 10, TI3) who will be touring the North Island as a member of the New Zealand Junior Judo team and competing in the North Wellington Open at the end of May. Simon also coxed the Under 15 girls to 4th place in their event at the North Island Rowing Championships in March.

International Student **Shuhei Yoshida** (Yr 10, TI5) played his first season of baseball in Auckland with the Howick-Pakuranga Baseball Club, having previously played in Japan. He played in the under-15 league in the Blue Jays team, but sustained an arm injury during the season preventing him from playing for about one month. However, he came back in full form, being awarded the Coaches Award at the recent prizegiving.

EDGEWATER COMMUNITY EDUCATION

ADULT COURSES @ EDGEWATER – new courses start the week commencing Monday 8 May, but places are still available in some classes. Contact the Community Education office on 576 4731 for a late enrolment. We have courses for all and if we don't offer something you would like to learn, then please let us know – we'll see what we can do.

Parents

Are you being troubled by your children's behaviour and want change? Don't feel alone any more.

TOUGHLOVE

We understand parenting.

Phone for details of a weekly support group nearest to you on 09 624 4363 any time or www.toughlove.org.nz

Year 10 Camp, Term 4: Kaimai Ranges Monday 27 November – Friday 1 December

This is an opportunity for Year 10 students to take part in an amazing learning experience where they will develop valuable life-skills. Activities will include kayaking, abseiling, tramping, a one-day surfing course, navigation and river crossings, historical tunnel exploration, climbing and lots of other learning activities.

Cost: \$100 (subsidised) includes food, transport, accommodation, all activities and qualified guides.
Start saving now or pay by instalment.

Only 50 places available – see Mr Gardi at school or phone 579 9039 ext. 870.

FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

ANNUAL CAREERS EXPO

Wednesday 28 June 7.00 p.m.

Over 65 exhibitors will present a wide range of career and training opportunities for our students. **All students and parents are encouraged to attend this community event.**

DESIGNING CAREERS

For Year 10 and Year 11 students

The Designing Careers programme will occur later this term for all Year 10 students. This involves the interviewing of all students by Mr Whickman, Careers Advisor, and an outside Careers Agency. A letter has been sent to parents of Year 10 students outlining the programme.

Year 11 students, who began the programme in 2005, will also have interviews to follow up on their Learning Careers Plan (LCP).

CAREERS INFORMATION

Parents and students are welcome to meet or speak to the Careers Advisor any time. Please contact Mr Whickman on 5770406 or leave a message.

Edgewater College Sport

The Sports Department will once again be selling Entertainment Books to raise funds for the Sports Department. Each entertainment book contains lots of 25% - 50% discounts or two-for-one offers from many of Auckland's finest cafes and restaurants, hotels, arts, cinema, sports and leisure activities. If you have bought one of these books in the past you'll know just how much you can save.

Books cost just \$60. Not only will you be saving on great entertainment but you'll be supporting the College as well.

Don't miss out! To order the new 2006/07 Entertainment Book call Jodi Benjamin, Director of Sport, on 576 9039 ext 870 or fill out and return the order form your student brings home.

Striving
for **Excellence**

Study Skills Evenings

We extend a warm invitation to parents and/or students to attend one of the *study and revision evenings*, which will be held on **Wednesday 24 May and Thursday 25 May** at Edgewater College.

The objective of the evening is to cover the skills involved in study and revision techniques used for examination preparation.

The evenings will start at 7.00 p.m. with a meeting in the College Library, and then be divided into **six** mini-sessions:

- Motivation and key words
- Identifying your study obstacles, time management
- Mnemonics, acronyms, alternative study strategies
- How to create summaries and study notes
- Practical examination tips
- Bringing everything together with flashcards

NB: The whole process of learning is very complex. What we hope to cover during this evening is to introduce students and parents to some practical methods by which students can improve their learning techniques in preparation for the coming examinations.

When: **Wednesday 24 May and Thursday 25 May, starting at 7.00 p.m.**

Where: **Meet in the College Library**

How long: **From 7.00 p.m. to about 8.30 p.m.**

Please detach and return ✂

We will be attending on **Wednesday 24 May**

OR Thursday 25 May

We are unable to attend either of the evenings

Family name: _____

Student/s name/s: _____

Number attending: _____

Please return this slip to your tutor or the Office (Student Reception) by Monday 22 May.

Curriculum News

Study Skills Evenings are planned for **Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 May** (week 4 this term). Detailed information is provided on the previous page.

Senior exams will take place from **Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 June** (week 6 Term 2). Students are given study leave but attendance at exam sessions is **compulsory**.

Senior Reports will be mailed out **Thursday 29 and Friday 30 June**. Booking sheets for parent/teacher interviews will be included.

Parent/teacher interviews for seniors only will be held on **Thursday 20 July** (week 1 Term 3), from 4.30 to 8.30 pm.

Fees assistance is available for families where:

- the family is on a Work and Income or Study Link Benefit;
- the family is entitled to a Community Services Card;
- there are two or more students from the same family entered into NZQA exams

Students who believe that their family qualifies for this assistance must pick up the official information sheet and application form **from Student Reception**. These forms will be available from **Monday 15 May** (week 3).

Note that fees assistance needs to be applied for **before 6 September**.

NZQA Fees will be collected during weeks 4 to 8 in Term 3 (**Monday 14 August to Friday 8 September**).

Fees are:

- \$75 for all NZ students and those with permanent residency.
- \$375 for international fee-paying students.
- For the NZ Scholarship, up to three subjects carries no extra cost for NZ students and those with Permanent Resident status. If a student enters for more than three subjects the cost is \$75 per extra entry.
- International fee-paying students pay \$100 per subject for Scholarship.

Junior Reports will be mailed out at the end of week 2, Term 3. Booking sheets for parent/teacher interviews will be included.

Parent/Teacher interviews for junior students only will be held during week 4, Term 3.

Phone: 576 9039 Fax: 576 9037

Website: www.edgewater.school.nz

E-mail: 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

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