

RM – Vrindaa Varma (Perth Modern School Winner)

Good evening, students, teachers, parents and distinguished guests. I am Vrindaa Varma, and I am proudly sharing my journey at North Shore with you. Let me start with thanking all the staff at North Shore who have made the learning journey incredible. They all strive for fun learning environment and want each student to strive to do their best.

I started at North Shore when I was in Year 2. I remember how on the first day everything seemed new. The math problems they were teaching us, I had barely any idea what my teacher was talking about. The first few weeks I found it hard to adjust. Not only was it the early Sunday mornings, but the homework which seemed very overwhelming at the time and the amount of classwork we had to do. Within the first year, I felt like quitting a lot but now I am happy I didn't. Everything fell into place. The Sunday mornings, the homework schedule and the tests. I even remember my first end of term math test; I was so nervous not knowing whether I had studied hard enough or if I had enough time to complete it. But I didn't second guess myself, I kept going and trying my best. For me, trying my best was all that mattered. But when week 10 rolled around I surprised myself with the top mark in my class. I was beyond thrilled. For me at North Shore the end of term test showed me that I understood all the concepts and that if I got a question wrong, I would practice that concept more.

North Shore has helped me reach my academic potential well and over what I thought it was. I was able to pick up concepts quicker and take all feedback positively. I remember that writing was not my strongest subject, but every text I got back, I improved. All the questions I got wrong, all the feedback that was given to me all helped me achieve my goal. My goal was to pass GATE. When GATE scores got released, I got a 275 and a first-round offer into Perth Modern. North Shore helped me achieve my goal, all the concepts they taught were harder than what we learnt in school, but they paid off when it came to reaching my potential. As the years went on, I got numerous awards at North Shore and at school. I was able to achieve my second goal as well, ever since Year 1 I have wanted to get Ranford Primary Schools, Year 6 Dux Award. With North Shore's advanced curriculum, I was able to get the Dux Award.

I would also like to say a thank you to my parents. Without them I would not be where I am now. All the times I felt like quitting and all the time I didn't want to do my North Shore homework they pushed me to do it, and now I am happy they did. They have supported me through my whole academic journey, so when I achieved my potential, I felt like I owe them a lot and that every time I do my best, not only would it make me happy but them too. I would also like to say a huge thank you to my brother who helped me understand some of the concepts I couldn't understand at North Shore and just being supportive.

Again, I would like to say thank you to North Shore and all the staff for making my learning journey this awesome and letting me share it with everyone here today. Here is a little piece of advice from me; North Shore can help you so much, but you have to put in the equal effort, strive to complete the homework and get high marks, complete the classwork to the best of your ability but the thing that equals most of the effort is believing in yourself. Thank you.