

NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

Term 2, May 2025



Mr Anson MAK JP

A Message from National Managing Director

I hope you had a restful and enjoyable Easter - a period filled with hope and joy.

As we start Term 2 2025, a very warm welcome to our new students and educators, and welcome back to our returning students and educators. We wish all our students a great term of learning and trying your best in all that you do at North Shore Coaching College, school and in other pursuits. In particular, we wish our Year 4 and Year 6 students best of luck in their OC Placement Test and Selective School Placement Test which will be held in up in May 2025.

For students planning to sit the exams in 2026 and beyond, enrol in our [SWAT Mock Exam](#) scheduled for Saturday 5 July 2025 - test ahead and stay ahead with a real-exam

experience for Years 3-5 students to build confidence, reinforce skills, and benchmark academic performance. Secure your spot now and for your chance to win a scholarship to our courses at North Shore Coaching College.

This newsletter features a thoughtful article from our Principal – NSW Operations Tony Hanlon on “Homework still Matters!”. Homework is an essential component of student learning at North Shore Coaching College and it is expected that students complete all assigned homework. Whilst the allocation of homework may seem controversial to some, a right balance of homework to reinforce learning and its broader benefits can never be underestimated.

If you are new to us or joining us again, you may notice our book nooks/community library for our students at selected Campuses. We encourage you to TAKE A BOOK, GIVE A BOOK, SHARE A BOOK. A love of reading can and should be encouraged from a young age which leads to many benefits in high school, university and beyond. If you have any unwanted spare reading books appropriate for students from Pre-School to Year 12 which are in good condition, we would love for you to donate any books to our Campus so we can share the love of reading with your children.

There are many ways to stay connected with us: on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Tiktok](#), [Wechat \(nscacs2\)](#) or [RedNOTE \(nscacs2\)](#). Follow us and give us a Like if you had a great experience with us. Leave us a Google Review if you had a wonderful experience at your Campus. Our College values of Excellence, Respect, Engagement and Professionalism continue to guide our actions. We thank you for the opportunity to help your child realise their potential.

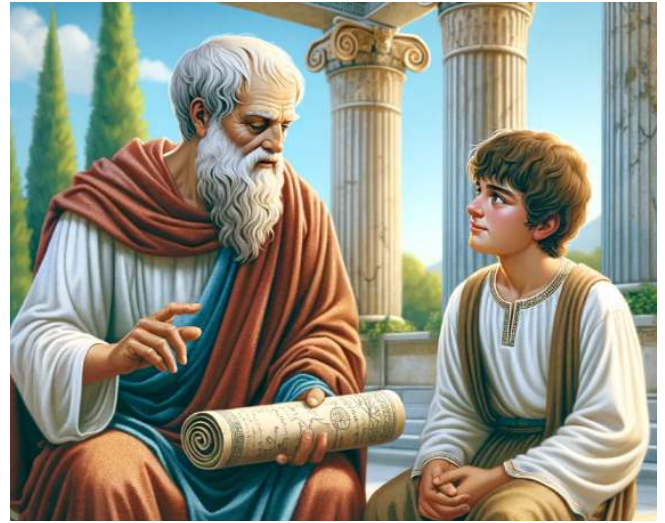
Philanthropy and our ability to support charity remains integral to North Shore Coaching College. Our very own charity organisation, [North Shore Coaching College Charity Foundation](#), supports Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) organisations and projects in education which are in line with the broader vision of North Shore Coaching College; and cancer research/cancer support services. This financial year, we have supported Jesuit Mission, Caritas Australia, Breast Cancer Network Australia, and CanRevive. Other organisations we have supported include: St Edmunds School for the Blind & Visually Impaired, Art Gallery of NSW - Starting with Art Program, Save the Children - Hands on Learning Program, Ardoch Limited - Broadening Horizons Project, Breast Cancer Trials, The Run Beyond Project Limited, The Kids' Cancer Project - FutureCure Project - Brain Cancer. Your ongoing support of our College allows us to continue supporting worthwhile organisations and their projects.

Wishing you a great term of learning at North Shore Coaching College.

'Have you done your homework yet?' has been a question asked of students since the beginning of public education. Possibly the question arose even earlier - Aristotle may have asked the same question of his students!

Research Shows Homework Boosts Student Achievement

Homework has been a traditional feature of Australian school education - both public and private. Thankfully, in most schools, it has been retained, ensuring the effective shaping of academic success and personal development of students. Whilst some commentators may wish to debate its effectiveness and indeed, relevance, in the 21st century,



(Artist's impression of Aristotle teaching Alexander the Great. Source: wisdomshort.com)

research and educational practice highlight its significant benefits for:

- re-inforcing learning,
- cultivating responsibility, and
- preparing students for future challenges.

The most comprehensive research on homework (to date) comes from a 2006 meta-analysis by Duke University psychology professor Harris Cooper.

He found substantial evidence of a positive correlation between homework and student achievement, meaning students who did homework performed better in school.

The correlation was especially strong for students in upper primary and high school year groups.

Reinforcing Classroom Learning

Homework provides students with the opportunity to review and apply what they have learned in class.

By engaging with concepts outside school hours, students develop a deeper understanding of subjects and improve their retention of knowledge. In essence, homework reinforces the learning experience.

Such is essential for key concepts in numeracy and literacy, (maths and English), where regular reinforcement strengthens problem solving skills and comprehension abilities.

Building Independence and Responsibility

Completing homework requires students to manage their time effectively and work independently.

It fosters self-discipline, accountability, and organisational skills - qualities essential for success in higher education and future careers. Students become increasingly independent as their skill set evolves. They develop a greater sense of confidence in their independence - nothing better for a teacher or parent to hear than, "No, I can do this by myself".

Enhancing Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving

Beyond just revising concepts, homework often includes assignments that encourage students to think critically and apply their knowledge to real-world situations.

Research projects, essays, and creative tasks allow students to explore topics beyond the classroom, promoting innovation and curiosity. These exercises ensure students develop problem-solving abilities that will prove invaluable, not only for their further academic studies, but in their future personal and professional lives.

Strengthening Parental Engagement

Homework also provides an opportunity for parents to engage with their children's education. By discussing assignments and assisting, when necessary, parents gain insight into what their children are learning and can support their academic progress. This connection between home and school re-inforces the collaborative approach to education embraced by professional educators. It can also alert parents to any learning problems/issues their child might face and nip them in the bud.

Preparing for Academic and Career Success

Regular homework assignments help students build study habits that prepare them for university or technical and further education (e.g. TAFE).

Both universities and modern workplaces require a similar set of personal attributes. These include:

- the ability to undertake independent work/research,
- to be resilient & self-guided in executing projects,
- successful use of initiative,
- the ability to persevere, and
- the ability to meet deadlines.

These skills are cultivated through successfully completing homework. The benefits of homework are felt far into the future.

Why has Homework become Controversial?

Unfortunately, in a number of schools, homework is now seen as unnecessary or somehow detrimental. These schools are abolishing homework.

Such action ignores a substantial body of research. Some see the abolition of homework as an easy fix to a vexed situation: less marking time for overworked teachers and less challenges at home for overworked parents. Whilst a reduction in excessive work is an admirable goal, it should not be at the expense of the benefits of homework.

Need I remind you that the abolition of homework is happening against the backdrop of Australia's problematic PISA results:

'In mathematics and reading, students in Australia scored more than 25 points below students of the same age who sat the PISA test in the early 2000s: in other words, 15-year-olds in 2022 scored at a level that would have been expected of 14-year-olds, 20 years earlier.'

(Source: OECD - PISA 2022 Results (Volume I and II) - Country Notes: Australia)

To many it would appear that this is not the time to be undermining student achievement by abolishing homework.

The Need to Value Homework

As a parent you are your child's first teacher. Your influence will stay with your child throughout their life - moulding them, forming the basis of the success they enjoy and the goals they achieve. You are the one who will influence their world view - what they value and what they dismiss.

What you value is what your child will also value. Make homework an important part of the family schedule.

Try to do your 'homework' at the same time as your child, and explain to them what you have to do; whether it is a BAS statement, business accounts, a report for work or meeting presentation. It is important they learn that **you also** have homework to do.



Taking the Headache out of Homework

As well as allowing your child to see that 'homework' carries on beyond school, there are ways to take the stress out of homework. Try these tips:

1. **Strike a deal.** Homework must be **completed before a more desirable activity** can be undertaken.
2. A full week of **homework completion is rewarded with a treat** (one on which your child places great value).
3. Use **North Shore Free Online Homework Support**. Live chat is available for Pre-school to Year 10 on Thursdays & Fridays - 4 to 6 pm and Saturdays - 2 to 4 pm (during our term programs). Individual campuses may provide additional support.
4. **Watch the online lesson videos in the student area of our website.** The videos revise concepts taught during the latest lesson. By watching, students can ensure they have a full understanding of lesson content. Each lesson is available online for 3 weeks. Students require their ID and password to log-on.
5. **Free consultation.** If homework is presenting your family with challenges, we are here to discuss the matter with you. Make a booking for a consultation with your Campus Director or myself.

Can there be too much Homework?

Yes. Analysis of research would indicate that younger students should be spending less time on homework each night than their older counterparts. Fifteen to twenty minutes per night for Year Two would correlate with the recommendations of many proponents of homework.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for being part of North Shore.

Keep learning, stay inspired and remain resilient. Being a positive role model ensures your child of a bright future!

Tony Hanlon
Principal - NSW Operations





CORE PROGRAMS

- **Build Strong Academic Foundations**

Our Core Programs lay the foundation for academic excellence, helping Pre-School to Year 12 students master English, Mathematics, Thinking Skills, and General Ability. Through structured learning, they build key concepts, sharpen problem-solving, and develop critical thinking to stay ahead.

- **Key Features**

✓ Comprehensive Learning – Strengthens core subjects to ensure a solid academic foundation.

✓ Lifelong Study Habits – Equips students with skills for continued success.

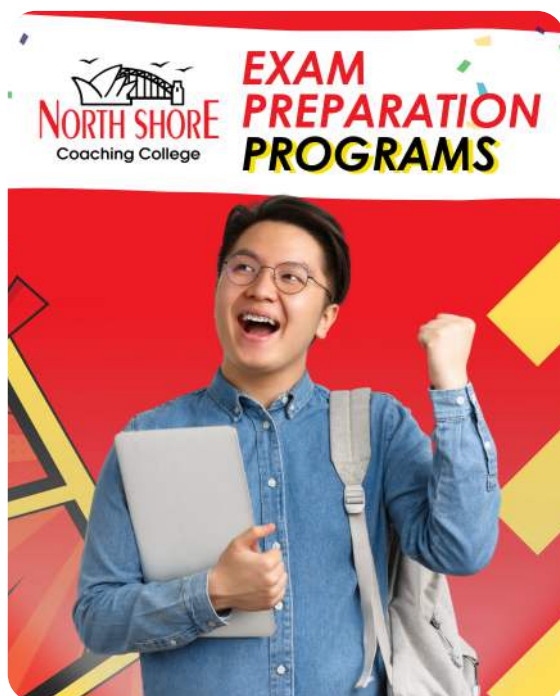
✓ Confidence & Independence – Encourages self-motivation and a love for learning.

At North Shore, we don't just teach—we inspire. Join us in building a brighter future for your child!

BOOSTER PROGRAMS

- **Targeted Support for Academic Success**

Is your child struggling with schoolwork or needing extra help in key subjects? Our Booster Programs offer targeted support to help students catch up, reinforce concepts, and strengthen specific skills like writing. Designed for accelerated learning, it ensures students gain confidence and improve their academic performance.



EXAM PREPARATION PROGRAMS

- **Maximise Exam Success**

Our Exam Preparation Programs are designed by expert educators to help students master exam structures, question patterns, and marking criteria.

Students gain advanced problem-solving techniques, exam strategies, and time management skills, ensuring they perform at their best. With mock exams, feedback sessions, and targeted practice, they build confidence and excel under pressure.

- **Perfect For:**

Students sitting high-stakes exams, including:

✓ OC Placement Test

✓ Selective High School Placement Test

✓ NAPLAN

✓ Private School Scholarship Exams

JULY

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Test Ahead. Stay Ahead.

Tailored for

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

30 scholarships
for Top
performers



Real Exam Experience

(OC & Selective exam formats)



Comprehensive feedback

(identify gaps for growth)



Build Confidence.



Sit in-person at



or



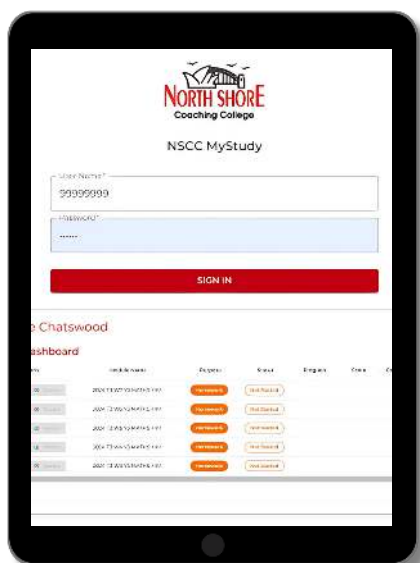
SWAT@Home – online.

Your Choice!

swatexam.com.au 

Register Now
Early Bird ends 11 May






Enhance your child's learning with North Shore Coaching College's Digital Learning Platforms!



My Study

MyStudy, North Shore Coaching College's new digital Learning Platform, is currently available to Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 students.

Benefits of North Shore Coaching College's MyStudy Learning Platform:

-  Complete computer-based homework tasks
-  Identify areas needing extra focus with educator support
-  Review and attempt questions at your own pace online
-  Build confidence for digital assessments
-  Improve student learning & reporting



NORTH SHORE COACHING COLLEGE CHARITY FOUNDATION

Founded in 2020 in memory of Mrs Demi Mak, the North Shore Coaching College Charity Foundation continues her legacy of philanthropy, generosity, and commitment to education.

As part of our mission, the Foundation supports Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) organisations and projects that align with North Shore Coaching College's broader values—advancing educational opportunities and contributing to cancer research and support services.

This financial year, we were proud to support a range of impactful organisations and initiatives, including Jesuit Mission, Caritas Australia, Breast Cancer Network Australia, and CanRevive. Our contributions extended to programs that make a real difference in the lives of children and families, such as:

- St Edmund's School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
- Art Gallery of NSW – Starting with Art Program
- Save the Children – Hands on Learning Program
- Ardoch Limited – Broadening Horizons Project
- Breast Cancer Trials
- The Run Beyond Project Limited
- The Kids' Cancer Project – FutureCure Project (Brain Cancer)



Through this support, we aim to uplift those facing adversity and ensure that access to education and vital health services continues to grow.

At North Shore Coaching College, we believe education is a lifelong gift. Your continued support allows us to contribute meaningfully to organisations that share our vision and values.



"Fun and effective learning."



"Helped my child get ahead."



"My go-to for tutoring."



"A game-changer for my child."



"Supportive and motivating tutors."

REVIEW & REFRESH!



"North Shore truly cares."



"Tailored learning that works."



"Thank you, North Shore!"



"Best tutoring in town!"



"Caring, dedicated staff."



"Outstanding education experience."



"Learning made fun and effective."



Love North Shore? Tell the world!
Drop a review & comment, and
enjoy a bottle on us.

We Are Thirsty for Your Stars!

Offer valid while stocks last. Review must be shown at the counter to redeem the bottle.

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North Shore Coaching College



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