NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

Term 4, November 2026

A Message from National Managing Director



Mr Anson MAK JP

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Term 4 so far.

Thank you to all our educators at North Shore Coaching College as we celebrated World Teachers Day recently. We shine a light on our teachers who inspire, support, and empower our children and young people every day. From lightbulb moments to helping someone find their way, teachers make a difference in ways big and small. It has been very heartening to witness and encourage our students to stop and express their thanks to teachers in meaningful ways.

The use of AI and the appropriate balance of digital vs textbook learning/testing continues to be an ongoing source of debate. Read an insightful article from Tony Hanlon about Education in the age of AI.

Applications are now open for entry in 2028 into an Opportunity Class (OC) or Selective High School. If your child is currently in Year 3 or Year 5, you can **apply** from now until 15 February 2027, to complete the test on 11/12 May 2027 for OC Placement Test, or on 13/14 May 2027 for Selective High School Placement Test. Please refer to our website blog articles on **OC** or **Selective High School** for further information. Register for a free test.

Our **Scholarships blog** has also been updated recently. Scholarships are most typically available for students entering Year 7, however schools can offer scholarships from Year 5 – 12.

Our January holiday programs are already available and Term 1 2027 schedule is available. Beat the price rise and pay Term 1 fees before 29 November 2026.

We have been out in the community of late – appearing at the Chatswood Spring Fair and Crows Nest Fest. Thank you to our wonderful staff for being our brand ambassadors!

We HAVE listened – for students who are looking for an extra challenge in addition to their existing North Shore work, we have implemented Extra Homework for some subjects and some year groups. Speak with your Campus Director for further information.

As we head towards the end of 2026, we have some very exciting developments for North Shore Coaching College in 2027. We look forward to sharing this with you soon.

Thank you for your ongoing support to North Shore Coaching College in 2026. We are delighted to be part of your child's learning journey, and we hope you have a wonderful learning experience with us for the rest of 2026 and beyond.

Wishing all our North Shore Coaching College families and staff a very safe and Merry Christmas, and a happy and healthy new year in 2027.

Education in the Age of AI

MR TONY HANLON
NSW Principal

In the age of AI and social media, does anyone still possess the attention span required to make it through to the end of this article?

Everyone reading this article has by now encountered AI. Even those who may consider it anathema; those who indignantly refuse to allow its intrusive fingers to lay a hand on them. Well, if you have received a recommendation from Spotify or YouTube... yes, you guessed it, AI has entered your life - a hand has well and truly been laid.

Using Siri, auto-correct, facial recognition - (the list goes on and on) - AI is part of your daily life. Indeed, it has been around much longer than many realise. Silent and innocuous.

The majority of those still reading (well done - see, your attention span is better than you thought!) have embraced AI as a useful tool in the workplace. Companies are adapting their Human Resources policies to allow for the 'rights' of the chatbots and to address the impact on their human employees. AI is seen to be 'partnering human assets' (read 'people'), and a range of words has been added to the collective consciousness to make AI appear 'warmer' and 'less threatening'. However, we do hear stories of people who have trained the bot only to discover that the bot now has their job. A neighbour's friend who was ..... Your partner's cousin who..... and so on. Real people losing real jobs.

So where to from here for AI and, more importantly, where to for AI in the education sphere?

Mankind has encountered many socio-economic revolutions since the industrial revolution of 1760. At least another 3 major revolutions have been identified as automation, computers and electronics play an increasingly intrusive role in human affairs. There are those who say AI is just the latest in the line of revolutions; we will adjust and we won't see the predicted doomsday scenario of millions of lost jobs. Indeed, many supporters are saying AI will allow for the creation of jobs to offset any losses.

Those more inclined to follow the doomsday scenario are not only worried for their jobs but for the world if AI goes 'rogue'.

When I put this question to Copilot, the answer received was:

"AI is reshaping the workforce: it will replace some jobs, augment others, and create new opportunities, but the overall impact depends on adaptation and reskilling."

Well, the reality is that no one really knows at this stage. It may be the case that wisdom can only be found in the rear-view mirror on this journey.

Having grown up on a diet of dystopian literature from the likes of Bradbury, Orwell, and Huxley, pessimism comes naturally. The 'Terminator' movies of the 80's and 90's only served to cement this mindset. The rise of the machine, the dehumanising of society, the mass control of thought and action. Of course, the recent alleged hacking of the Medicare portal by OpenAI leaves many with

more than a few jitters. The promised AI self-regulation by the American 'tech bros' can be seen as the icing on top of the dystopian cake.

So, there is the doomsday scenario! We will be overtaken by AI and live a life of servitude under the watchful eye of the AI overlord! (play fanfare of dramatic music in background)

Or.....

It may be much better than we thought.

Having been an educator for over 43 years, (Yes, I'm so old that I was born before birthdays were invented), I have seen a plethora of changes in education that were meant to spell the doom of teaching as we know it. The replacement for the teacher was always just around the corner - the demotion to a 'facilitator' of learning was bandied about for decades. The idea we would merely supervise as students were taught by computers was actually stated at a conference I attended in the 90's.

The introduction of CD-ROMS, the first computers in classrooms (where you loaded the programs from cassette tapes - I told you I was old!), smartboards, etc., etc. were meant to usher in a Brave New World for education.

Guess what?
We are still here.
Predictions were wrong.
Drama avoided.

Students still need competent, engaged teachers to guide them on their learning journeys.

It could be said that in a world of increasingly jarring distractions and fake news, our roles are more important than ever before. Further, PISA and NAPLAN results show we still have a long and challenging road ahead.

AI will help us but if history is any guide, it won't replace us.

AI has, and will continue, to change every aspect of our lives. The genie is out of the bottle and putting the stopper on won't have any effect. We are living with AI; even if some people treat it like the uncle who gets drunk at every family wedding - the one we desperately try to ignore.



So, what does it mean for North Shore Coaching College?

There remains a place for the human educator in the tuition industry and definitely a place at North Shore Coaching College.

By the way, there will be a number of players in the tuition industry that fall by the wayside as AI makes its presence increasingly felt. North Shore will not be one of them. We are gearing up for the long road ahead; stronger than ever.

The educators we will be inviting to join us for the long road ahead are those who are still committed to an effective presence in the classroom. Those who possess drive and passion as they teach. Those who bring clarity to the explanation of concepts. Those who tirelessly answer the same question until the light goes on behind the eyes of a young learner.

You see, I believe there is still a central place for humans in the uncertain future. Still a need to learn skills and apply knowledge. Still a need to develop wisdom in all fields of endeavour.



While AI may, for example, do the heavy lifting in the creation of a report, it will be the wise, knowledgeable human who will be able to assess the veracity of the report and ensure appropriate implementation. The human repertoire of skills & knowledge will be even more important given that AI can hallucinate facts and produce the dreaded 'AI slop' we have heard so much about. (If you are interested, shout me a cup of coffee and I'll share a fascinating story from one of Sydney's leading workplace law firms).

The future is neither brighter nor, indeed, scarier than it has always been.

That holds true, as long as we remember to value what being human really means. As long as we never lose sight of the raw brilliance of what it means to exist. The logical reasoning, mathematical genius and empirical wisdom of people such as Euclid, Curie or Nikola Tesla. The creative, tortured genius of a Van Gogh or Yayoi Kusama. The unbridled power of the human mind to interpret the world and solve our great challenges. The ability to stare at the Universe and dare it to try to withhold its secrets.

*I believe the **true calling** of teachers in 2026 and beyond will be to ensure the **'human'** is still central to **humanity**.*

I hope you will join me on this journey. After all, you made it to the end of the article!

Stay well. Stay excited about the endless possibilities of the human learning experience.

Best regards,
Tony Hanlon



Celebrating the Teachers Who Make a Difference

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated educators at North Shore Coaching College.

This World Teachers' Day, our students took a moment to celebrate the people who guide, encourage and inspire them throughout their learning journeys.

From colourful handwritten messages to thoughtful notes of appreciation, our classrooms were filled with gratitude, smiles and a few sweet treats!

At North Shore Coaching College, we believe that great teaching is about more than delivering lessons. It's about recognising each student's potential, explaining challenging concepts with patience and helping young learners build the confidence to take on new challenges.

Behind every moment of understanding is often a teacher who has taken the time to explain something differently, offered encouragement when it was needed or inspired a student to keep trying.

These are the qualities we value in our educators and the teaching experience we strive to provide across our campuses.

To all our wonderful teachers, thank you for your dedication, care and the difference you make every day.









Applications Now Open for

2028 OC & Selective School Entry

Plan Early. Prepare with Confidence.

Applications for 2028 Opportunity Class (OC) and Selective High School entry are now open. These highly competitive programs offer an enriched learning environment and are a great pathway for motivated students.

- Applications Open
  5 November 2026
- Applications Close
  15 February 2027
- OC Placement Test
  11 – 12 May 2027
- Selective High School Test
  13 – 14 May 2027

- Targeted exam strategies
- Strengthen core skills
- Build confidence
- Guidance from experienced teachers

Also Updated:
2027 Scholarship Guide
Key dates, application tips and preparation advice to help your child be ready.

Explore Our OC & Selective Preparation Programs



Make the Most of the Summer Holidays!

January 2027 Holiday Programs

Keep the learning momentum going with our January Holiday Programs. Designed to build key skills, strengthen understanding and prepare students for a confident start to the 2027 school year.

January 2027 Holiday Programs

- Consolidate key concepts
- Build problem-solving and exam strategies
- Get ahead for Term 1, 2027

English | Mathematics | Science | Writing | Thinking Skills

Explore January Holiday Programs



Start 2027 with Confidence and Support

January Holiday Programs
Keep learning and get ahead.

OC & Selective Exam Preparation
Build skills and exam strategies.

Term 1, 2027 Enrolments
Continue your learning journey.

PRICE FREEZE – Beat the 2027 Price Rise!
Enrol by 29 November 2026 to secure current 2026 fees for 2027.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT – Save an Extra $60!
Enjoy an additional $60 discount on top of the Price Freeze.*

*Offer ends 8 December 2026. Terms and conditions apply.

Enrol Today for 2027

Tuition That Works

Preschool to Year 12 • NAPLAN • OC• Selective • HSC