

# NORTH SHORE NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL CAMPUS: NORTH SHORE HOUSE, 65 ARCHER ST, CHATSWOOD NSW 2067 | 02 9415 1860

February

Issue: Term 1, 2021

## Greetings

### A Message from National Managing Director: Mr Anson Mak

A warm welcome to our new and existing students and teachers in 2021. We were delighted to serve an overwhelming number of students for our January holiday programs face to face. I would like to also congratulate our recent HSC and OC success stories.



As new challenges evolve in the lives of our children in 2021, the importance of being resilient and able to think quickly, logically, laterally, and adapting to change will become increasingly important. The NSW Department of Education announced changes to the Selective Schools Placement Test in December 2020 and Opportunity Class (OC) Test in February 2021. Thinking Skills is being incorporated into North Shore primary programs to complement our cross disciplinary approach to teaching students to think logically and critically to:

- Understand knowledge;
- Develop argument;
- Use evidence to support argument and make conclusions;
- Use information and knowledge to solve problems systematically;
- Analyse, synthesise and evaluate.

We are excited about 2021 and helping to prepare our students for their schooling, external examinations and assessments in a paper-based and online-based format. We remain the only coaching college in Australia licensed to run ICAS Assessments, and we continue to hold relationships to further educational research in discovering and identifying new ways of instruction to improve student learning to integrate into our teaching and computer based assessment and learning platforms. **Thank you for entrusting your child's education with us in 2021 and beyond.**

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## EDUCATION SEMINARS

SUN 14 MAR  
2:05PM & 3:35PM

Join us for our next seminar!

Register online:

<http://bit.ly/eduseminar21>



## INCORPORATING THINKING SKILLS

OC TRIAL TEST FOR YEAR 4 STUDENTS  
TERM 1, WEEKS 1-10

YEAR 4  
FASTRAIN  
EXTENDED  
PROGRAM



YEAR 4  
ONLINE OC  
TRIAL TEST



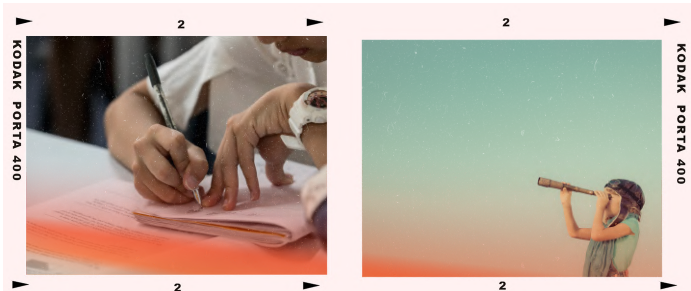
OPPORTUNITY CLASS  
EXAM SUCCESS!



### Supporting the Community:

North Shore Coaching College is delighted to support a number of community groups in addition to its existing educational activities. CanRevive Cancer Support Service operates its Northern Sydney Outreach Service Hub from North Shore Coaching College. For further information on CanRevive's work and activities, visit [www.canrevive.com](http://www.canrevive.com).





# The Challenges of 2021

by Tony Hanlon – National Deputy Principal

**“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.”**

These words have been attributed to Helen Keller – born in 1880 she lost her sight and hearing at nineteen months of age. She became, however, one of the most inspirational people of the 20th century. Facing the challenges of a world she didn't understand and a world that could not understand her, she was able to rise above her circumstances and bring order to her life. In so doing she and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, brought innovation to the education of the deaf and blind.

I first encountered the story of Helen Keller when I was in Year 6 at school. I sat enthralled as my teacher, Mr Kallas, read to the class about this amazing woman. From that day forward I had a new hero. One who taught me that I too can overcome the challenges that life has, and will continue, to throw my way.

2021 will bring many challenges. We cannot run from them or seek a refuge in which to hide. We have to display the courage to incorporate them into the 'daring adventure' of our own lives.

Our current Year 6 cohort is well aware of the exciting new challenges the Selective High School Placement Test and similarly our Year 4 in the Opportunity Class (OC) Test will present. Both they and their parents may have concerns as to how they will perform given the new format of the Test and the inclusion of the Thinking Skills component. My advice is simple:

- Be brave – a positive frame of mind is the best defence in the face of uncertainty
- Study – listen and focus during your lessons to maximise your learning
- Ask questions – it is the ONLY way to clarify your understandings
- Revise your work – consolidate your learning

We have undertaken a revision of our teaching and assessment materials for selected students to ensure the SKILLS and CONCEPTS necessary for success in the Selective High School Placement Test and OC Test are well-addressed. For 3 decades we have proudly led the way in the Australian tuition industry in providing quality education and exam preparation for school students. Your trust in us is highly valued and we will continue to embrace the challenge of preparing your children for future success.

We are so grateful that you have provided us the opportunity to accompany your children on their 'daring adventure'.

**Stay well. Stay happy. Stay empowered.**

## Mobile phones cannot be used during lessons.







Students cannot use their phones as calculators or dictionaries. Students must bring hard copy dictionaries and calculators if needed. Students are able to use their phones before class, during breaks and after class. Any student who fails to heed a warning from their teacher will have their phone confiscated and returned at the end of the lesson.





# How is North Shore Addressing Changes to the 2021 Selective High School Placement Test Format?

## Immediate Changes:

by Tony Hanlon – National Deputy Principal

-  All Year 6 students will receive information bulletins covering the changes to the Writing, Reading, Mathematical Reasoning and Thinking Skills papers. Besides explanations of the new styles of questions, students are also provided with sample questions and answers.
-  **These bulletins will be issued in Weeks One to Three of Term One.**
-  New test questions in the **Year 6 Exam Preparation Program** that directly reflect changes in the Thinking Skills paper.
-  New writing tasks commencing Week 2 in the **Year 6 Exam Preparation Program** that directly reflect changes in the Writing paper.
-  New 'Thinking Skills' pages in the **Fastrain & High Achiever weekly workbooks for Years 5 & 6**. This will commence in Term One Week One and will continue through to Term Four Week Ten.
-  New writing tasks in the **Writing for Exam Success Program for Year 6**. The new tasks reflect the change in the focus for the 2021 Selective High School Placement Test Writing paper. Other fine tuning in our teaching materials

## Ongoing Changes:

-  Revised: Writing tasks, English, Mathematical Reasoning, and Thinking Skills activities for Years 3 to 6 to ensure skills development is in line with requirements for new OC Test and Selective High School Placement Test.
-  Revised Holiday Programs for Years 3 to 6 to ensure content & skills development is in line with real and anticipated changes to 2021 OC Test and Selective High School Placement Test.

## Flexible Approach to Curriculum & Test Development:

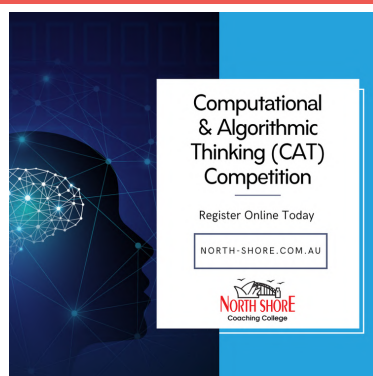
For 3 decades North Shore Coaching College has been at the vanguard of quality tuition for students preparing for examinations. We stand by our record of the highest ever OC and Selective High School Placement Test results. We continue to monitor changes to the major examinations and modify our teaching & testing materials accordingly.



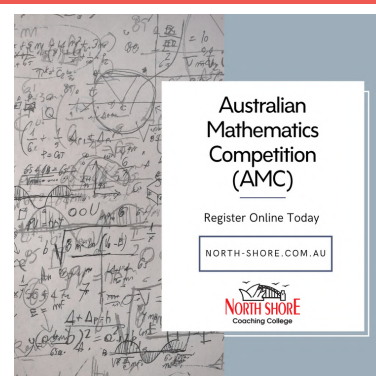
## Competition Registrations are now OPEN online!

Register early to secure your spot for the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) & the Computational & Algorithmic Thinking (CAT) Competition

**Limited seats! Don't miss out!**  
**Register ONLINE TODAY!**



Available at CHATSWOOD campus



Available at 3 campus locations!

- CHATSWOOD
- RANDWICK
- CASTLE HILL



<https://bit.ly/CompetitionsNS>



# CONGRATS! class OF 2020!

"Hi, I was placed in an advantageous position while completing my HSC by attending North Shore Coaching College. The systematic weekly booklets covered the required content extensively before exams. Each week, I would learn the content in class and consolidate the theory by completing the 'exercise' section at home. The comprehensive resources and competent tutors provided me with a strong foundation of knowledge, which allowed me to build confidence towards my HSC exams. Eddy, my mathematics tutor, is one of the most inspirational and devoted teachers I know. He wholeheartedly provided me with the encouragement and academic support I needed throughout the stressful period. Leading up to the exams, Eddy arranged additional study sessions, which ensured that each student truly understood the concept and could answer the questions put forward by the HSC examiners. Through Eddy's guidance, I achieved a state rank of 9th in NSW for Extension 1 Mathematics and an E4 in Extension 2 Mathematics. I feel privileged to have been taught by such a trustworthy and persistent individual. Thank you :)"

Kind regards Jodie :)"

**Jodie - Student from Rosebery North Shore Campus.** Received 100 in her HSC Mathematics Extension 1 & ranked 9th in NSW.

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the staffs of your Chatswood branch for providing academic help to my daughter, Rachel in the past five years and enabling her to achieve a good result of 99.30 in the HSC of 2020. Especially thanks to Cecelia's patient assistance in the past three years."

**Wen - Parent of Student from Chatswood North Shore Campus.** ATAR score of 99.30.

"I've always valued the importance of hard work as key to achieving your goals and so when I wanted to hone my essay writing and literary analysis skills, I decided to try out the North Shore English program as recommended by a family friend. My first class was at Epping, taught by Mr Waldron-Glyde, and I was immediately hooked.

What really stood out to me about these classes was the way sometimes nebulous and difficult-to-explain concepts of philosophy and ways of thinking, or the writing process, were taught in an easily digestible way. Of course, the content was always far beyond school expectations, and students were given the opportunity to extend our thinking and engage with a broad spectrum of literature, which I found so valuable but also genuinely fun. This is in no small part thanks to Mr Waldron-Glyde himself, an amazing teacher and mentor whose passion for teaching is palpable and infectious, and his sardonic humour in particular makes classes endlessly entertaining as well as memorable. North Shore, I found, encourages you to step outside your comfort zone and challenge yourself, setting you up for excellence. And so, just as my family friend did for me all those years ago, so too now am I recommending students embrace and build upon the opportunities they are offering."

**Akina - Student from Epping North Shore Campus.** Received 1st in NSW for HSC English Extension 1 & Latin Extension.

## SHOP & SAVE

Shop at [www.northshoreshop.com.au](http://www.northshoreshop.com.au) today and use the promotional code: **NSW10** and receive 10% off your online purchase!

We have 1,000+ educational book titles and past papers to help keep your child's mind sharp during the holidays and help in their exam preparations, puzzle books to help build problem solving skills and more! **Shop online today at North Shore Shop!**

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM ART & CRAFT WORKSHOP CREATIONS

