



N P S I S I N G A P O R E

COLLEGE BULLETIN



“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.”

-Mark Twain

Dear Students,

As we reach the school break, I hope you will find time to rest and recharge, but also to make good use of the opportunity ahead. For those preparing university applications, a little progress now can make a significant difference later. Use the time wisely, stay organised and, importantly, give yourself the space to think carefully about the choices that lie ahead.

***Mr Andrew Wyeth
Head of School***

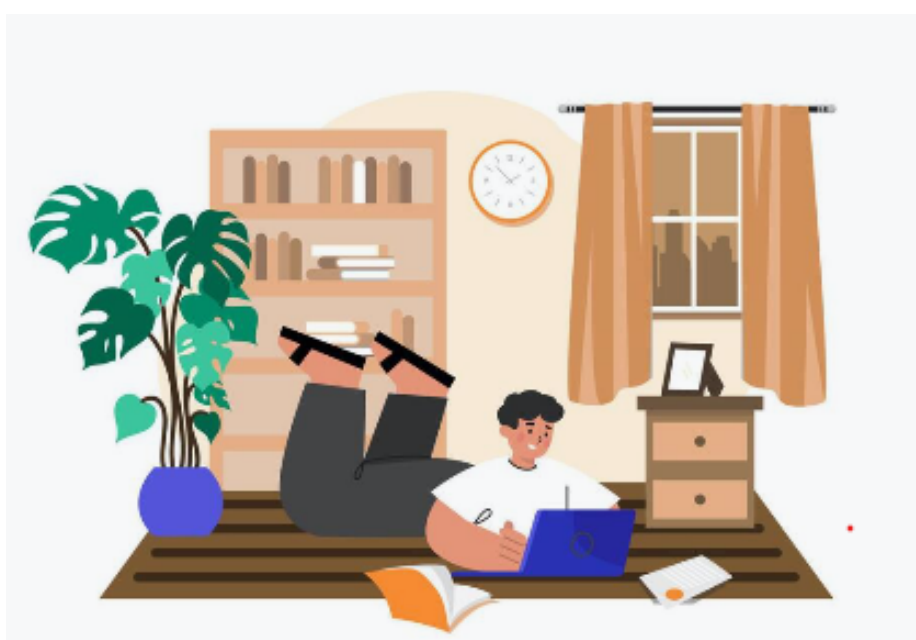


From the Desk of the College Counselling Team

Making the Most of the School Break

As the school break begins, many students look forward to a well-earned opportunity to rest and recharge. While taking time to recover is important, this is also one of the most valuable periods in the university application cycle. Application season is already underway for the IB Year 2 students and as October progresses, the pace will accelerate significantly with multiple deadlines, essay writing, and application submissions competing for your attention.

The students who navigate this period most successfully are not necessarily those who work the hardest in October and November, but those who use their break strategically now. Completing essay drafts, refining personal statements, researching universities, and organizing application materials during the holiday will reduce stress later and place you in a much stronger position when deadlines begin to arrive. The best gift you can give your future self is to return from the break with significant progress already made.

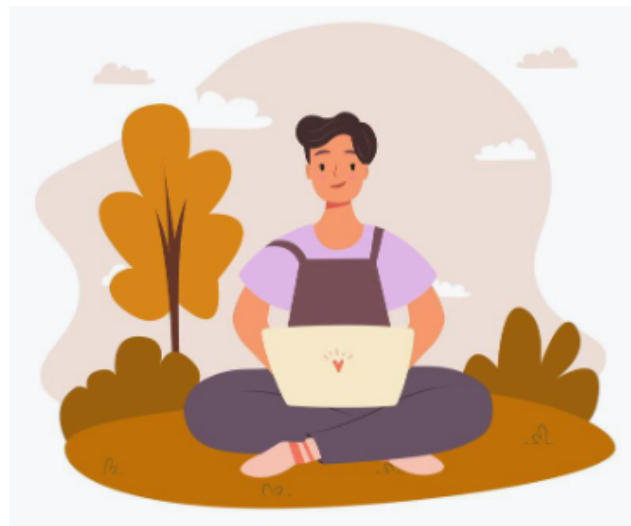




Points to Note for a Smooth Application Journey

1. Start Your Essays Now

University essays almost always take longer than expected. A completed first draft during the break gives you time for reflection, revision, and feedback before deadlines approach.



2. Respect Every Deadline

Missing a deadline can close opportunities permanently. Create a calendar for application submissions, admissions tests, scholarship deadlines, and supporting document requirements.

3. Prioritise Quality Over Quantity

A thoughtful and authentic application is more compelling than one rushed at the last minute. Give yourself enough time to produce your best work.

4. Research Universities Thoroughly

Understand course structures, entry requirements, and application deadlines. Targeted applications are often stronger than generic ones.



5. Keep a Master Document

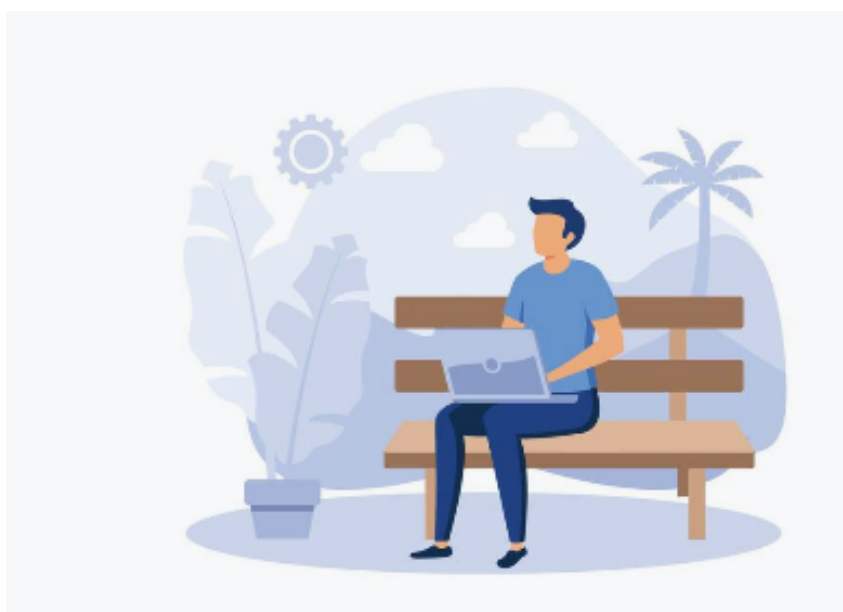
Maintain a single document containing achievements, activities, awards, responsibilities, and reflections. This will save considerable time when completing applications.

6. Review Before You Submit

Small mistakes can undermine an otherwise strong application. Leave time to proofread essays, forms, and supporting documents carefully.

7. Avoid the October Rush

Students who reach this point in October with unfinished essays can quickly find themselves overwhelmed. Use the break to complete major application components while you have the time and mental space.





Upcoming Overseas Education Fair in Singapore

If you are uncertain about course choices, entry requirements, scholarships, or university fit, consider attending a university fair during the school break. Speaking directly with admissions representatives can provide clarity that websites often cannot.



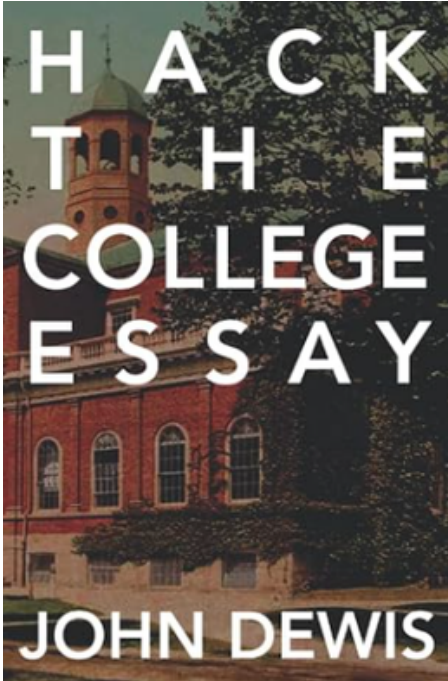
[Click on the image for
Event Details & Registration](#)

Attend a Virtual Open House This Break

A university website can tell you what a course offers, but a virtual open house allows you to hear directly from admissions officers, faculty, and current students. If you are still refining your university list, spend an hour attending an online information session. However, remember that researching universities should complement, not replace, application preparation. Your highest priority this break should remain completing essay drafts and preparing application materials before the main application deadline rush begins.



Student Read



Hack the College Essay - John Dewis

A practical and student-friendly guide, *Hack the College Essay* helps students move beyond writing what they think admissions officers want to hear and instead uncover authentic, meaningful stories from their own experiences. Through clear exercises and examples, the book teaches students how to identify compelling essay topics, develop a unique voice, and craft essays that are memorable, reflective, and genuinely personal. It is particularly useful for students who struggle to decide what to write about or how to make their essays stand out.

College Essay Essentials - Ethan Sawyer

Writing a strong personal statement requires reflection, authenticity, and effective storytelling. *The College Essay Essentials* by Ethan Sawyer offers practical exercises, strategies, and real examples to help students craft compelling and memorable essays. It is an excellent resource for students applying through holistic admissions processes.

