

NORTH SHORE

## Kitchen kids really cookin'



Joanne Bowskill and Holly Boal with students Larry Li, Lara Deck and Christian Elliott at Gordon East Public School and (below) on Channel 10's TV show Shark Tank. Picture: Jeremy Piper

### Shark Tank business duo create new program for schools

#### Rebecca Parish

ONE year on from their television debut on Channel 10's hit reality show *Shark Tank*, two north shore mums say their business has experienced tremendous growth.

Entrepreneur Glen Richards was so impressed with Holly Boal and Joanne Bowskill's business, Get Kids Cooking, that he invested \$150,000 into it in July last year.

Before appearing on the show, the duo had reached 20,000 students through their programs, which they

were personally presenting at local schools.

Now, having reached almost 60,000 children, the two mums have marketed the scheme so that teachers can deliver it in their own classrooms.

"We have designed and developed, with international patents, the kitchen cart, which is a portable teaching kitchen that has an oven, cooktop and is full of cooking tools for a class of 30 students," Forestville resident Mrs Boal said.

"With the assistance of *Shark Tank*, we have now developed the Cook in a Box

program, and we send it out for teachers to run a cooking class in school.

"With Cook in a Box, you don't need the kitchen cart ... if you've got nothing, the children can cook the recipes at their desk in the class."

The duo returned to the show last week for an update, which aired throughout Australia.

Living in Killarney Heights herself, Mrs Bowskill said the amazing thing about the program, which was boosted with the assistance of monthly mentoring by Mr Richards, was that

the pair were able to make the program inexpensive.

"Because we've been able to scale it and have more children involved, we've been able to bring the price down and make it really affordable," Mrs Bowskill said.

The mums now hope to get the program out to 20 per cent of schools Australia-wide.

"Our aim is to tackle the issue of obesity in children

which is not going down at all," Mrs Bowskill said.

As part of the program, the pair have also launched a 12-month at-home cooking course, where children are delivered a new tool and recipes every month to build their kitchen skills.

• Visit [getkidscooking.com.au](http://getkidscooking.com.au).

