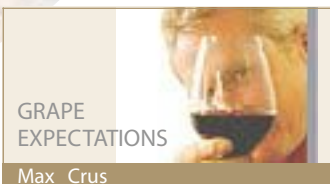


# Consume life.

## wine.

# MySchool days are numbered



**F**inally, thanks to MySchool.com we can see how badly our local school is performing. We got a NAPLAN average of 301. How bad is that? Actually it's hard to tell because nobody knows what it means.

Then even when the score was adjusted for ICSEARAW – although we don't know what this means either (sounds more like a brand of Swedish furniture) – it was only 108 which can't be good, can it?

Humans are funny. If we can rank something, or categorise it, we will.

However it is difficult to see the advantage this latest bureaucratic offering offers us in dealing with disadvantage – ostensibly the reason for MySchool – since we know where the disadvantage lies anyway.

Nevertheless we can now see our rank, thus enabling us to blame someone other than ourselves for our children's failings.

Fantastic. Expensive, but fantastic, and why stop at schools? Why not a MySchool thingy for all public services?

Let's start with politicians; they would surely welcome MyPollie.com to weed out under-performers. We could use the Commonwealth Research Assessing Politicians Laziness and Niceness scores. Nice acronym too. Adjusted for disadvantaged electorates of course, such as those with National Party members.

Better yet, how about a MyParents.com? Schools could see who the under-performing parents were so they could be sacked or retrained or given more resources. It's all about a better outcome for the kids, isn't it?

Hang on, as with schools, we know where the under-performing parents are already so let's just give them some dosh and cut out the middle-plan?

Private industry could benefit too from MyWhatever, and where better to start than the wine industry?

Every winery in the country could send their stuff to me, I will score them and publish the results? We will see who is under-performing, and alas unlike parents, we can take our business elsewhere if we wish. Let's start by ranking these:



Leo Buring Eden Valley Riesling Medium Sweet 2009 \$22. My ears lit up, three people at the party wanted this – a media executive, a rev head and a scientist, and all were impressed. 9/10 for being sweet and having the balls to admit it.



You Me and the Gatepost (WA) Shiraz 2008, \$20. Catchy name, great label for dog lovers and pretty good WA wine to boot. Great gear for a slow party. 8.4/10.



Simon Whitlam Sparkling Red (Shiraz) NV, \$20. Fair fare for fair price, fair enough? A much better way to finish a night than flat red. 8.3/10.



Evans and Tate Zamphire Sparkling NV, \$20. E&T's first bubbly's weird shaped bottle must be drunk first at

parties because it won't stack in the fridge. Furthermore the whizzbang new seal can be used again and again. Great design. 8.1/10.



Wirra Wirra Original Blend Grenache Shiraz, 2008, \$23. Disappeared in the wink of an eye and half of the World's Fastest Indian. Coincidentally Indian food would have worked too. 8.2/10.



Clairault Margaret River Sauvignon Blanc 2009, \$22.50. More passion and piddle than a Cats performance, but it's inoffensive and shows little of the bitter aftertaste that one gets with Andrew Lloyd Webber, or would if you wasted money on him. 8.7/10.