Braidwood Central School
NEWSLETTER

Coming Events

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Monday 21st July | World Of Maths Day  
|             | Yr11 Work Placement                                                 |
| Tuesday 22nd July | Yr11 Work Placement  
|             | Yr12 Drama Trial - Wollongong                                       |
| Wednesday 23rd July | Small Schools Rugby League  
|             | Yr11 Work Placement                                                 |
|             | Yr7&8 Scope & Sequence - Information Session 7pm                    |
| Thursday 24th July | Primary Gymnastics  
|             | Yr11 Work Placement                                                 |
| Friday 25th July | Primary District Athletics  
|             | Yr11 Work Placement                                                 |

Principal’s News

NAIDOC Week Celebrations
Braidwood Central School celebrated NAIDOC week in style on Friday July 18th. The Braidwood Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) worked with Aboriginal Programs Manager Mr Michael Guilfoyle to put on a very successful day. The children and young people were able to experience dot painting, storytelling, didgeridoo playing and Aboriginal bush food. A hand print mural was also created.

I would like to thank everyone involved in what was a tremendous effort.

World Maths Day
Between 80 and 100 students from Years 4-8 will spend Monday July 21st engaged in a “World Maths” experience. Students will be challenged with various problem solving exercises in an enjoyable learning environment.

Work Placement for Year 11
Year 11 will undertake work placement from Monday July 21st to Friday July 25th. This is a valuable opportunity for Year 11 students to engage with the workforce and learn more about possible career paths.

Year 12 Drama to Wollongong
Year 12 drama students will take their HSC drama pieces to Wollongong to trial them with different audiences. This will be a really valuable exercise and I am sure that they will benefit from the experience. I have been privileged to see the group performance and found it to be of excellent quality.

If you would like to receive the Braidwood Central School newsletter by email, please contact us at braidwood-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

The newsletter is also available to download each week from our school website.

Front Office Phone
4842 2249
Canteen Phone
4842 2251

“Braidwood Celebrates”
Late afternoon until the early evening
July 31st

4.30pm-6.30pm in the School Gymnasium followed by Braidwood’s Got Talent in the School Hall
Come along for lots of displays and performances.
Dinner will be available on the night

Small Schools Rugby League
Small schools rugby league teams will converge on Boorowa on Wednesday July 23rd. BCS will be in attendance and I am sure that BCS will field a very competitive team. I am sure that everyone will contribute to their personal best.

What Does Work and Study in Years 7 and 8 Entail??
On Wednesday July 23rd beginning at 7:00 pm in the school library there will be a parent and student information session on the scope and sequence of content for Years 7&8 and the assessment and homework expectations for both of these years in second semester. This initiative is part of the Community Engagement proposals suggested by that working party. It should help to clarify expectations and demystify Years 7&8 and what happens in the school room.

Gymnastics at Braidwood
A school gymnastics program will begin on Thursday July 24th. Gymnastics is a part of the Primary curriculum but our teachers are not trained in teaching it. BCS has been fortunate to secure the services of trained gymnastics coaches who will work with our students over the next eight weeks. Specialised equipment will be available and students will be able to gauge their capacity and interest in this sport.

Primary District Athletics
BCS will send a team to the District Athletics competition at Batemans Bay on Friday July 25th. I wish all competitors well and I am sure that they will perform to their personal best.

Rod McClure
Principal

Deputy News
An Invitation to all Year 7&8 Students and Parents/Carers
On Wednesday night at 7pm in the school library will be an information session regarding the Scope and Sequence of learning in each subject along with expectation and requirements for each subject.

Mr Wall, Ms Parsons and Mr Neilsen will be running the session.

We hope as many students and parents can make it. If you are unable to attend the booklets issued will be posted home as well as being available on the school website.

Updated Calendar
An updated calendar is included in this newsletter it supersedes the calendar published last week.

A big welcome to Filippo from Milan.
Filippo is on exchange from Italy for the next 5 months.

Some of the reasons why we are encouraging students to wear school uniform:

- Improves safety of students
- Less peer pressure
- Develops school spirit
- More cost effective
- Enhances focus and thus improves academic performance
- Meets OHS requirements for practical classes

If you require assistance to access a school uniform please contact me at the school.

The school uniform shop is open before and after school each Wednesday. Orders are also taken via the front office.

Braidwood Central School is a Uniformed School
Primary News

Welcome back, Mrs Davis
Staff and students are delighted to welcome back Mrs Wendy Davis, our fabulous Relieving Assistant Principal, who returned from leave today. Thanks to Ms Callie Bolitho and Ms Cathy Mahoney for teaching Kindergarten while Mrs Davis was on leave.

Gymnastics
Gymnastics starts this Thursday! Gymnastics will take place each Thursday for 8 weeks. All classes will rotate through structured, levelled activities with fully qualified Gymnastics coaches, using all their specialised equipment.

Permission notes must be returned before Thursday, for your child to take part.

There is a cost of $5.00 per week per student. To make it easier for parents, the $40 cost can be paid as a lump sum, or in weekly/fortnightly instalments. This is to be paid to the front office, please. Assistance is available for families experiencing financial difficulties, so please contact the school if you have any concerns.

World of Maths Roadshow
The World of Maths Roadshow will visit BCS today, and over 90 lucky students from Years 3-8 will participate. Some photos, and a recount from one of the attendees, will follow in next week’s newsletter. Thank you to parents/carers for supporting this incursion, which forms part of the work we are doing under the Improving Numeracy National Partnership project. I’m sure the kids will have great fun exploring mathematics in this collaborative, dynamic session.

Braidwood Celebrates
K-6 classes are busy preparing artworks, displays and performances for Braidwood Celebrates, to be held Thursday 31 July 2014. The program runs from approximately 4:30pm – 6:30pm, and will be followed by Braidwood’s Got Talent. We’d love to see as many students and parents as possible at the event, to help celebrate all the things that make BCS a unique, vibrant, terrific school. Please put this date in your diary.

Sarah Sweeney (Relieving Assistant Principal) and Greg Clarke (Assistant Principal)

Sports Events, Term 3
Eurobodalla District Athletics Carnival
Selected students have received notes last Friday to travel to Surfside Soccer Oval at Batemans Bay on Friday 25 July to compete in the annual 2014 Eurobodalla District PSSA Athletics Carnival for students from 8 to 12 years of age. Transport will be either by private car or the school bus. Can all permission notes be returned to school by this Wednesday so transport arrangements and levy payments be finalised.

School Gymnastics
Our school is very fortunate to have arranged a Gymnastics Program for all our students from Kinder to Year 6 starting this Thursday 24 July for the next 8 weeks. Two qualified instructors will take each class for a 40 minute session, for the fee of $5, which is very cheap. Payments can be made in one lump sum or each week.

Greg Clarke
Assistant Principal
Primary and Secondary News

**Primary and Secondary News**

**Braidwood’s Got Talent!**

We are calling on students from Year 3 to Year 12 who may be talented musicians, singers, dancers, actors, mime artists, performance poets, magicians etc. and would like to perform in our popular talent show! Individuals, pairs and groups of students can enter. First and second prizes will be awarded by a panel of judges and feedback will be given to each of the acts on the night.

**Auditions** for a place in the show will be held during Week 2 at lunchtimes and at other times by arrangement. It you have an act to enter please fill out and hand in an entry form. (Available from our School Library) by Monday Week 1 Term 3.

Thank you!
Ms Mary Appleby, Miss Elisa Bryant and Ms Mary Langdon
Talent Scouts Extraordinaire

**Library News**

**Book Week – Get ready!**

Children’s Book Week is in Week 6 this term. The theme this year is ‘Connect to Reading’.

Our famous BCS ‘Children’s Book Character Parade’ will be held on Wednesday 20th August at 11.30 am for students in K-6. So students (and teachers) should start thinking about who (or what) they might dress up as. Costumes don’t have to be expensive or elaborate. Have a look in your wardrobes and the local ‘Op Shop’ for some inspiration. Use recycled stuff and your creativity and imagination.

I will also be running a ‘Carnival’ Book Fair during Children’s Book Week. Lots of great Children’s books will be available to buy. The fair will be open during a few different morning and afternoon timeslots, including a chance to purchase books immediately following the Book Character Parade. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Thank You,
Ms Mary Langdon
(Teacher Librarian)

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

The library operates Scholastic Book Club for students K-6. Order forms will be handed out in class on Tuesday 22nd July. Orders are due back on Tuesday 29th July. The order forms and money should be in a sealed envelope and need to be brought to the school library not the Front Office.

*PLEASE NOTE* that all cheques need to be made payable to Scholastic not to Braidwood Central School. Please ensure that all orders are returned by the due date as no late orders can be taken.

Any enquiries should be directed to the library.

Linda Bunn
SAO Library

**P&C News**

Apologies for any confusion – in last week’s P&C news I listed some important upcoming events as happening in June – of course they are actually in July! The year is whizzing by so fast... To avoid any further confusion, please check the Secondary News section for the correct dates.

Next P&C meeting

The P&C meets next week at 7pm on Wed (30 July) in the school library, following on from the 2015 Kindergarten and Y7 information night. So if you are coming to school for the evening, feel free to stay on and join us for our meeting.

Don’t forget to come along to the P&C and Community Engagement Working Group stall at the Braidwood Celebrates event on Thursday 31st July.

Volunteers, cakes and slices needed!

The P&C has been asked to cater for Braidwood’s Got Talent which is part of the Braidwood Celebrates! event. We need volunteers to help with the stall and with the catering. We will also need donations of cakes and slices which can be delivered to the canteen on the day. If you are able to help out, please let us know.

Public schools and uni outcomes

This week the online news site The Conversation ran an article on how State school graduates do better at university than private school graduates with the same end-of-school tertiary entrance score. This is worth a read especially in the light of our upcoming secondary curriculum information nights. The article is provided at the end of the newsletter.
**Uniform Shop News**

Dear Parents

Hi, my name is Linda Lewis and I am the new Uniform Shop Coordinator. As a mother of four children and step-mother to another four I am more than aware of the constraints on your time and am therefore endeavouring to make the obtaining of appropriate school uniform for your child/ren as simple as possible. I have therefore introduced the following measures:

**Communication**

If you wish to communicate with me direct you can call me at the uniform shop between 9.30am and 3pm every Wednesday on 4842 2251. Outside these hours I am contactable on my home number of 4842 7259.

You may now also communicate with me via the uniform shop’s own email address: bcsuniform@gmail.com

I am happy for you to scan order forms and email them to me on the above email address.

**Payments**

To reduce the amounts of cash being brought to school by the children payments for uniform items can be made by direct deposit to the following account:

**Account Name:** Braidwood P&C Uniform Shop  
**BSB:** 633 000  
**Account No:** 120809462  
(please include your child’s name as a reference on your deposit and indicate on the order form that you have paid by direct deposit)

**Fittings**

As I am present at the uniform shop all day on Wednesdays I am happy for your children to attend the shop to try uniforms on for size and fit.

**Miscellaneous**

As keeping our child/ren in full uniform can be an expensive exercise I remind you that the uniform shop also has a number of second hand items for sale. Many of these items are in excellent condition, so with a gold coin donation per item being the current cost for these it can be a real bargain.

I hope that these measures will make life a little easier for you when it comes to keeping your child/ren looking well presented each day at school. I look forward to your feedback and any suggestions you have to improve the way the uniform shop can serve the school community.

Kind regards  
Linda Lewis
IS IT OK TO DROP THE F-BOMB AT SCHOOL?

We all know that it happens – take a walk around many schools and you will hear swearing and foul language. To some degree, many expletive words have become a part of the vernacular and are not considered as socially unacceptable as they once were. However, this does not alter the fact that if you are at school and using language which causes offence to someone, you may be breaking the law. Let’s go through some examples –

**Scenario 1:** If a student was wandering around school yelling at the top of their lungs ‘F#$% Off!’, that student would be committing the offence of “Use Offensive language” under the Summary Offences Act 1988. (Max penalty: 6 penalty units or $500 infringement)

**Scenario 2:** If a student in woodwork class accidentally hit their thumb with a hammer and yelled ‘f$%*!’ because they were in shock and pain, their use of the f-bomb could be considered to be reasonable and NOT offensive under the circumstances. (Max penalty: sore thumb & hurt pride)

**Scenario 3:** If a student is asked by a teacher to head off to class and the student said, ‘F#$% off, I’m not doing what you say you f’n dog’ before giving the teacher the finger, kicking over a chair and walking off, the student is committing the offence of “Offensive Conduct” under the Summary Offences Act 1988. (Max penalty: 6 penalty units or imprisonment for 3 months)

**Scenario 4:** If while on school grounds a person raises a clenched fist and says to a student, teacher or other member of staff, “I’m going to bash your F#$%ing head in”, that person has committed an offence under Section 60E of the Crimes Act 1900 No 40 which states, (1) A person who assaults, stalks, harasses or intimidates any school student or member of staff of a school while the student or member of staff is attending a school, although no actual bodily harm is occasioned, is liable to imprisonment for 5 years.

So, what does this all mean for you? It means that as a part of a school community, whether you are a parent, student or teacher, you have a responsibility to act in a way that is socially acceptable and in accordance with the rules of the community. The test of what is acceptable would be judged by a person who is reasonably tolerant, not someone who is easily offended or ‘thin-skinned’. Think about the kind of community you want to live and learn in and behave accordingly. Keep your interactions with other members of your community, whether they be students, parents or teachers, respectful.

Senior Constable Bec Lanyon

School Liaison Police Officer - Monaro and Far South Coast lany1reb@police.nsw.gov.au
**B.C.S. P & C Canteen Menu Term 3 - 2014**

The Canteen menu is continually under review to comply with the Fresh Tastes NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy. Lunch orders can be placed in the box at the front office before 9 am or handed into the canteen at Recess. Please ensure that students name, class, items ordered and amount is enclosed. Change can be taped to the outside of the bag if needed. If a student has forgotten their lunch, an IOU can be issued after a teacher or office staff member has signed an IOU slip. Your child is then given a buttered OR vegemite sandwich. The IOU slip is sent home to the parent/caregiver and payment should be made the next day.

**Over the Counter For Recess and Lunch**
- Assorted chips, Mami Noodles, Veg Chips, Grain Waves - $1.20
- Pop Corn - 80c
- Liquorice - 20c a piece
- Dried Apricot - 10c a piece
- Sun Fruit faces - 10c each
- Ovaleenies - 80c each
- Cheese sticks - 80c each
- Bulla Frozen Yoghurt - $2.20
- Strawberry, Fruit Salad or Mango

**Seasonal Fruit**
- Whole Orange or Apple - $1.00

**AVAILABILITY DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF VOLUNTEERS**
- Cup Cakes - $1.50
- Garlic Bread - $1.80 (1x roll w/garlic butter)
- Jelly Cuts - 80 cents
- Cut watermelon, or fruit salad - 30c (a piece) - $2.00 (container)
  (Will depend on what’s in season and pricing)

**LUNCH ONLY (EVERY DAY)**

**PAPER BAGS 20c EACH**

**TOMATO SAUCE PORTION 30c EACH**

**Ice Creams & Ice Blocks**
- Fruit Stacks - 50c
- Fruit Tubes - 50c
- Polar Freeze ice block - 20c
- Frozen orange wedges - 10c
- Icy Poles - $1.00
- Billabong Choc & Triple Swirl - 1.30
- Bulla Frozen Yoghurt - 2.20
- Mini Callipo - 80c

**Sandwiches Fresh**
- Cheese - $2.00
- Vegemite - $2.00
- Tomato - $2.00
- Ham - $2.50
- Ham & Cheese - $3.00
- Ham, Cheese & Tomato - $3.50
- Salad - $3.00
- Ham OR Cheese & Salad - $3.50
- Ham, Cheese & Salad - $4.00

**LUNCH ORDER'S AVAILABLE EVERY DAY**

### Rolls
- **Small**
  - Salad: $3.50
  - Ham OR Cheese & Salad: $4.00
  - Ham & Cheeses & Salad: $4.50

- **Large**
  - Salad: $4.00
  - Ham OR Cheese & Salad: $4.50
  - Ham & Cheeses & Salad: $5.00

### HOT FOOD
- Sausage Roll $3.40
- Spinach & Ricotta Roll $3.40
- Meat Pie $4.00
- Cruiser Meat Pie $3.00
  (+SQUEEZE ON TOMATO SAUCE 30c)

### Salad Bowls
- **Sml**
  - Salad: $3.00
  - Ham OR Cheese & Salad: $3.50
  - Ham & Cheese Salad: $4.00

- **Lg**
  - Salad: $3.50
  - Ham OR Cheese & Salad: $4.00
  - Ham & Cheese Salad: $4.50

All Salad comes with low fat Italian salad dressing packet (+PINEAPPLE EXTRA 50c)

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**Monday Only**
- Hot Chicken & Gravy Roll $5.00
- Chicken Burger $4.00
- Chicken breast Pattie on roll And salad
- Jnr Chicken burger $3.50
- Pattie on bread with lettuce and mayo
- Chicken Nuggets 70c
  - Salad Wrap $3.50 (+ CHEESE 50c + Sweet chilly sauce 30c)

**Tuesday Only**
- Hot Dog $3.20 w/sauce $3.50
- Eureka Pizza Single
  - Ham & Cheese $2.20
  - Ham & Pineapple $2.20
- Chicken Burger $4.00
  - Chicken breast Pattie on roll And salad
- Jnr Chicken burger $3.50
  - Pattie on bread with lettuce and mayo

**Wednesday Only**
- Hot Chicken & Gravy Roll $5.00
- Chicken Burger $4.00
  - Chicken breast Pattie on roll And salad
- Jnr Chicken burger $3.50
  - Pattie on bread with lettuce and mayo
- Chicken Nuggets 70c
  - Salad Wrap $3.50 (+ CHEESE 50c + Sweet chilly sauce 30c)

**Thursday Only**
- Hot Dog $3.20 w/sauce $3.50
- Eureka Pizza Single
  - Ham & Cheese $3.20
  - Ham & Pineapple $3.20
- Chicken Burger $4.00
  - Chicken breast Pattie on roll And salad
- Jnr Chicken burger $3.50
  - Pattie on bread with lettuce and mayo
- Chicken Nuggets 70c
  - Salad Wrap $3.50 (+ CHEESE 50c + Sweet chilly sauce 30c)

**Friday Only**
- Hot Chicken & Gravy Roll $5.00
- Chicken Burger $4.00
  - Chicken breast Pattie on roll And salad
- Jnr Chicken burger $3.50
  - Pattie on bread with lettuce and mayo
- Chicken Nuggets 70c

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**Drinks**
- **Mooves** - $2.40 Chocolate, Banana, Strawberry
- **Juices Small** - $1.50 Orange, Apple, Apple & Blackcurrant and Tropical
- **Juices Large** - $2.00 Orange, Apple, Apple & Blackcurrant and Multi V
- **Bottled Water** - $2.00
- **Hot Milo** - $2.00

**Recess ONLY (every day)**
- ½ Toasted Sandwich
  - Ham & Cheese $1.40
  - Cheese & Tomato $1.40
  - BBQ Chicken & Cheese $1.50
P&C Canteen Roster Term 3 - 2014

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<td>Wednesday 16</td>
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Thank you to all of our Volunteers for giving up your precious time. If for some reason you can’t do your canteen rostered day can you please call Heather at home on 48421793 or the canteen (Mon-Fri, 9.30am-2pm) on 48422251. Thank you from the Canteen Staff.
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<td>23 Small Schools Semi Final RL Boorowa</td>
<td>2 Primary Gymnastics</td>
<td>25 Eurobodalla PSSA District Athletics</td>
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<td>July/August</td>
<td>28 EDUCATION</td>
<td>29 ICAS English</td>
<td>30 WEEK</td>
<td>31 Primary Gymnastics</td>
<td>1 Secondary Regional Athletics</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>4 Year 9-11 Subject Choice Night</td>
<td>5 Secondary Silver Excursion</td>
<td>6 Primary Gymnastics</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>11 ICAS Maths</td>
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<td>14 Primary Gymnastics</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>18 Book Week Fair</td>
<td>19 10,11,12 Be Street Smart (TBC)</td>
<td>20 Book Week Parade</td>
<td>21 Primary Gymnastics</td>
<td>Author Visit for Years 2-7</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>1 Immuniisations Year 7 Boys &amp; Girls and Year 9 Boys</td>
<td>2 P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>8 YEAR 9 WORK</td>
<td>9 EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>10 Primary Gymnastics</td>
<td>11 Prelim Exams</td>
<td>12 Primary Performance Stamp out bullying</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>15 Prelim Exams</td>
<td>16 YEAR 9</td>
<td>17 YEAR 7 CAMP</td>
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<td>19 Year 12 Assembly/last Day</td>
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State school kids do better at uni

AUTHOR Barbara Preten, PhD candidate, Education, Science, Technology & Mathematics Faculty at University of Canberra

State school graduates do better at university than private school graduates with the same end-of-school tertiary entrance score. That’s the clear finding in a number of Australian studies since the 1980s, and in England since the 1990s.

The Australian research compared academic results at the end of first year at particular universities for cohorts whose entry was based on tertiary entrance scores (now ATAR) for the previous year in the same state. The most recent English research tracked all students who completed the end-of-school A-levels and went directly on to complete a full-time four-year degree course.

The differences between graduates of state and private schools were substantial (though less pronounced among those who did very well at university). The Australian research found that, on average, graduates of state schools received the same marks at the end of first-year university as graduates of private schools who had tertiary entrance scores around three to six points higher.

The English research found that at each A-level standard, on average around 7 percentage points more graduates of state schools than graduates of private schools received first or second class, first division (upper second) honours.

Research in both Australia and England also found that with the same tertiary entrance scores:

- graduates of co-educational schools tend to do better than graduates of single-sex schools
- graduates of lower-fee private schools (in Australia, Catholic schools) tend to do better than graduates of higher-fee private schools (in Australia, independent schools)
- graduates of schools with lower average tertiary entrance scores tend to do better than graduates of schools with higher average tertiary entrance scores
- graduates of (English) state comprehensive schools do better (to a small extent) than graduates of state selective schools.

The general finding is that graduates of non-elite and co-educational schools do better at university than graduates of socially and academically elite and single-sex schools who achieved the same tertiary entrance score.

So what can explain this difference?

There are no definitive explanations for these findings, though there is some attempt in the literature, some indicative data, and much informed speculation. And there is, of course, great variation among individual students – and among schools, universities and university courses.

Explanations tend to focus on aspects of secondary schooling and on students’ effort levels at university (associated with their cultures and aspirations), and any may be involved in particular cases:

- Preparation for the end-of-school assessments in private schools, relative to state schools, boosts tertiary entrance results above “underlying ability”, and graduates regress to “underlying ability” level at university.
- Preparation for life and learning beyond school in private schools (and single-sex schools) relative to state schools (and co-educational schools) is poor, resulting in university performance below “underlying ability”.
- Graduates of private schools make less effort at university because of perceived long-term advantages of their secondary schooling and other socio-cultural reasons.

It appears a reasonable assumption that tertiary entrance scores are boosted by a better quality of education at high fee private schools. Fee-based resources several times greater than those of state schools can fund smaller classes and other ways to enhance learning. In addition, selection and
exclusion practices can ensure an academic atmosphere not disturbed by disruptive, difficult-to-teach students, or even students without high academic aspirations.

However, there appears to be contrary evidence: state school students tend to do better in NAPLAN tests than private school students at schools of similar socio-economic status (especially at higher socio-economic levels), according to data on the My School website analysed by researchers Bernie Shepherd and Chris Bonnor for a forthcoming publication.

Thus other explanations are likely. One involves a narrow focus on tertiary entrance results at many elite schools. Tertiary entrance results are a central aspect of the status and marketing of high-fee private schools – supported by high-visibility league tables and human interest stories in the media. High pressure, close supervision and narrowly defined learning leave little room for independent, self-motivated learning, and developing the personal and social skills required for success at university.

Single-sex school cultures and practices may not prepare students well for university life. This is hinted at in the literature, but was "obvious" for a recent university graduate I spoke to who attended both single-sex and co-educational secondary schools and said many single-sex school graduates "do not learn to socialise at school, and when they get to uni they just party".

Other possible explanations relate to cultural class assumptions around success and entitlement. Some private school graduates may have an explicit belief (whether reasonable or not) that just having attended such an elite school will lead to employment advantages after university. Thus the incentive to work hard at university is diminished.

Some may have a less conscious belief that they have innate superior intelligence that will get them through university without much additional effort. This sense is not properly tested in the "hothouse" atmosphere of closely supervised elite schooling, but is found wanting in the more open society of university.

There may also be a lack of motivation for university among those from elite private schools where university is the norm. Those from state schools, where many different destinations are common, make a more deliberate choice for university.

**What are the implications?**

The government has set its sights on a highly differentiated fee and scholarship regime for higher education. Graduates of many universities are likely to have debts of over $100,000 for popular and socially important courses such as science, and debts of over $250,000 for longer courses such as veterinary science.

Universities with high-demand courses and high fees will need fairer criteria for access to all courses and for the awarding of all scholarships based on entry-level academic merit. This is not just a matter of justice for individuals, but also for our future as a well-educated, productive and fair society.

English education commentator Nick Morrison suggested that the disparity between state and private school graduates' success at university should provoke fee-paying schools to question whether they are doing all they can to equip students for university.

**The Australian Financial Review** recently urged people to "do the sums on the true cost of private schools". It's apparent that high private school fees may not be buying effective education. In the context of university debts upwards of $100,000, families should "do the sums" on comparable expenditure on schooling.

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