



## GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2007

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Welcome to the Gifted Resources Email Newsletter in the new pdf attachment format. If you are not able to receive attachments you can read this newsletter online at

<http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>

You may be receiving this newsletter because someone has forwarded their copy to you. If you would like to receive your own copy please subscribe from our newsletter website at <http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html> You may also access back issues of the newsletter (from January 2005), or change your subscription options, from this address.

You can also read the newsletter online at

<http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>

If you have news of events, conferences, lectures, workshops, children's programmes, etc. that you would like included in our newsletter please email [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)



Last weekend I went down to Warrnambool for the third GEMM program run by Active Minds and held at Brauer College. It was a great success with approx 120 students participating in exciting workshops and speed chess.

## GIFTED RESOURCES NEWS

### NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Phasing out of the virtual and vicnet email addresses is almost complete. Please can you ensure that the address you have for Gifted Resources is [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org) and the email address for the newsletter is [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

### OUR WEBSITE - [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org)

It has been necessary to disable the comment feature on the Blog as a large proportion of the comments were Spam in the guise of a comment. If you would like to comment on a Blog article or send a contribution, please send the comment to [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org)

Additions and changes have been made to the Events, About Us and Biorama sections. Further Columbus Cheetah Myth Buster slides have been added

### GIFTED RESOURCES EVENTS

#### THE ADVOCACY JOURNEY - One family's story

##### JENNIFER GRANT

Friday 31 August 2007 7.30pm

Registration from 7.00pm

Centre for the Exceptional Learner, Luther College

Plymouth Rd. Croydon, Vic 3134

**JENNIFER GRANT** is a parent of 3 gifted children aged 8 to 16 and has experience advocating for almost every educational option available for gifted children from early entry to kindergarten up to and including tertiary level. Formerly a secondary maths and science teacher, she has studied the Certificate of Gifted Education with GERRIC and now teaches gifted primary schoolers with WiseOnes. Jennifer is the President of Maroondah Gifted Children's Parents' Association.

Cost: \$10

Booking essential. Phone (03) 9724 2452 and leave a voicemail message or email [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org) or use the form on the Events page

## PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

### MAROONDAH GIFTED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOC. INC.

Morning Coffee at MacDonald's, Maroondah Hwy. Croydon Vic. at 10.30 am on Wednesday, 1 Aug, 5 September, 3 October

If you have suggestions for family activities, guest speakers, etc. for 2007 please phone or email Jennifer or Louise.

PO Box 1279

Croydon Vic 3136

Contact Jennifer Grant

Phone 9779 4218

[ijgrant@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ijgrant@optusnet.com.au)

Louise Howe Phone 9801 2912

[louise\\_h@tpg.com.au](mailto:louise_h@tpg.com.au)

## **GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK**

(Formerly Bayside Young Active Minds - BYAMS)

Active network in Melbourne's south eastern region offering the following services to families with gifted children:

- \* "Mini Minds" - weekly activities for preschoolers
- \* "Primary Minds" - fortnightly activities for primary school aged children and their parents
- \* "Teens & Tweens" - activities for teenagers and their parents each term
- \* Information evenings with expert speakers covering issues relating to the gifted
- \* Daytime and evening social events for parents to share their experience of parenting the gifted child
- \* Comprehensive members library
- \* Quarterly newsletter containing professional articles

For further information visit [www.giftedsupport.org](http://www.giftedsupport.org)

or phone Carolyn (9576 5137)

P.O. Box 2808 Cheltenham, 3192

Email address is [gifted-support@hotmail.com](mailto:gifted-support@hotmail.com)

**TERM 3 SPEAKER**

Acceleration & Advocacy: The Challenge Continues" presented by Lynne Mackenzie-Sykes on behalf of Gifted Support Network

**([www.giftedsupport.org](http://www.giftedsupport.org))**

This presentation will address the issues associated with acceleration and advocacy using current, individual case-studies and highlighting the function of the case-conference in the acceleration process for gifted students. School personnel and parents are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday 22 August, 7:45 – 9:30pm

Venue: Mentone Girls' Grammar School,

Mentone Parade, Mentone (Mel Ref 86 K8)

Parking: drive in at Gate A for access to the staff car park.

Walk into "David Hunt Centre" and follow signs to the Jubilee Theatre

Cost: \$10 bookings essential

RSVP Liz [lmachin@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lmachin@bigpond.net.au) or phone 9580 6939

## **ACTIVE MINDS (was S.W.A.M.) WARRNAMBOOL**

President Carolyn Jennings 03 55620915 [cpjen@bigpond.com](mailto:cpjen@bigpond.com)

Vice President Warwick Price 03 55603888 [warwickp@brauer.vic.edu.au](mailto:warwickp@brauer.vic.edu.au)

Secretary Andrea Sampson 03 55603888 [sampsonsensei@hotmail.com](mailto:sampsonsensei@hotmail.com)

Treasurer Lenny Brockmuller 03 55605624



**Columbus Cheetah - Mythbuster**

## **BOROONDARA GIFTED NETWORK**

Educational support group for interested teachers, parents and friends. Meet once per school term for a presentation specific to gifted education. Based in City of Boroondara, in the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne.

### **TERM 3 SPEAKER**

#### **VISUAL SPATIAL LEARNERS**

**'You Teach in Words I Think in Pictures'**

**Lesley Sword and David Harrison**

Venue **Ashburton Primary School**

(Fakenham Road, Ashburton, Melways 60 E9)

**August 23, 2007**

**Session 1: 4.15pm Teacher focused workshop after school.**

**Session 2: 7 pm. Parent focused workshop in the evening.**

**This invitation is extended to interested teachers, parents and friends from Government, Catholic and Independent, primary and secondary schools.**

Do you know a child who is obviously bright BUT:

Is easily distracted?

**Struggles with handwriting?** Has difficulty following directions?

**Reads well yet is poor at spelling? Has great ideas but can't finish tasks?**

Is highly creative and imaginative? Is highly sensitive?

Struggles with times tables? Then this talk is for you!

Lesley Sword's partner David Harrison from Gifted and Creative Services Australia will explore the main factors underlying the visual spatial learning style, provide information on identification of visual spatial learners and discuss strategies for learning.

David has worked with Lesley for over 5 years presenting Lesley's research and their shared experiences with the assessment and support of Visual Spatial Learners. In addition to working with Lesley, David is the Director of MonRAS - Monash Research for an Ageing Society. We hope that if her health permits, Lesley will be able to attend this meeting.

#### **RSVP by August 20th**

Boroondara Gifted Network Coordinator: Dinah Waldie 9885 2559 (just leave a message with the office staff) or e-mail at [waldie.dinah.d@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:waldie.dinah.d@edumail.vic.gov.au)

#### **PARENTS OF HIGH ABILITY CHILDREN (POHACs)**

Lyn Chudleigh

Berwick Lodge Primary School

Mansfield St

PO Box 454

Berwick

Vic 3806

Phone 9707 1766 Fax 9796 2198

Email [berwick.lodge.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:berwick.lodge.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## **GIFTED EDUCATION NETWORK PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

For families with gifted children in Casey/Cardinia

Meets regularly every fourth Tuesday of the month from 7.30 - 9.00pm  
at the Beaconsfield Community Centre, O'Neil Rd, Beaconsfield.

Contact

Karen Grubb (Coordinator of Parent Support Group)

[kgrubb@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kgrubb@optusnet.com.au)

and

Lyn Chudleigh (Gifted Education Network Coordinator)

c/o Berwick Lodge Primary School

ph: 9707 1766

## **V.A.G.T.C. Inc**

Contact

P O Box 132

Caulfield South

Vic 3162

Phone 0402 056 140

<http://www.vagtc.asn.au/index.html>

## **V.A.G.T.C. CONFERENCE 2007**

### **Head & Heart**

Telstra Dome

Docklands Melbourne

Wed 14-Thursday 15 November 2007

[http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/htm/conf\\_intro.htm](http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/htm/conf_intro.htm)

<http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/pdf/07%20conf%20pdfs/VAGTC%20Conf%20Announcement.pdf>

## **DSNSG Defence Special Needs Support Group**

A support group for Australian Defence Force families who have members with

special needs, including giftedness & talent. DSNSG provides support and information for Defence families posted throughout Australia and overseas

Sarah Tuckerman [dsnsggat@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dsnsggat@optusnet.com.au)

Gifted & Talented Coordinator

Defence Special Needs Support Group

Phone contact 1800 037 674

[www.dsnsq.org.au](http://www.dsnsq.org.au)

## **NSW Association of Gifted & Talented Children Albury/Wodonga Support Group**

Meets bi-monthly in Wodonga and welcomes interested parents & teachers

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28/8/07 6pm. We will conduct a Parent

Packaging - Mini-Curriculum Resource Night.

Following this is a meeting on Tuesday 23/10/07 6pm. Dr Anne Flood of the Tall Poppies Centre, Wagga Wagga will be our guest speaker.

For venue details & information phone Dennis Baker, President,

(02)60591888

## THINKING AHEAD (W.A.)

### One Day Gifted Conference 20 August 2007

#### The Making a Difference: Gifted Children in the Classroom

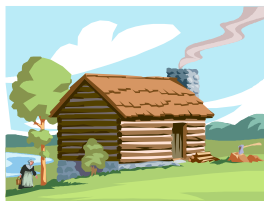
One day conference for teachers to be held on August 20th at Technology Park Function Centre, Bentley.

Featured presenter will be Dr Katherine Hoekman from NSW, focussing on the topic of Scaffolding Self Directed Learning for Gifted Students. Registrations are still welcomed. Full details can be found on the website at [http://www.thinkingahead.com.au/conference\\_home.htm](http://www.thinkingahead.com.au/conference_home.htm)

### Parent Seminar

August 20th, 7.30 - 9.30pm,  
Technology Park Function Centre, Bentley.  
Dr Katherine Hoekman will present a seminar for parents  
Motivating and Empowering Gifted Students.  
Details and registrations forms can be found at  
[http://www.thinkingahead.com.au/parent\\_seminar.htm](http://www.thinkingahead.com.au/parent_seminar.htm)

Derrin Cramer Thinking Ahead Extension Workshops  
PO Box 171 Como WA 6952  
Ph (08) 9474 4594 M 0409 372 109  
Fax (08) 9474 3462



## NEW HOME EDUCATION REGULATIONS

The new Education Act was declared and came into effect on 1 July 2007  
See this statement on the DET website " The Act came into effect when it was proclaimed on Sunday 1st July 2007 by the Governor in Council."  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/directions/reviewleg.htm>

The new Education Act requires that home educators be registered. More details on the requirements are available here <http://www.home-ed.vic.edu.au/category/victorian-legal-situation/> including a downloadable pdf <http://www.home-ed.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2007/04/victorianlegalinformation.pdf> giving details of the Education Act and associated regulations.

The VRQA now have registration forms on their website here <http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/homeSchool/application.htm> and explanatory information here <http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/homeSchool/support.htm>

A PDF giving details of the relevant sections of the legislation and regulations is available on the HEN website here <http://www.home-ed.vic.edu.au/2007/07/02/education-act-declared-1st-july-2007/>  
The information about the Homeschooling Advisory Committee is now online here <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/enrolling/hsac.htm>



## **GIFTED RESEARCH INTEREST GROUP**

Expressions of interest are being sought for an informal group open to people undertaking research related to giftedness, to provide mutual support and a forum for sharing ideas. To express your interest, or for further information, contact Jodie Valpied (PhD student, University of Melbourne).

Email: [jodiev@tpg.com.au](mailto:jodiev@tpg.com.au)

## **CSE (WAS IARTV) GIFTED INTEREST GROUP**

<http://www.cse.edu.au/content.php?contentid=3>

WED 15 August 2007

Supporting Gifted Students: Organizations providing opportunities for students and teachers

For full details see

[http://www.cse.edu.au/uploaded\\_files/Gifted%20Supporting%20gifted%20students1183989600.pdf](http://www.cse.edu.au/uploaded_files/Gifted%20Supporting%20gifted%20students1183989600.pdf)



## **STARJUMP FOR VISUAL SPATIAL LEARNERS**

**Unlocking Literacy - Building systems of thinking using cognitive strengths.**

**The Starjump Literacy program** is now available on CD for Visual Spatial Learners from 6 to 12 years of age. If your child has difficulties with reading, writing, or spelling come and find out more at the next Parent Information Night.

**For details call Maxine Cowie on 9596 8288**

**or email [maxine@starjump.com.au](mailto:maxine@starjump.com.au) to register.**

## **EDNEWS INTERVIEW**

EdNews.org has published on its site an interview with Mark Bade and Linda Neumann of the 2e Newsletter on the topic of twice-exceptional students. The interview explores what twice-exceptionality means for the kids and their schools.

The interview is at: <http://www.ednews.org/articles/13548/1/An-Interview-with-Mark-Bade-and-Linda-Neumann-Twice-Exceptional/Page1.html>

## **G.A.T.E.WAYS**

### **THE G.A.T.E.WAYS CHALLENGE**

As part of The Education Show "Resources For Courses" at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre on August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, G.A.T.E.WAYS will be running a seminar on The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge.

The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge is a team event created to challenge, extend and excite primary school students from Years One / Two, Three / Four and Five / Six. Teams consist of four students (three for the Grade One / Two grouping) who exhibit advanced abilities in either specialised areas or across the curriculum.

## The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge:

- Stresses teamwork over individual performance, with the ability of team members to interact in an efficient and cohesive manner being of crucial importance
- Emphasises problem-solving skills - the ability to recognise and negotiate obstacles and, as a team, to find solutions
- Challenges the participants across the curriculum
- Provides all participants with opportunity for leadership
- Practises the fundamental skills necessary for competent performance
- Gives satisfaction from the activities themselves as well as the outcome
- Emphasises having fun with learning

The G.A.T.E.WAYS Challenge will be held in Term 4 at various locations across the metropolitan area. Invitations to compete in The Challenge will be mailed to schools at the beginning of Term 3. Following registration, teachers will receive a practice booklet of mini-lessons to help them prepare their teams.

The seminar at the Education Expo will be held between 4.15 and 5pm on August 14th, and will showcase previous Challenge activities. There will be a short introductory session, after which participants will have the opportunity to become part of one of five or six teams to tackle the Challenges.

A two book set of a previous Challenge for upper primary, Solve It – Mysteries For Inquiring Minds, will be available through Blake Education at the Expo.

For more information see [www.theeducationshow.com.au](http://www.theeducationshow.com.au)

## **ON NOW !**

### **OGTOC CONFERENCE**

<http://www.neiu.edu/~ourgift/index.html>

Lynne Kelly Aug 10-12, 2007

#### "Practical Curriculum Extension for Gifted Students"

Well designed extension material can offer qualitatively different learning experiences which address the unique abilities of gifted students. By being available through the school network or on local computers in every classroom, any time a student has demonstrated mastery of the class work, the teacher can offer them the enrichment material then and there. No student should ever be bored! By compacting the class work, students find they can tune in and out of what is happening in the classroom, thus maximizing their learning in the given time. A flexible compaction/extension model enables schools and home schools to implement a wide-ranging gifted program in a practical format.

Lynne Kelly has worked with gifted students for over 25 years specialising in curriculum development for mathematics, science and cross curricular themes. The author of 13 books and the Enrichment Units for the Middle Years (EUMY) suite, she has established online enrichment programs used in six countries.

<http://www.lynnkelly.com.au/>



## **WiseOnes**

### **Annual Conference Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October.**

Brandon Park Primary School

The topics are yet to be decided but the sessions will be run as if they were WiseOnes lessons; so teachers can get the feel of participation in a gifted class. It promises to be challenging in pace, complexity and dealing with abstract principles to cover aspects of Intellectual, Moral and Social issues.

Email the office [office23@tpg.com.au](mailto:office23@tpg.com.au)

For further details contact Pat Slattery

Suite 17, 245 Thomas Street Dandenong Vic 3175

Phone 03 9794 8258

Email [pat@wiseones.com.au](mailto:pat@wiseones.com.au)

<http://www.wiseones.com.au/>

## **V.A.G.T.C. CONFERENCE 2007**

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Telstra Dome

Docklands Melbourne

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[http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/htm/conf\\_intro.htm](http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/htm/conf_intro.htm)

<http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/pdf/07%20conf%20pdfs/VAGTC%20Conf%20Announcement.pdf>

## **SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES**

### **Teacher Tube**

<http://www.teachertube.com/>

### **Games for the Brain**

#### **Set**

<http://www.setgame.com/puzzle/set.htm>

#### **Cryptogramma**

<http://www.aliciaramirez.com/crypto/index.html>

#### **Guess the Google**

<http://grant.robinson.name/projects/guess-the-google/>

#### **Planarity**

<http://www.planarity.net/game.php>

### **Silbury School Canada**

<http://www.silbury.ca/>

### **VoyagersInc**

<http://www.voyagersinc.org/wiki/bin/view/Public/WebHome>

### **SMH article With a high IQ comes need for special education**

<http://tinyurl.com/yu2z8b>

## **RITCHIES IGA COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

Gifted Resources is participating in the Ritchies IGA Community Benefits scheme. To give Gifted Resources benefit every time you shop for groceries ask at any Ritchies IGA for a Community Benefits card and nominate **Gifted Resources Number 90417**

**DISCLAIMER**

Gifted Resources aims to provide information about events, services, products and websites which could be of interest. Inclusion in Gifted Resources Website, Information Pack or Newsletter does not necessarily imply any endorsement or guarantee of quality or suitability to meet your specific needs.

Kind regards, Jo Freitag

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