



## GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER JULY 2007 No 2

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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

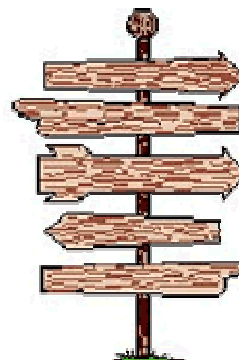
<http://www.giftedresources.org/web/newsletter.html>

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)



## 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)

### PDF NEWSLETTER ATTACHMENT

Thank you to all the people who sent me feedback about the pdf attachment format for the newsletter. Most people who responded said they prefer this format and found it easier to read.

### RSVP

Please note that I have added an RSVP date of 20 July 07 for The Cheetah Analogy event on Friday 27 July 07

I often find that people reply during the final two days before events. In this case, owing to the amount of organization and expense and the distance Dianne Gordon, the guest speaker, will have to travel, I need to know the numbers expected by the previous week. At least 15 enrolments are required to ensure that the event can proceed.

### 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)

More websites have been added and changes made to the Website Links - Home Education section

## GIFTED RESOURCES EVENTS

### VICTORIA UNIVERSITY - FOOTSCRAY SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR PARENTS OF ACADEMICALLY GIFTED CHILDREN

#### Wednesday 25 July 2007 7.15pm

The School of Psychology, in conjunction with Gifted Resources, invites you to an evening presentation and discussion forum on parenting academically gifted children. We will talk about our personal experiences and research on the challenges and joys of parenting gifted and the possible role of social support groups.

**Speakers: Jo Freitag – Coordinator, Gifted Resources  
Adrian Fisher, Associate Professor, School of Psychology**

When: 25 July 2007

Time: 7-15 until 8.30 pm

Where: Victoria University – Footscray Park Campus, Building E, Level 4, Room 405. Ballarat Road, Footscray

RSVP: 23 July 2007

Phone: 0425-779-829 (Sally-Ann Free for more information) or Terri Adorna on 9919-5052.

Fax: 9919-4324

Email: [sally-ann.free@research.vu.edu.au](mailto:sally-ann.free@research.vu.edu.au)

For full details and the Invitation see

<http://www.giftedresources.org/gr/files/vuininvite250707.doc>

### **THE CHEETAH ANALOGY**

**Friday 27 July 2007 7.30pm**

**R.S.V.P. needed for this event by Friday 20 July 2007**

Registration from 7.00pm

Centre for the Exceptional Learner, Luther College

Plymouth Rd. Croydon, Vic 3134

### **DIANNE GORDON**

**Education Officer Melbourne Zoo Discovery and Learning**

Dianne will speak about cheetahs, about the role of the zoos in cheetah conservation and about the Education programs and the Holiday programs that are offered by the 3 Victorian zoos.

One of her roles at Melbourne Zoo Discovery and Learning is to develop and coordinate the programs for gifted and high potential students and she will discuss how teachers can utilise these programs

### **JO FREITAG**

**Gifted Resources Co-ordinator**

will discuss the analogy of the cheetah to the gifted student and how the cheetah analogy can be extended to debunk various myths surrounding giftedness

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 of Gifted Resources website

### **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 4 July, 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

[jjgrant@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jjgrant@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

## **GEMM**

Gifted Extension Moulding Minds is a program for highly abled academic children and their families or children with a keen aptitude for learning

The day will consist of a choice of challenging workshops for students to participate in, free parent information sessions and an Expo including out of area enrichment programs, resources and opportunities.

**WHERE: BRAUER COLLEGE, CARAMUT ROAD, WARRNAMBOOL**

**WHEN: SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH 2007**

Contact GEMM for details of the workshops offered and an application form. Each student may do a morning and an afternoon workshop.

9.30am sharp Registration and welcome

9.45am Morning workshops commence promptly

12.15pm Lunch B.Y.O. or purchase from stall

\*also **Speed Chess Tournament**

1.15 pm Afternoon Workshops commence

3.45p.m. Finish

A Parent session will be in progress during the workshops. We anticipate that the EXPO will be open 12.00-1.30pm.

There will be class size limits and applications will be first come, first serve. Take into consideration that your child should be able to participate in the program independently. Parents are encouraged to attend the parent session on Gifted education, run by Jeff Keith our Active Minds Advisor.

## **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

## **GIFTED @ CENTRAL**

<http://www.araratcc.vic.edu.au/gifted@central/welcome.htm>

A foundation team of teachers, schools and supporting organization to improve options for gifted students in the Central Area of Victoria  
For details of proposed activities and contacts see the website.

## **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>

Call for Papers

<http://www.vagtc.asn.au/assets/pdf/07%20conf%20pdfs/2007%20Conference%20Call%20for%20Papers.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 Assoc. for Gifted and Talented Children Albury-Wodonga Support Group**

A recently formed group of parents who meet bi-monthly to share information related to the education of G & T children.

**For more information phone (02) 60591888**

## **PENRITH PARENTS of GIFTED CHILDREN GROUP**

**WiseOnes is helping to establish the Penrith Parents of Gifted Children Group in NSW. The first meeting will be a get-together at McDonalds in Penrith**

**Date: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June: Location: McDonalds. High Street Penrith from 3.30 to 4.30 pm. Toddlers welcome.**

## **THINKING AHEAD (W.A.)**

**One Day Gifted Conference 20 August 2007**

**The Making a Difference: Gifted Children in the Classroom  
one day gifted conference**

See <http://www.thinkingahead.com.au>

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/](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](http://www.home-ed.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2007/04/victorianlegalinformation.pdf) giving details of the  
Education Act and associated regulations.

## **VICTORIA UNIVERSITY PROJECT**

Ongoing project exploring the psychosocial supports needs of parents of  
gifted children. Victoria University have conducted a variety of  
interviews and focus groups in western Melbourne in the past and have  
presented at a number of conferences – both in gifted areas and in  
psychology.

After Adrian Fisher presented at Gifted2006 in Fremantle he  
was approached by a number of parents who were also teachers. They said  
that the findings resonated with them, but were often magnified by  
their dual and at times conflicting roles.

They are taking this line of research further, with masters student John  
Mitchell taking the lead. Therefore, they are asking teachers who are  
also parents of gifted children if they would be  
willing to participate in this research.

So, if there are any members in this category,  
they would appreciate hearing from them. Please,  
in the first instance, contact john at:  
[john.mitchell5@students.vu.edu.au](mailto:john.mitchell5@students.vu.edu.au), or by phone  
on (03) 9687 6686 or 0415 722 293.

This research has received Ethics Approval  
through Victoria University.

Adrian Fisher PhD  
Associate Professor  
School of Psychology



Victoria University -- Footscray Park  
PO Box 14428  
Melbourne VIC 8001  
Australia  
PH: +613-9919-5221  
Fax: +613-9919-4324  
[www.staff.vu.edu.au/commpsyh](http://www.staff.vu.edu.au/commpsyh)

### **SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE WESTERN SUBURBS**

A Letter from Tina McCarthy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Some time ago I placed an advertisement in the Gifted Resources Newsletter requesting interested people for a new Western suburbs gifted kids and/or visual spatial group.

After much deliberation the group never commenced - too many interested people, not enough resources, my own return to study etc etc! It all grew very large very quickly. Apologies!

However, I have recently been contacted by some staff and students at Victoria University who are very keen to get things going for us. With their assistance, our 'support' group may in fact eventuate...this would be great news for our kids!

If you would like to find out more or join the group, then please contact me via email

[tina@tinamccarthydesign.com](mailto:tina@tinamccarthydesign.com)

### **DOCTORATE RESEARCH PROJECT**

Julie King is completing her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology through the University of Ballarat and is at the data collection stage of her research examining 'The experience of intellectual giftedness as asynchrony'. She is looking for gifted (IQ tested at 130+) young people between 10 and 13 years to attend with a parent for an individual interview ( one for parent one for child). Interviews take approx.30minutes each and the parent is also asked to complete a Child Behaviour Checklist and demographic form.The purpose of the project is to learn more about how gifted young people feel and relate to others. This project also aims to see how parents see their child's experience of giftedness.The interviews are being conducted on St. Kilda road in St. Kilda. If you would like more information or plain language statements, she would be happy to forward them on to you.

Julie can be contacted on 0414 432 623 or at [juliek@mhaustralia.com](mailto:juliek@mhaustralia.com).

Regards, Julie King

### **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)

## **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)

### **NEXT 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/>

Indepth Bio: <http://www.neiu.edu/~ourgift/pages/GuestBio.htm>

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

### **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 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

### 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>

## SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES

Dr. Linda Silverman, awarded DAG&T Special Advocate 2007 distinction

<http://www.knowledgemessenger.com/b/KMTasks/View.aspx?app=DAGT&id=11>

Exciting news of awards and stage adaptations of books by Stephanie Tolan

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

Stephanie Tolan Change your story , change your life

[http://www.stephanietolan.com/change\\_your\\_story.htm](http://www.stephanietolan.com/change_your_story.htm)

Multiplication

<http://www.multiplication.com/index.htm>

Marble based calculator

<http://www.break.com:80/index/marble-based-calculator.html>

Interactive gear template generator

[http://woodgears.ca/gear\\_cutting/template.html](http://woodgears.ca/gear_cutting/template.html)

Feral Cheryl

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

## 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

Gifted Resources

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