



**GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER  
JULY 2010 NO 1**

## *Gifted Resources News*

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**PO BOX 4176  
CROYDON HILLS  
VIC 3136**

### **WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

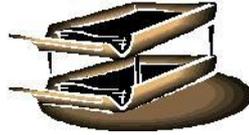
Luther College has a wonderful new Middle School building which comes into operation this term. You can see a flyover visualization of the building on the school's website at <http://www.luther.vic.edu.au/>

As part of the reshuffle there has been some renaming. Gifted Resources office is still located in the building which was previously known as the Centre for the Exceptional Learner and has now been renamed the Enhanced Learning Centre.

Visitors to Gifted Resources office should go first to Reception to get a Visitor's Pass.



## WHAT'S IN THE IN TRAY?



These items have been received recently and can be found in the In Tray which is located on the Home page of Gifted Resources Website [www.giftedresources.org](http://www.giftedresources.org) The links in the newsletter are not live – please go to the In Tray to access them If you would like information included in the newsletter and/or the In Tray please send to [contributions@giftedresources.org](mailto:contributions@giftedresources.org)

**SALLY-ANNE McCORMACK Stomp out the ANTs PD Friday July 16th 2010 [WEBSITE](#)**

**SALLY-ANNE McCORMACK Stomp Out the ANTs programs. The next block will begin the week of July 26th. [WEBSITE](#)**

**DA VINCI DECATHLON Vic State Final – Wed 21 July 2010**

**11th ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE GIFTED 2010 SYDNEY 29 July - 1 August 2010 [WEBSITE](#)**

**CHIP GEELONG Robotics workshop 31 July 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**CHIP GEELONG PARENTS GROUP A G M Guest speaker Jo Freitag Wednesday 4 August 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**VAGTC AGM and Twilight Seminar Bronwyn Gowty Questioning in the Primary Classroom 10 August 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK Term 3 Seminar Dr John Munro 18 August 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**ASIA WISE COMPETITION DATES Between 9- 20 August 2010 [WEBSITE](#)**

**GIFTED RESOURCES Guest Speaker Alison Brown 26 August 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**CHIP GEELONG Chess workshop 29 August 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**GIFTED RESOURCES Guest Speaker Emma Donaldson 3 September 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**GERRIC PARENT WORKSHOP SYDNEY 4-5 September 2010 [WEBSITE](#)**

**DA VINCI DECATHLON Nationals – 27-29 September 2010**

**AUSTRALIAN GIFTED SUPPORT CENTRE Harry P and the Professors Hogwarts in Melbourne  
Gifted Camp 15-17 October 2010 [FLYER](#)**

**11<sup>th</sup> International Conference of The Mathematics Education into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Project  
Turning Dreams into Reality: Transformations and Paradigm Shifts in Mathematics Education  
Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa September 10– 16, 2011 Preliminary  
Announcement and Call for Papers [FLYER](#)**



**GUEST SPEAKER  
ALISON BROWN  
'P' IS FOR PERFECT!**

**Helping gifted children cope with perfectionism and anxiety**

**Thursday 26 August 2010**

**7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

**Centre for the Exceptional Learner**

**Luther College Plymouth Rd Croydon Vic 3136**

**Cost: \$20.00**

A very common trait seen in many gifted children is that of perfectionism. This trait is seen in both the “paralysed perfectionists” – those children too afraid to try something for fear of failing, or not being absolutely perfect; but also seen in the “exhausted perfectionists” – those children who try so hard and labour over things repeatedly to make them just right. Whilst it is great to set high standards, perfectionism can lead to anxiety, frustration and low self-esteem. Bright children often apply these high expectations to other areas of their life as well, taking the weight of the world upon their shoulders, and feeling unable to do anything about it. These high expectations and feelings of anxiety often result in the sad situation where we have very capable and competent young students feeling angry, frustrated and inadequate. This seminar looks at issues relating to perfectionism and anxiety in bright children and ways in which we can help them understand and manage the issues with which they struggle.

**Alison Brown** is a registered psychologist, an experienced teacher, and a parent. She has been a committee member and Vice President of the Victorian Association for Gifted and Talented Children over six years, has presented at a number of state, national and international conferences in the areas of technology, gifted education, and psychology, and has provided extensive consultation and training programs to schools in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Switzerland and Germany.

Alison brings experience from both an educational and psychological background. Having taught for seven years at Methodist Ladies' College, Melbourne, and worked as a school psychologist at Kincoppal-Rose Bay, Sydney, she has first-hand experience in recognising and catering for the social, emotional, and academic needs of students. Alison runs a private practice in Melbourne, working with schools, individuals and families, with a particular focus on parenting, counselling and highly able children. Alison is currently undertaking a PhD through La Trobe University looking at the use of narrative therapy in counselling with children.

**BOOKING BY 24 AUGUST 2010 ESSENTIAL**

**CONTACT GIFTED RESOURCES**

**Phone (03) 97242452**

**Email [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org)**



## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

**EMMA DONALDSON & NIGEL VERNON**

**ENGAGING PROJECTS? YES PLIESE!**

Friday 3 September 2010

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

**Centre for the Exceptional Learner  
Luther College Plymouth Rd Croydon Vic 3136**

**Cost: \$20.00**

The first of its kind, PLIESE is a teaching and learning tool that cleverly bridges school-based learning with real life opportunities. Designed specifically for children in special education (in particular children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and students in Gifted and Talented programmes), PLIESE is an educational tool that will empower and inspire ALL students having trouble in particular areas of the school curriculum.

An integrated, project-based programme, PLIESE offers consultancy, training and on-going support for students, schools and families. With PLIESE's liberated and supportive way of learning, students become more motivated, engaged and empowered in all aspects of their studies.

Developed by special needs educators, Nigel Vernon and Emma Donaldson, PLIESE encompasses a total learning approach. Experts in special education, gifted and talented children and children with learning difficulties, Nigel and Emma created PLIESE because they saw a lack of integrated learning programmes that recognised an individual's strengths, interests, wants and needs.

PLIESE is primarily designed for primary and secondary students in grades 1 to 12 who have been identified as having learning and engagement problems with particular areas of the school curriculum. Originally designed as a learning tool for students diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and gifted students, PLIESE has also been found to be enormously effective with teenage boys, ADHD sufferers, children with emotional problems and disruptive students. But, as schools and teachers can attest, PLIESE can be used for all students!

**BOOKING BY 1 SEPTEMBER 2010 ESSENTIAL**

**CONTACT GIFTED RESOURCES**

**Phone (03) 97242452**

**Email [jo@giftedresources.org](mailto:jo@giftedresources.org)**

# PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

## 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" - activities for preschoolers
- \* "Primary Minds" - 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 [admin@giftedsupport.org](mailto:admin@giftedsupport.org)

**For the full program of Gifted Support Network activities see the excellent calendar of events at <http://www.giftedsupport.org>**

## 'THE BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB'

**The Big Bang Coffee Club meets on the first Monday of the month at 9.30am (School and Public Holidays excepted) at:**

### The Coffee Club

Shop 49-50

Moonee Ponds Central

14-16 Hall Street

Moonee Ponds

3 hours of free undercover parking is available in the Moonee Ponds Central car park

Contacts:

Sally-Ann Free

[sallyann.free@live.vu.edu.au](mailto:sallyann.free@live.vu.edu.au)

Mobile 0425 779 829

Tina McCarthy

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

## BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB

### Mini/Primary Minds group

For details contact

Melissa Conley Tyler

[m.conleytyler@gmail.com](mailto:m.conleytyler@gmail.com)

mobile 0409 765 787

## MAROONDAH GIFTED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOC.

Morning Coffee at MacDonald's, Maroondah Hwy. Croydon Vic. at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of the month

Postal address:

c/- 13 Heathwood St

Ringwood East Vic 3135

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)

## CHIP GEELONG

CHIP Family Support Group Geelong

Contact

Meg Kinsley email [Kingsleys@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Kingsleys@optusnet.com.au)



## GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK

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

Presents

Associate Professor John Munro

*B.Sc, Dip Ed, B Ed, BA (Hons), MA, PhD*

### **“Assisting Gifted Underachievers”**

Wednesday 18 August 2010, 7.45 - 9.30pm

Professor Munro is Head of Studies in Exceptional Learning and Gifted Education at University of Melbourne.

Many gifted children have difficulty learning in areas such as spelling, writing and learning times tables. Not only do they underachieve in terms of their giftedness, but sometimes they show learning disabilities such as dyslexia. Both schools and parents find this perplexing. The children themselves find school distressing and do not achieve their gifted potential.

This seminar will discuss reasons for this. It will also examine steps parents can take to support their children to optimize their learning potential, both academically and psychologically. It will also examine why many gifted students experience learning difficulties, particularly in academic learning.

*No prior knowledge expected*

*School personnel and parents are encouraged to attend.*

**Venue: Southern Community Church of Christ,  
Corner Chesterville Rd & Pine St, Cheltenham (Mel ref 86 J1)**

**Cost: \$5 members, \$10 non-members,**

**Bookings essential (payment on the night)**

**RSVP by email [admin@giftedsupport.org](mailto:admin@giftedsupport.org)**

**or phone Louise 9578 8068 (after 6pm)**

*Gifted Support Network Inc provides seminars for the gifted community  
and recognises the diversity of perspectives amongst our speakers.*

### **Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire, Phillip Island, Wonthaggi area**

Megan Leigh would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire. Phillip Island, Wonthaggi area who would be interested in getting together for a network

Contact Megan Leigh

PO Box 906

Cowes, 3922

Phone (03) 5672 3336

Mobile 0411 469 759

email [indigo2crystal@yahoo.com.au](mailto:indigo2crystal@yahoo.com.au)

### **Casterton and district area**

Catriona Hill would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Casterton and District area

Contact : Catriona Hill

Phone (03)55812529

Mobile 0419008734

Email: [antrim@netspace.net.au](mailto:antrim@netspace.net.au)

Web: <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/tallpoppysyndrome/>

## GIFTED RESOURCE AND INFORMATION GROUP - CASEY/CARDINIA

For families with gifted children in Casey/Cardinia  
Meets at Maranatha Christian School Rix Rd, Officer.

Contact

Victoria Poulos

Phone 0420 286 307

Email [victoriapoulos@gmail.com](mailto:victoriapoulos@gmail.com)

Email [victoriapoulos@gmail.com](mailto:victoriapoulos@gmail.com)

## VICTORIA / NEW SOUTH WALES

### [NSW ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED & TALENTED CHILDREN ALBURY/WODONGA SUPPORT GROUP](#)

Meets bi-monthly in Wodonga, Victoria, and welcomes parents & teachers of gifted children

For information contact

Secretary, Cathy Baillie (02) 6021 5913

Phone: 02 60215913

Assistant Secretary, Jeannie Bowen (02) 6021 2073

website link <http://www.nswagtc.org.au/albury-wodonga>

## 11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness

<http://www.gifted2010.com.au/>

The theme for the conference in Sydney in 2010 is

*"Thinking Smart: Effective partnerships for talent development"*.

The conference will feature the **Think Bank Workshop, Think Bank Program** and **Youth Summit**. This event provides the opportunity for educators, professionals, students and parents to gather for meaningful discussion, exchange ideas and opinions and learning through plenary sessions and workshops

The program outline can be downloaded at

[http://www.gifted2010.com.au/wpcontent/uploads/gifted\\_2010\\_program\\_outline12.pdf](http://www.gifted2010.com.au/wpcontent/uploads/gifted_2010_program_outline12.pdf)

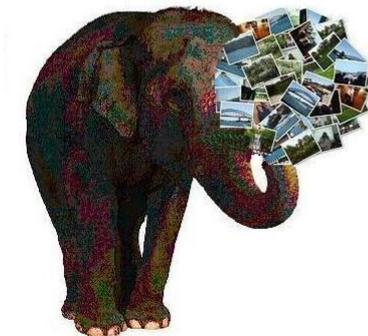
WSM for GIFTED 2010

11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness

Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted & Talented

Tel: 03 9645 6311

Email: [helen@wsm.com.au](mailto:helen@wsm.com.au)



## **A call for reflection - a few minutes at lunchtime**

### **29 July 2010**

Who do you know who would benefit from more understanding?

I believe that from birth to death everyone has the opportunity to experience the wonders of ability, as well as the frustrations of inability. We all experience the wondrous diversity of the human mind. For some, the extreme zones of ability and inability are infrequent or short visits. Others are trapped in, or find themselves leapfrogging between, the extremes.

People at either extreme of the ability / inability spectrum are generally recognized as having 'special needs'. Most commonly, special needs people are associated with having visible disabilities. Yet, the majority of people who have abilities also have disabilities, often hidden from sight. All too often, we fail to see the weaknesses in those with abilities, just as we fail to recognize the strengths of those with disabilities. These difficulties are not always medical or biological. They can also be systemic, situational, sociological or political.

Each person is an individual, with a unique degree of 'ability' and 'inability'. Stereotyping often restricts people to one end of the spectrum. Sadly, this denies recognition of their other abilities and or disabilities.

As a community, how we face these 'special needs' helps to shape our culture and attitudes to life long learning. As individuals with special needs, how we feel and how others treat us affects our character, general wellbeing, stress levels and how we cope with life.

Let's make lunchtime today a time of inclusion, not exclusion. Let's think about recognising and supporting all people, regardless of their abilities or disabilities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. If you are either in this position, or know of a friend, relative, partner, work colleague, and you would like to take some action on their behalf, then please:

1. Reflect on these problems and solutions at lunchtime on 29 July 2010.
2. Send this request to as many people as you know.
3. Send a message of hope to these people, so they know they are not alone.

### **Tony's Story**

I have Aspersers, Dyslexia, and ADHD. At high school my concentration span was that of about 3 minutes, and I ended up going for a short time to a special needs school in Sydney. Over time, I finally completed the Higher School Certificate after 3 attempts, Went through many different jobs, unsuccessfully went to teachers college, and I am now a commonwealth public servant.

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Anthony Nolan, OAM JP, and I scored a perfect score in an IQ test. I am the current treasurer of the NSW Gifted and Talented Childrens' Association and the gifted childrens' coordinator for MENSA Australia, the high IQ society. I also run an online support group for gifted adults, mentor children in regional areas via webcam, run a support group for visual spatial thinkers and contribute to gifted publications.

I have also worked for the Challenge Foundation, Volunteered with the Hand in Hand Project, and have worked on projects and mentored special needs persons, on both ends of the ability scale.

I was recently mentioned by Anthony Roberts MP of the Legislative Assembly, New South Wales Parliament in a Private Members Statement, on 22 June 2010. My ongoing work was acknowledged for my role with the NSWAGTC.

<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Prod/parlment/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LA20100622004>

I am very proactive about the recognition and provision of resources for special needs.

On 29 July 2010, I am giving a talk at the [11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness](#). My paper is about suggestions regarding school policy for special needs children, at either end of the ability spectrum.

I decided that to coincide with this presentation, I would run a Call for Reflection campaign. I believe that there is not enough understanding of the difficulties of special needs people. I believe that there is too much stereotyping, and that this needs to be raised in the public eye.

Email Tony at: <mailto:Tony@g3n1u5.com>

Facebook Event: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/event.php?eid=109599895757172>

If you would like to have a message of support posted, or would like to read the letter, get a copy of the poster, or lend a hand in other ways, then please contact me on [tony@g3n1u5.com](mailto:tony@g3n1u5.com)

## MONASH SCIENCE CENTRE

August is an exciting time at the Monash Science Centre

Sunday 8th August. Dinosaurs aren't Dead! Dr. Karl Kruszelnicki will talk about the shocking story of dinosaur evolution, and sign copies of his new book.

<http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/drkarl.html>

Sunday 15th August. Celebrate National Science Week. Join us for a podcast interview and lunch with the palaeontologists.

<http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/natsciwk.html>

Cafe Get Smart - Thursday 19th August - Professor Paul Cally will talk on "Our Fierce Sun"

<http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/cafeqs.html>

Bookings are essential. Come along and be part of the action!

### #GTCHAT AND #GTSTOOGIES

The Twitter #gtchat sessions have proved to be a valuable arena for collaboration in discussions about issues relating to giftedness and gifted education. They have also provided a wealth of information and links.

The topics for the two sessions are chosen during the preceding week by a poll of a selection of topics.

To find out about #gtchat sessions and how to join see Deborah Mersino's Ingeniosus website

<http://www.ingeniosus.net/gtchat>

Transcripts of past #gtchat sessions can be read at <http://www.ingeniosus.net/gtchat-transcripts>

Two of the recent chat sessions which were particularly inspiring and provided a rich collection of resources were

Math Mania: Finding the Best Sites/Resources/Tools- <http://bit.ly/bRw4y7> {Scroll to 10:20pm/GMT for start of links}

And

Role Models: Delving into the Best Biographies for Gifted Students- <http://bit.ly/9q9tos> {Scroll to 11pm/GMT for start}

The #gtstoogies gather in the lobby each week before and after #gtchat sessions for general chatter. During the week the chat at #gtstoogies continues and we have fun planning the theme for the next virtual feast and other activities. Read more about #gtstoogies themes on Sprite's Site blog <http://www.giftedresources.org/jo/blog/?p=642>

### New look for NSWAGTC website

See

[http://nswagtc.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_contact&view=contact&catid=12&id=1](http://nswagtc.org.au/index.php?option=com_contact&view=contact&catid=12&id=1)

### NSWAGTC July10 eNewsletter

You can read all about the latest NSWAGTC news and events in our [July 2010 eNewsletter](#)

[http://nswagtc.org.au/files/newsletters/NSWAGTC Compressed e-Newsletter July 2010.pdf](http://nswagtc.org.au/files/newsletters/NSWAGTC%20Compressed%20e-Newsletter%20July%202010.pdf)

# FROM GERRIC

## GERRIC MOVING

Dear GERRIC friends and family,

From 19th July, GERRIC and the School of Education will be located on Level 1 of the John Goodsell Building. As you can imagine, in preparation for this move GERRIC staff will be extremely busy and unable to attend to enquiries on the 15th and 16th of July. Should you need assistance from staff members, we ask that you email rather than phone and we will endeavor to reply to your email as soon as we can.

Kind Regards,

### GERRIC TEAM

Gifted Education Research, Resource and Information Centre

The University of New South Wales

UNSW SYDNEY NSW 2052

PH: (02) 9385 1972

FAX: (02) 9385 1973

WWW: <http://gerric.arts.unsw.edu.au>

### **PARENTS:**

GERRIC will once again be hosting its weekend courses for parents of gifted children in 2010.

**Date:** Sydney 4-5 September

**REGISTER** and further details: [http://gerric.arts.unsw.edu.au/prnt\\_yrch.html](http://gerric.arts.unsw.edu.au/prnt_yrch.html)

## **Survey on Thinking Styles and Job Satisfaction**

My name is Jennifer Otto and I am a PhD candidate in Education and Developmental Psychology at Monash University.

I am inviting people aged 18 -75 who are fluent in English to participate in the first of a series of surveys on Thinking style and Job satisfaction. I am investigating the role of Intuition and Analysis (thinking styles) as key aspects of a good fit between people and their jobs resulting in satisfaction. This survey includes volunteers as well as paid employment.

Further information is available on the first page of the survey. The survey is anonymous and will take about 30-45 minutes to complete. Please pass this survey link

<https://s-n7bul-322054.sgizmo.com>

to family members and friends who may be interested in participating and ask them to forward the link to /their/ family members and friends.

Thanking you kindly.

Jennifer Otto

PhD Candidate

Institute of Human Development and Counselling

Monash University

Australia

## MENSA GIFTED STUDENTS GRANTS

A reminder that applications for this year's Australian Mensa Gifted students grants - including the Bull bequest are due by September the 30th. The application forms and details can be found here.

<http://mensa.org.au/?q=about/children/grants>

I'll be pleased to answer any questions by e mail or  
phone 0266847829.  
Cliff Schwarz  
Australia Mensa Gifted Students Fund Administrator

## FROM JENNIFER DEES PG RETREAT

Hi all pardon the cross-post if you've seen my note elsewhere... I'm trying to reach all who might be interested.

We just returned from PG Retreat in Colorado, and it was a fantastic experience. PG Retreat is an annual gathering for families with profoundly gifted children. It is held at Glen Eyrie, a beautiful conference center nestled in evergreens and surrounded by huge, picturesque red rocks, outside Colorado Springs. However, people come from all over the country to experience this unique gathering. We flew in from San Francisco, for example, and others came from the East Coast. This was my second PG Retreat, and because it is so important to our family, at the end, I volunteered to help with outreach to the PG community, to add a few more families for next year's retreat.

I've set up a Facebook page where we can share information about PG Retreat with those who might be interested in attending next year, or in the future. This is a public page, and anyone can receive notifications from our group in the Facebook newsfeed just by clicking "Like" on the page:

<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/PG-Retreat-Outreach/124552554254025>>

This page will initially have items about what it was like at this year's PG Retreat, but as we move into the fall, we'll have information about signing up to attend next year's retreat. The deadline for a \$100 discount comes in October, and those who sign up early get the best choice of rooms in the different lodges (and even in the Castle, which is the heart of the conference center!).

PG Retreat is for both those who homeschool and those who have kids in school. Many if not most of the teens are taking early college classes. It is a very accepting and inclusive community, with the common experience of the challenges and joys of having profoundly gifted children being the tie that binds us together.

PG Retreat is also an all-volunteer organization. Although it was started years ago by the Gifted Development Center, several years ago they withdrew their involvement, and at that time, a group of parents took over organizing it because they felt it was so essential for their families. It's now officially a non-profit organization based in Colorado, but in reality it is parent-driven, organized, and run.

That means those who get involved feel it \*belongs\* to them and they value the family experience and connections with other families as the most important aspect of the retreat.

The kids who attend PG Retreat come back year after year to see the friends who are different from the friends in their everyday lives.

They form surprisingly deep connections, and the older ones communicate online via email and chat groups throughout the year. My daughter is 13 and her PGR friends are very important to her! The same is true for parents, who want to come back to see their friends as much as the kids do!

If you'd like to learn more about PG Retreat, please "like" our Facebook outreach page above, and we'll keep you informed through the months ahead about discount deadlines, speakers who have been signed up for next year's retreat, and other important information, and link you to updates at our Web site,

<<http://pgretreat.com>>.

If you think you might be interested in attending PG Retreat, the way to get started is through submitting an application here: <http://pgretreat.com/application.html>

Hope to see you on Facebook, and even better, at next year's PG Retreat!

Jennifer Dees

## FROM ALISON BROWN

Dear Psychologists, counsellors and special ed staff,

We are pleased to provide details of a new program running through "Kids in Kooyong" - a social skills program designed specifically for gifted and highly able students.

Rather than focusing on social skills alone, this program offers weekly challenges / enrichment activity for the students, allowing bright children the opportunity to enjoy mixing and working with like-minded peers, in an environment in which they are academically challenged, whilst specific social skills are targeted, modelled and reinforced in the background. Each session, students work together to solve design challenges, hypotheticals and problem solving tasks, with facilitators coaching and reinforcing appropriate social, negotiation and co-operation skills.

The first of these programs begins in May, with enrolments open immediately.

Please feel free to pass on this information to clients, families and students whom you feel may be interested in, or may benefit from such a program.

I am more than happy to discuss aspects of the program with you by phone if you have any further queries.

with thanks and kind regards,

*Alison Brown*  
*Psychologist*  
*"Kids in Kooyong"*  
*Level 1, 479 Glenferrie Road*  
*Kooyong, 3144*  
*Phone: (03) 9822 0010*  
*Mob: 0408 177982*  
[www.psychologyandchildren.com.au](http://www.psychologyandchildren.com.au)

Alison Brown  
Psychologist  
"Kids in Kooyong"  
Level 1, 479 Glenferrie Road  
Kooyong, 3144  
Phone: (03) 9822 0010  
Mob: 0408 177982  
[www.psychologyandchildren.com.au](http://www.psychologyandchildren.com.au)

## SPEAK WITH POWER DEBATING

Debating allows students to examine every side of important and controversial issues in an atmosphere of reasoned argument and respectful discourse.

Benefits for students participating in debating are seen in rigorous and critical thinking, academic skills, gain in mental and emotional maturity and in academic and occupational achievement

Turn your students into confident, happy, powerful speakers

SPEAK WITH POWER offers: Debating, Public Speaking, VCE Oral, Leadership and ESL courses custom made for your school

Director, Ron Thomas, has 20 years experience, has twice coached Government school teams to the DAV Grand final, is a qualified teacher and has a great rapport with students. Ron and all staff are high level Toastmasters International graduates.

Contact Ron Thomas on mobile 0434582362

Email [speakwithpower@internode.on.net](mailto:speakwithpower@internode.on.net)

More new look or updated websites

CHIP

<http://www.chipfoundation.butterflyinternet.com.au/>

Soundsuccess

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

## **SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES**

Davidson Institute Tips for parents Executive functioning at home and school

[http://www.davidsongifted.org/db/Articles\\_id\\_10523.aspx](http://www.davidsongifted.org/db/Articles_id_10523.aspx)

Shelfari

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

The Virtual staffroom

<http://virtualstaffroom.net/>

Sydney Morning Herald : Repeating school has no benefit : study

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/National/Repeating-school-has-no-benefit-study/2006/08/30/1156816936042.html>

Mark Le Mesurier Repeating a school year : a difficult decision

<http://marklemesurier.com.au/main/articles/repeating.shtml>

Retention for a gifted LD/ADD child?

<http://school.familyeducation.com/learning-disabilities/gifted-education/42632.html>

Wrightslaw Retention Delays and Social promotion

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/retain.index.htm>

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<http://brainworks.info/bwsystem/YourChild.aspx>

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<http://www.ntcamp.org/>

Teaching Tips Index

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Project peace

<http://projectpeace.ning.com/>

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<http://www.grcne.com/divergent-thinker.html>

What Ed Said

<http://whatedsaid.wordpress.com/>

Celia's reflections blog

<http://ccoffa.edublogs.org/>

NTeQ Lesson planner

<http://www.nteq.com/LessonPlanner/view.php>

Book trailers - Movies for literacy

<http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/mgeary/booktrailers/>

Nrich specialists in rich mathematics

<http://nrich.maths.org/2336>

Catching up on lost sleep a dangerous illusion

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-01-14-Sleep14\\_ST\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-01-14-Sleep14_ST_N.htm)

A window of time – Eco friendly perpetual calendar

<http://www.awindowoftime.net/>

PDF to Word

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

Visualizing the Bible

<http://chrisharrison.net/projects/bibleviz/index.html>

Eaton Educational Insights blog

<http://eatoneducationalinsights.edublogs.org/>

Gifted Parenting Support Blogspot

<http://giftedparentingsupport.blogspot.com/>

International Dabrowski Conference

<http://dabrowski9.weebly.com/index.html>

Save the words

<http://savethewords.org/>

The Letter Jar blogspot

<http://theletterjarblog.blogspot.com/>

Teach a Gifted Kid

<http://teachagiftedkid.com/>

XP math

<http://www.xpmath.com/index.php>

Student Spaceflights Experiments Program

<http://ssep.ncesse.org/>

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<http://reformsymposium.com/>

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[http://www.teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video\\_id=126234&title=I\\_am\\_Gifted](http://www.teachertube.com/viewVideo.php?video_id=126234&title=I_am_Gifted)

Periodic table of elements

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

Sleep, ADHD, and Learning Disabilities: How Do We Get A Good Sleep?

<http://www.reading2008.com/blog/sleep-adhd-and-learning-disabilities-how-do-we-get-to-sleep.htm>

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