Parenting Your Child Through the School Years

Supporting Parents in Supporting Their Gifted Child

Me

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- Contact through QAGTC
- Based on research and tempered by experience

Outline

- Pre-School years
- School years
- Home support
- Outside support

Before school

- You may be unaware of manifestation of giftedness – your normal
- Do you halt learning?
- Interview the school before signing up
- Age delineations in library/play areas
- Consider early entry

Infants

- Establish good rapport with teacher as an ally rather than opponent
- Offer to assist
- anywhere and anyhow
- obtaining resources
- providing alternate learning material
- Good time to accelerate
- or composite class perhaps

Primary

- Time to make it work
- Consider partial acceleration
- Consider early entry to high school
- Consider accelerating from Year 6 to Year 8

Secondary

- Make it work
- Choose an appropriate programme
    - Language immersion
    - Curriculum compacting* e.g.Maths
        - fewer introductory lessons and less repetition
    - Telescoped programming* e.g. 3 years of schooling in 2 years
        - leads to advanced placement
    - International Baccalaureate
    - Advanced placement of university subjects

* pre-testing required

Ref: https://www.davidsongifted.org/gifted-blog/types-of-acceleration/

Australian Context

https://www.unsw.edu.au/content/dam/pdfs/ada/education/resources/2023-08-ada-education-resources/2023-08-academic-acceleration.pdf

https://www.aaegt.net.au/acceleration_educators

Situation in QLD is grimmest: https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p_10/p-10_sd_gifted_talented_resource_list.pdf

Home support

- Home as their sanctuary
- Acknowledging their difference
- Celebrating their new learning
- Provide stimulus
- Develop the whole child

Absolution

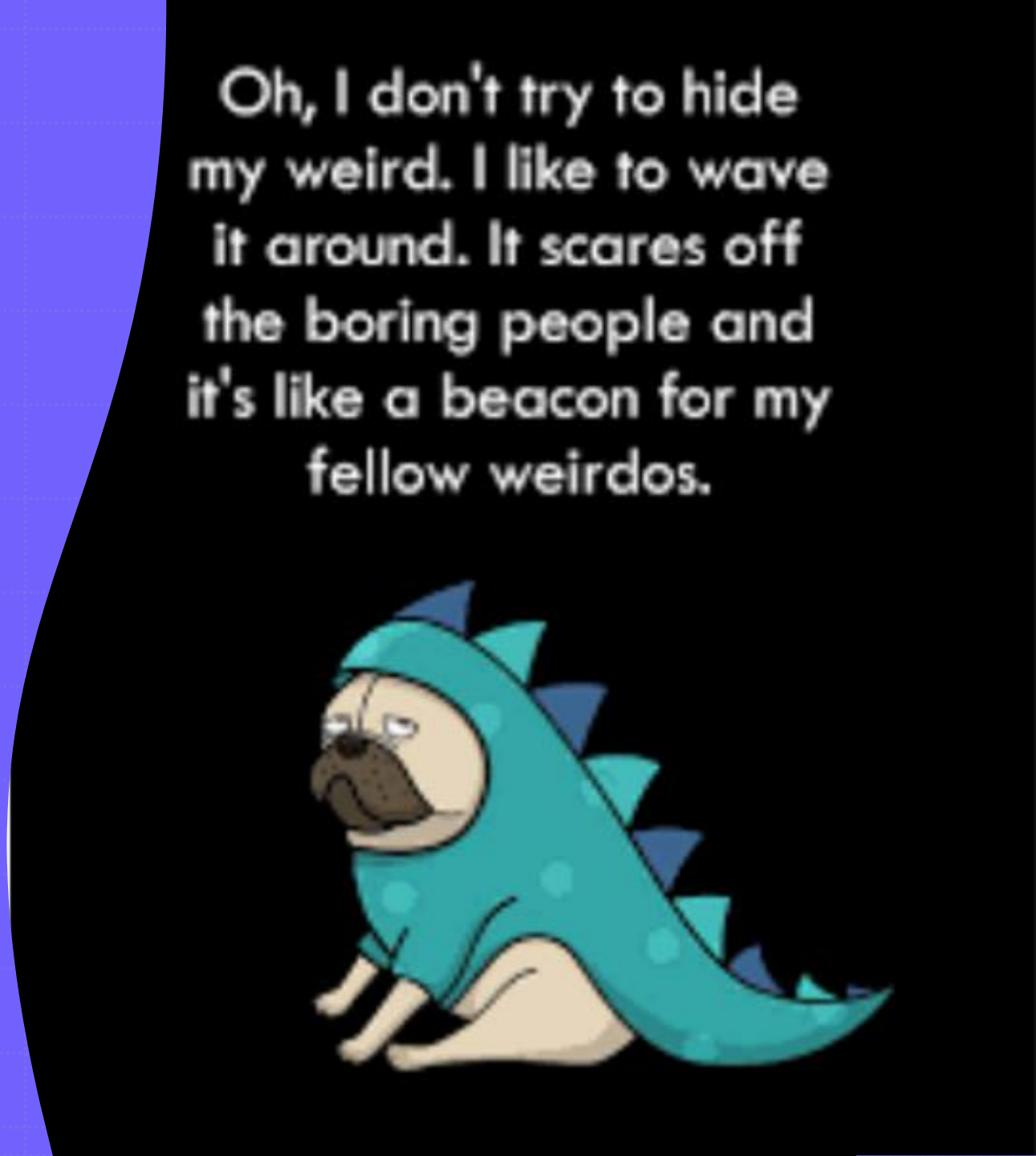
- In Australia, participation in sport forgives a lot of sins

Making it work

- Realise what schools teach students
  - Not just academics
  - What do *you* want from a school?
- Advocate for your child
  - Take a support person
  - Have independent evidence
- Investigate other options
  - Home schooling
  - Distance education

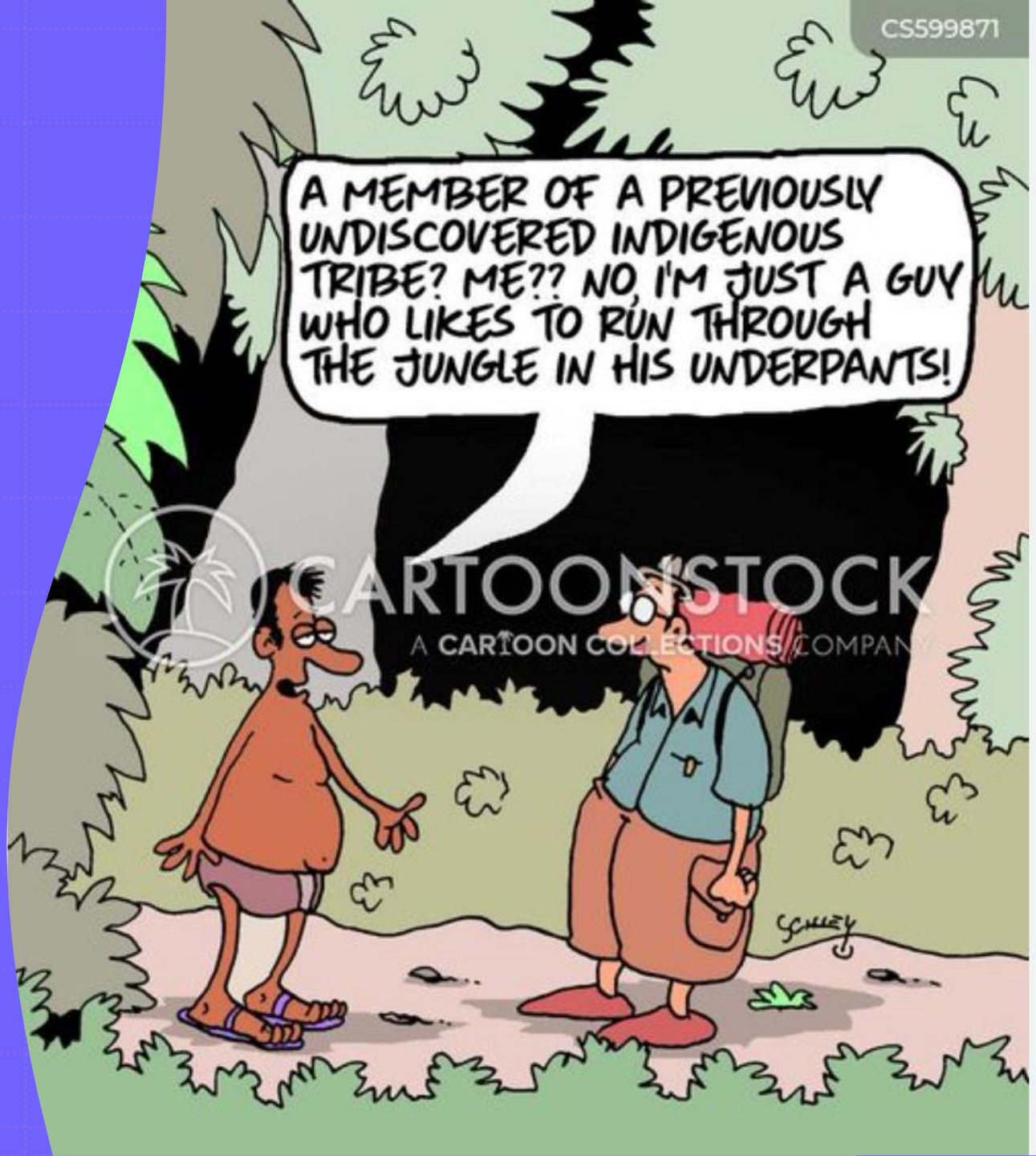
What to aim for

- A comfortable place



What to aim for

- A comfortable place
- A tribe to belong to



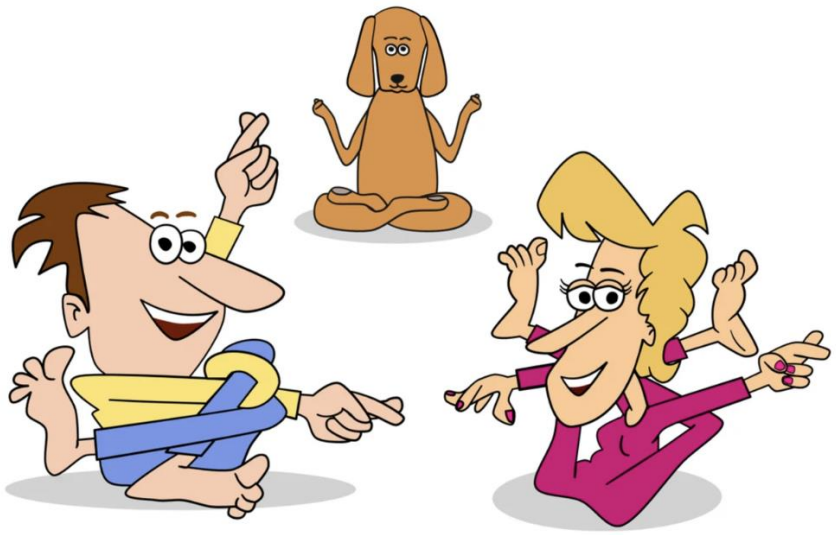
What to aim for

- A comfortable place
- A tribe to belong to
- Adaptability
- Resilience
- Freedom to learn

Outside support

- It can be a very lonely road for parents too
- Find *your* tribe too – join QAGTC!
- Trust your gut
- psychometric (or other psychological assessments) can confirm your suspicions and strengthen your resolve to advocate for your child

We've got everything crossed for you



Good Luck!