



Panda Class Newsletter

January, 2015

Dear Parents,

I wish you all a very happy new year and great success to the Panda class. As I see a new year in with the Pandas it almost feels as if we are old friends now, since I know them so well. I am quite proud of them also, as I have seen many become quite seasoned readers and thinkers, with their enthusiasm growing as the more competitive class becomes. Of course, competition does not constitute the whole ethos of our class, since these are children and so we have fun also, shown in the songs we learn and the stories I often read to them, as well as the jokes we share in class.

January will see us continue with the weekly introduction of words that will be repeated until ingrained in the children's minds; most of all this is achieved through our reading session, and with such books as *When I Get Bigger, I Just Forget*, and *Me Too*, there will be a wealth of English to learn. This also can be quite subjective, as opposed to the more objective core material books, because when we read the books I often question the students about their own lives: this was shown, for example, in December as we read *What a Bad Dream*, when I questioned students on the dreams they have had and differentiated between dreams and nightmares. Of course, there was a strong emphasis on dreams being not real! And this goes for the books we will read in January, they introduce the real world and concepts of responsibility, as well as the vocabulary that exists amongst these concepts.

So, we Pandas are marching into the New Year with something of triumph and a burgeoning élan, having seen a glorious 2015 behind us! Bravo, Pandas! Bravo!

Please see below for a detailed schedule of January.

All the Best,
Robert Quinn

Reading January will be an important month for our students, continuing with the critter series which will embody important information on life's changes such as in *When I Get Bigger*.

Furthermore, this will be a month of review also as the students prepare for the reading competition which will see them go over old books to see just how successfully they have mastered reading them.

January 4 – January 8: *When I get Bigger*

January 11 – January 15: Reading Contest Preparation

January 18 – January 22: *I Just Forget*

January 25- January 29: *Me Too*

Core Material In core material we will revise the words learnt from our readings about plants, growing and changes; these words I will also encourage to be used in other contexts. Also, we will delve further on into the book at times, as we have already done, learning about folktales and fables (as in the story of the *The Gingerbread Man*); this will then introduce a wealth of independent material I can add to class, such as fables we grew up knowing in Britain.

January 4 – January 8: Unit 3, Week 2. Workshop. Story: Good Job Ben!

January 11 – January 15: Unit 3, Week 2. Anthology.

January 18 – January 22: Unit 3, Week 2. Anthology.

January 25 – January 29: Review, Assessment and Spelling.

Maths The maths books this month will be much more sum-based, subtly dropping the contexts which were hitherto used, such as the animals students had to count or the colours they had to use: some of the activities are near enough to being just plain arithmetic sums, which moreover become more difficult the further one gets in the books (meaning larger numbers are used). This is all a positive and gradual honing of mathematical skills.

January 4 – January 8: E5-P01-05 - Addition

January 11 – January 15: E5-P06-10 - Addition

January 18 – January 22: E5-P11-14 - Subtraction

January 25 – January 29: E5-P15-18 - Subtraction

Physical Education

January 4 – January 8: Aerobics

January 11 – January 15: Dirt Tracking

January 18 – January 22: Tug of War

January 25 – January 29: Funny Race

Thematic Activities I will not be the architect of January's thematic activities, but in mind of the imminence of the Chinese Lunar New Year, I should think Marshall will prepare activities that are centred on this, which should be fun and educational also, as I think it is very important that the students learn about their own heritage alongside the myriads of information they receive elsewhere in lessons.

January 4 – January 8: New Year Garland

January 11 – January 15: Scone

January 18 – January 22: Portrait

January 25 – January 29: Biscuit

Science Previous science lessons have centred on the botanical world and have basically illustrated the physical differences between animals and how in humans changes are wrought by age and environment. This month will be much more dynamic as we will see how some animals

survive (the prey and predators), and just how Darwinian the world can be (how animals must battle to survive).

January 4 – January 8: Habitats – The Arctic

January 11 – January 15: Killer Whales

January 18 – January 22: Predators and Prey

January 25 – January 29: Another look at Mammals

Song and Dance We will shake off the merry-making and cheer of Christmas and its songs by learning to sing two songs with a very pragmatic atmosphere: ‘When We Work Together’, in particular, is a no nonsense and near-militaristic song about working hard and in cooperation to get the best results, which is very positive to approach the new year with.

January 4 – January 8: When We Work Together

January 11 – January 15: When We Work Together

January 18 – January 22: A Goat in a Boat

January 25 – January 29: A Goat in a Boat

Library and Story-time I will make the content of our reading sessions more eclectic, mixing factual, or historical books, with more entertaining fiction. These sessions are rather like question and answer lessons, because I will always offer students the chance to tell me about what they think about the books.

In conclusion, I once again want to wish a most auspicious year to all parents and their children, and I hope you are satisfied with the material for January. If there are any issues, please don't hesitate to let either myself or the wonderfully helpful Teacher Yuri know, and we will be happy to answer your questions.

All the Best,
Robert Quinn



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親愛的家長：

祝大家新年快樂，熊貓班也順利完成了好多活動。在新的一年裡我與熊貓班幾乎感覺好像是老朋友了，因為我知道他們是這麼的好。我為他們感到驕傲的同時，有很多孩子變成相當豐富的讀者和思想家，他們的熱情成長為成就更多競爭力。當然，競爭不構成我們班的整體風氣，因為這些孩子，在我們學習的歌曲所以我們時也有樂趣，我經常閱讀他們的故事，以及我們在課堂上分享笑話。

一月會看到我們重複進行，直至紮根於孩子們心中的話；其中大部分都是為了我們的閱讀會，這樣的書，當我長大時，我就忘了，而我也一樣，都會有豐富的英語學習。這也可以說是相當主觀的，而不是更客觀的教材的書籍，因為當我們讀的書，我經常懷疑同學們講述了自己的生命：這是顯示，例如，12月當我們讀的一個惡夢，當我問學生的夢想，他們分不清夢想和夢魘之間的區別。當然，有一種強烈的強調夢想是不是真的！而這也同樣適用，我們會讀到一月的書籍，他們引進了現實世界和責任的概念，以及存在這些概念的詞彙。

所以，我們熊貓正在蛻變，新的一年裡帶著幾分得意的和新興的銳氣，在看到我們身後輝煌的2015年！熊貓！好樣的！

以下是一月的課程表

祝福

Robert Quinn

Reading 對我們的學生來說一月將是一個重要的月份，critter 系列，這將體現在生活中的變化的重要信息，如當我得到更大繼續。此外，這將是一個月的審查也為學生的閱讀比賽，會看到他們複習之前的書，看看他們是如何成功地閱讀他們學過的書。

January 4 – January 8: When I get Bigger

January 11 – January 15: Reading Contest Preparation

January 18 – January 22: I Just Forget

January 25- January 29: Me Too

Core Material 在 Core Material，我們將修改我們對有關植物的認知，生長和變化學過的單詞；在其他情況下使用這些話。同時，我們將進一步的深入研究這本書，學習民間故事和寓言（如薑餅人的故事）；我將補充豐富的教材給孩子們，如我們在英國長大後知道的寓言。

January 4 – January 8: Unit 3, Week 2. Workshop. 故事：Good Job Ben!

January 11 – January 15: Unit 3, Week 2. Anthology.

January 18 – January 22: Unit 3, Week 2. Anthology.

January 25 – January 29: Review, Assessment and Spelling.

Maths 本數學書這個月會更加總和為基礎，巧妙地丟棄它是迄今使用的環境中，如學生必須算動物或顏色，他們不得不用；而且它變得更加困難，進一步的一個得到的書籍（意為較大的數字時）。這是數學能力的所有積極的，漸進的衍磨。

January 4 – January 8: E5-P01-05 加法

January 11 – January 15: E5-P06-10 加法

January 18 – January 22: E5-P11-14 減法

January 25 – January 29: E5-P15-18 減法

Physical Education

January 4 – January 8: 健美操

January 11 – January 15: 車子競賽

January 18 – January 22: 拔河

January 25 – January 29: 有趣的比賽

Thematic Activities 我不是 1 月的主題活動的負責人，但在即將到來的中國農曆新年，我認為瑪歇爾將準備的都集中在這個活動中，這應該是寓教於樂，我認為這是非常重要的，是讓學生了解自己的歷史變化，他們在這個地方獲得的經驗。

January 4 – January 8: 新年花環

January 11 – January 15: 司康餅

January 18 – January 22: 素描

January 25 – January 29: 餅乾

Science 科學課都集中在植物世界，已經基本說明了人類的變化是由年齡和環境所造成的動物，以及如何的物理差異。這個月將是更加充滿活力，我們會看到一些動物如何生存（獵物和捕食者），以及是如何像達爾文說的世界（動物如何必須戰鬥生存）。

January 4 – January 8: 棲息地 - 北極

January 11 – January 15: 虎鯨

January 18 – January 22: 掠奪與被掠奪

January 25 – January 29: 再看看哺乳動物

Song and Dance 12 月，我們專注在帶給大家歡樂的聖誕歌曲。這個月份，我們會唱 “When We Work Together”。這是一首非常正面的歌曲，讓孩子們能夠學習合作的重要性。

January 4 – January 8: When We Work Together

January 11 – January 15: When We Work Together

January 18 – January 22: A Goat in a Boat

January 25 – January 29: A Goat in a Boat

Library and Story-time 我會讓我們的閱讀課程的內容比較折衷，混合的事實，或歷史書籍，更有趣的小說。這些會議都有點像問、答的經驗，因為我會一直為學生提供的機會，來告訴我他們聽完之後講出書的內容。

最後，希望所有的父母和他們的孩子能夠平安健康，我希望你滿意 1 月份的課程。如果有任何問題請不要猶豫，讓我或是 Tr. Yuri 知道，我們將竭誠為您解答。

祝福

Robert Quinn