



ESL Newsletter

June and July, 2016

Reading

Dear Parents,

It is marvellous to behold what a bevy of nascent polymaths the Dinosaurs are becoming, how fluid are their sentences when they answer questions, how they muster intelligence when posed with a conundrum, and how charming they never fail to be during each lesson.

I feel we have a lot of fun during lessons, but underlying this fun is an unrelenting system of instruction, ensuring, by sheer and forcible repetition, that vocabulary is emblazoned upon the Dinosaurs' minds and the information which this vocabulary is essentially a part of. I will take especial pleasure in seeing them exhibit their prowess during public speeches towards the end of our time.

Many Thanks,
Robert Quinn

May 30 – June 24: Speech Contest Preparation. Unit 3, Week 4. Weather Alert!

Set text: 'Tornado'

Essential question: How does weather affect us?

Concepts: The material will be important meteorologically, giving important information on how weather works. Also, a lot of words can be used metaphorically, such as in this sentence: 'There was a tornado of happiness in the man as he started to shout. . .' English is full of metaphors, and it is important that the children try to use them in sentences and understand that all words are not literal.

Grammar: The grammar will remain consistent, this being an expository text which will use the present tense.

June 27 – July 22: Speech Contest Preparation and Review. Unit 3 Week 4.

Hopefully, as the Dinosaurs prepare for their second speech competition, they can hone their oratory skills and make better figures upon the podium than previously. Actually, many Dinosaurs have already improved in their public speaking, indeed, because some students could not speak above a whisper when I first started to teach them, though this has improved by infinitesimal degrees.

This sums up what will be the concluding months of my time at Marshall and with the Dinosaurs, and, though it seems the curriculum therein will be retrospective, there will be heaps of new material for the

students to grapple with. They have been a pleasure to teach, and I hope I have given them something in my time so that they may remember me.

All the Best,
Robert Quinn

Phonics & Presentation

Dear Parents,

In the next upcoming month we will be working a lot on their speech contest presentation. For their speech contest each student will prepare a presentation like the ones we do in class. I will pick subjects that I feel fit their level and personal interests. I hope all their practice in class will pay off on the day of the contest. After their contest it'll just be a few weeks then this semester will come to an end. In those weeks they are still going to do their phonics core material and presentation. We will also do some review and try to use everything they have learned this semester in their last presentation then they can have a happy summer vacation.

June

Week 1: Unit 3 Week 4

Week 2: Prepare for speech contest

Week 3: Prepare for speech contest

Week 4: Prepare for speech contest

July

Week 1: Prepare for speech contest

Week 2: Unit 3 Week 4

Week 3: Unit 3 Week 4

Week 4 Review

Grammar

As you can see June/July's will be spent preparing for the speech contest. In addition to this we will also continue to study the past tense, there is an additional unit in the workbook so depending on how well the students do we might also cover this unit or elements of it, as well as the material on the schedule.

Week 1: Unit 6/3

Week 2: Speech Contest Prep.

Week 3: Speech Contest Prep.

Week 4: Speech Contest Prep.

Week 5: Speech Contest Prep.

Week 6: Unit 6/3

Week 7: Unit 6/3

Week 8: Review

Composition

Dear Parents,

I am now into my fifth month as the composition teacher for Dinosaur class. This month we have been writing about "Play in the snow". We have also been preparing for the speech contest so that has been a priority so we can showcase how our speaking skills have developed over the semester. I have introduced a 'mind map' or 'brainstorming' process to help them plan their writing exercise. This is an informal, free thinking process where they write down as many ideas as possible before they actually start writing. This allows them the opportunity to develop ideas without the pressure of forming sentences. Then, when they are ready to write they have all the ideas and information in front of them to start developing sentences.

I have been trying to encourage the use of correct sequences in their writing. They need to have an introduction, key information and then a closing. I want them to think about how to structure their writing and not just write down random sentences without proper sequences.

July we have continued our preparation for the speech contest. When that was completed we wrote about a "Typhoon Day". I have introduced a 'mind map' or 'brainstorming' process to help them plan their writing exercise. This is an informal, free thinking process where they write down as many ideas as possible before they actually start writing. This allows them the opportunity to develop ideas without the pressure of forming sentences. Then, when they are ready to write they have all the ideas and information in front of them to start developing sentences.

The students have a great level of English and are happy to contribute which shows they are confident in their language skills. In a composition class I like to encourage them to use their imagination and creativity which I believe is vital to developing their language skills.

If you have any questions then please feel free to ask me. Well done so far!

Please see below for a detailed schedule of June & July.

June and July will see us continue to use the skills learnt in the other classes to develop our composition writing in an interesting and creative manner.

Week 1: Unit 3 Week 4

Week 2- Prepare for Speech Contest

Week 3- Prepare for Speech Contest

Week 4- Prepare for Speech Contest

July

Week 1: Prepare for Speech Contest

Week 2- Unit 3 Week 4

Week 3- Unit 3 Week 4

Week 4- Review



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閱讀

親愛的家長：您好！

我很開心看到恐龍班的孩子漸漸變成一群初萌的博學者；他們在回答問題時句子的流暢度、他們如何集結大家的智慧解決一個難題以及他們在課堂上投入參與時迷人的模樣。

我感覺到孩子們在課堂上都充滿樂趣，但在樂趣之下其實是有個堅定不變的學習系統，透過一而再地重複，這些單字內容能夠深深印記在孩子心裡。在學期末的演講比賽我將愉悅地看著他們向大眾展現他們的卓越的表現。

真摯的感謝！

Robert Quinn

5/30-6/24 第三單元第四週「天氣警報」以及準備演講比賽

主題閱讀：「龍捲風」

主要提問：天氣如何影響我們的生活？

主題觀念：這個主題的內容是和氣象有關的，它提供了許多天氣產生的原理。另外，有許多的單字是充滿隱喻性的，例如‘There was a tornado of happiness in the man as he started to shout. . .’〔當他開始呼喊，在他的心中充滿了有如龍捲風般的快樂..〕英文這個語言中有許多的單字是具有隱喻的，因此重要的是孩子們要試著將著些字彙用在句子裡並且瞭解所有的字彙不單單只是表面上的字義，它還具有另一層意思。

文法：這篇文章是屬於闡述性的文體，因此要使用現在式的時態，才能合乎文法的一制性。

6/27-7/22 第三單元第四週 準備演講比賽與單元複習

我希望孩子們在準備這次的演講比賽時能夠超越之前的演講比賽，磨練出演講的技巧以及在演講台上有更好的肢體動作。事實上，許多恐龍班的孩子們在公共場合說話的能力有進步，我記得剛開始教他們時，有些孩子說話低聲細語，現在他們有了些微的改變。

以上總結我在瑪歇爾以及在恐龍班的時光，就像課程內容除了有許多的回顧性，也將有許多嶄新的內容等待孩子們吸收學習。教導這群孩子充滿了許多樂趣，我希望在我和他們相處的這一段時間裡，我有教導他們一些事情，讓他們往後還可能記得我。

真摯的祝福！

Robert Quinn

自然發音和報告

親愛的家長：

在接下來的月份我們的學習重心將放在在準備演講比賽上。演講的內容是關於口語報告的主題。我將為孩子們選擇一個適合他們程度以及符合個人興趣的主題。我希望他們在課堂上練習的努力能夠完整的呈現在演講比賽上。演講比賽過後這學期也將近尾聲。在剩餘的幾個星期裡，我們將持續學習自然發音、延伸閱讀以及口語報告。在複習週我們也將運用之前學習過的內容應用在最後一個報告主題，接著他們就開始放快樂的暑假了！

六月

第一週 第三單元第四週

第二週 準備演講比賽

第三週 準備演講比賽

第四週 準備演講比賽

七月

第一週 準備演講比賽

第二週 第三單元第四週

第三週 第三單元第四週

第四週 複習週

文法

在六七月份我們的學習重心將放在準備演講比賽。除此之外，我們仍繼續學習動詞過去式。在學習本中我們有增加的單元內容，若孩子們能跟上原有的進度，我們將讓孩子們學習額外的內容。

六月

第一週 第六單元第三週

第二週 準備演講比賽

第三週 準備演講比賽

第四週 準備演講比賽

七月

第一週 準備演講比賽

第二週 第六單元第三週

第三週 第六單元第三週

第四週 複習週

寫作

親愛的家長：

時光飛逝，擔任恐龍班的寫作老師已邁入第五個月。這個月我們的寫作主題是「颱風天」；同時我們也在準備演講比賽，這是這個月最重要的活動，我們將展現這學期所學到的口語技巧。在這堂課中我透過「心智圖」以及「腦力激盪」的方式讓他們計劃寫作的藍圖。這種不設限的思考過程讓他們在下筆前寫下諸多想法，在沒有造句的壓力下發揮構想。之後，他們擁有足夠的想法與資料後便可以開始下筆造句。

我也試著鼓勵孩子們在寫作上嘗試寫出事情發生的順序。他們需要寫出開端介紹、主要內容及結尾。我希望他們試著思考如何架構文章，而不是隨意寫下沒有章法的句子。

孩子們的英文程度都有不錯的水準，在課堂上喜歡貢獻想法、展現在語言學習上的信心。在寫作課，我喜歡鼓勵孩子們發揮想像力及創意，我認為這對於他們的語言學習上是非常重要的。

若您對於我有任何疑問，都歡迎您隨時與我聯繫。以下是六七月份的學習計劃表。

六、七月，我們持續將其他課堂上所學到的內容應用在寫作上，用有趣及有創意的方式呈現。這個月我們學習的內容是關於小動物。

六月

第一週 第三單元第四週 「颱風天」

第二週 準備演講比賽

第三週 準備演講比賽

第四週 準備演講比賽

七月

第一週 準備演講比賽

第二週 第三單元第四週 「颱風天」

第三週 第三單元第四週 「颱風天」

第四週 複習週

真摯的祝福！

Teacher Eamonn