

Dragon Class Newsletter

April 2017

Dear parents,

This month we will continue on our quest to be the best English students in the world!!

As the Dragon's ability and confidence grows I am trying to encourage the formation of correct sentence. They often mix up their question words such as 'what, where, who, why'. They often say "you did what?", you went where?" This is understandable as they are also developing their Chinese language ability and I know in Chinese the 'question word' is often at the end of the sentence. I correct their mistake by repeating what they said or looking at them with raised eyebrows so they know they have made a mistake. They understand their mistake and most of them can correct it but I will help them if they can not. The correct formation of sentences is an important aspect of developing a 'smoothness' to their speaking. This, along with using full sentences rather than just one word answers, will help with their development and confidence.

This month will be practicing our Drama Play. Hopefully we can put on another great show for your enjoyment. I'm sure with continued hard work April will be a successful and positive time for all!

Best wishes,
Teacher Eamonn

Reading

Reading class is something we take a lot of pride in here at Marshall. We aim to have a class of independent readers with a full grasp of phonics and the pronunciation of words. This class is also great for building up their vocabulary which in turn benefits their conversation skills. I find this class feeds the student's imagination, inspires children to read stories in their own time and usually by the 3rd year they are wanting to write their own stories! As reading is a personal favourite pass time for me I take a lot of care bringing out the best possible results for the children in this subject and I hope you will all see a steady improvement in your child's ability.

April 5-7th Review

April 10-14th: Wake Up, Sun!

April 17th-21st: Catch the Bus

April 24-28th: By the Sea

Core Material

This class is an all encompassing lesson for the children's reading, grammar and phonics skills. In these classes children are asked to analyse stories, practice vowel sounds and use a selection of keywords for sentence making and grammar. This year we have started to assess the students on their spelling and understanding of concepts. This is a non-pressurised situation where we review the core material and assess it through 'fill the gap' or 'choose the correct word' exercises. I am trying to encourage them to do it by themselves and not shout out the answers so everyone gets the opportunity to complete it independently. We then review and test the spelling of the keys words.

April 5-7th: Review

April 10-14th: Unit 2 Week 2 Anthology

April 17th-21st: Review+ Assessment+ Spelling

April 24-28th: Review Unit 2 Week 1 Workshop

Math

We are using the MPM books and boxes for our maths class. They really have a unique and interesting way of delivering common mathematical concepts to the children often by using animals, colours and objects that children associate with fun and games! This month we will focus on...

April 5-7th: D3:P1-5 Learning to compare the quantities of objects

April 10-14th: D3:P6-10 Learning about numeric/non-numeric comparisons of heights, lengths, and their ranking

April 17th-21st: D3:P11-14 Learning about numbers of positions through shapes and colours

April 24-28th: Drama Play Practice

Physical Education

This is important for all everyone. In our busy lives we all often forget to exercise and I am a strong believer in "Healthy Body/Healthy Mind" so is vital for our younger generation to get lots of exercise and fresh air. Not only does it benefit our bodies but also our social skills such as teamwork, competition and fair play. I have started to include team activities to promote teamwork, encouragement and understanding consequences if you don't try hard for your team. Gross motor skills can aid with our fine motor skills too so I try to include activities such as relay races, follow the leader and co-ordination tasks which are fun and engaging.

Thematic Activity

Each month a different foreign teacher is assigned to plan and arrange activities of a given theme. This can be anything from small art projects, short field trips near the school or even a party in the classroom! The themes are often related to different festivals around the world so it really helps them to understand different cultures while having fun at the same time. April's activities will revolve around an international thematic activity such as traditional food, buildings, pictures or animals. These are always fun and exciting for the children.

Song and Dance

This is a great opportunity for myself and the students to bond and enjoy some songs together. Singing and dancing not only teaches new words and tunes but also aids listening and Gross/Fine Motor skills as dancing involves learning movements so requires good co-ordination. These songs and dances are often included in our Drama Plays so are an important aspect of Marshall school life.

April 5-7th : The shapes threw a party

April 10-14th: Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar

April 17th-21st: Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar

April 24-28th: Drama Play Songs

Handwriting

This year we have a handwriting class which continues to develop their Fine Motor skills. We are working towards independent or 'free writing' i.e. without the use of lines to guide or help them. The activities have a template of the target letter, capital and small, to show the students the correct way and then guide lines to allow them to practice by themselves. I am always saying 'remember the lines' to make them write it neatly. The aim is for 'muscle memory' to develop so they will be able to write freely. If we have some extra time I let them write words on the whiteboard as this is a good practice for free writing and spelling. I have seen considerable improvement through the class which is great to see!!

Library/Storybook

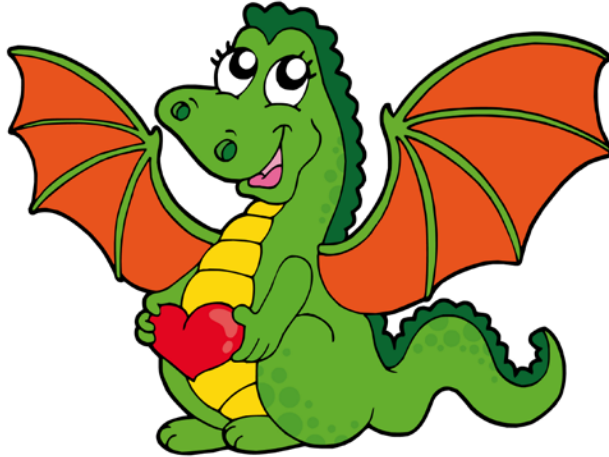
Each week the children get the opportunity to borrow a book to take home and read by themselves. Recently I have been choosing a fun and interesting story to read to the class. I take my time to explain concepts and any morals from the story. It's lovely to see all of them listening to the stories and taking an interest! They really get involved with the stories and I believe it's good for their listening and their imagination!

I hope this has been an insightful newsletter for you all,

Thank you for reading!

Best wishes,

Tr. Eamonn



Dragon Class Newsletter April 2017

親愛的家長：

本月我們將持續探索讓孩子們成為世界上最棒的學生。

隨著孩子們的能力和自信心的成長，我正在鼓勵孩子們形成正確的句子。他們常將問句用的，如：“what, where, who, why 搞混。”他們常習慣的說“You did What?” “You went where?”。他們正處於語言的發展期，和中文表達能力，是可以理解的。而且我知道中文的問句，常是在字尾的。我以複誦他們所說的話或施以一個眼神的方式來糾正他們所犯的錯誤，他們大部分都能明白自己所犯的錯誤，並且自己修正，無法自覺的孩子我就協助他們。句子的結構正確是發展口語流利的一個很重要概念。這相較使用完整句子和以單字彙做答，將有助於他們的發展和自信。

這個月我們要練習話劇表演，希望我們將能展現在另一個讓您陶醉的表演之中。

我確信在四月持續持續的努力，將會是非常成功且充實的時光。

祝福您們

Eamonn 老師

閱讀

閱讀課在瑪歇爾是最引以為傲的。我們將重點放在讓孩子們獨立掌握字的發音和語調。這堂課讓他們建立字彙量，這對他們的口說是有幫助的。我發現這課程能培養發孩子們的想像力並激發他們在擁有自己的時間時閱讀，如此持續第三年，他們正期待想要寫自己的故事哦。我個人最喜歡閱讀打發時間，在這個科目上，我花了很多時間來引導出最佳的可能結果給孩子們，希望您們能看見孩子們日積月累能力的進步。

4/05-4/07: 複習

4/10-4/14: Wake Up, Sun!

4/17-4/21: Catch the Bus

4/24-4/28: By the Sea

主教材

此課程大都圍繞在孩子們的閱讀，文法和自然發音技巧上。在這些課程的學習，孩子們被要求分析故事，練習母音發音，並用選取關鍵字造出句子和學習文法。今年我們已開始評估孩子們在拼字和概念的理解了。這是沒有壓力的學習情境，當我們學過主教材要複習之處，就會透過“填空”或“選出正確的字”的活動來複習。我試著鼓勵孩子們自己嘗試完成並不說出答案的作答，因此每位孩子們都有機會獨立完成。之後我們便複習並測試拼出這些關鍵字。

4/05-4/07 :複習

4/10-4/14: Unit 2 Week 2 名詩選集

4/17-4/21 : 複習 +評量+ 拼字

4/24-4/28: 複習 Unit 2 Week 1 專題討論

數學

目前我們的數學課使用 MPM 書當教材。他們真的有很獨特且有趣的方式，常透過動物，顏色，和一些物件以及一些孩子們互動的遊戲，給予孩子們一般的數學概念。本月我們將專注在...

4/05-4/07 : D3:P1-5 學習比較物體的數量。

4/10-4/14: D3:P6-10 學習使用數字和非數字來比較高度，長度跟排名。

4/17-4/21 : D3:P11-14 透過形狀和顏色學習關於數字和數字的位置。

4/24-4/28: 歌劇表演練習

體能課

體能課是一個對每個人都很重要的課程。在我們忙碌的生活中常忘記運動，但我篤信有健康的身體才有健康的心靈。所以讓我們的新一代多運動和呼吸新鮮空氣是很重要的。不僅只是對我們的身體有益，對我們的社交如團隊合作，比賽和公平遊戲都有好處。我開始介紹孩子們團體活動，鼓勵和讓孩子們知道如果自己沒有盡全力，對團隊的影響，大肌肉的技能可以幫助我們小肌肉的發展，所以我開始設計接力賽，並希望孩子們知道，遵從領隊和互相合作是有趣的。

主題活動

每個月都有不同的外師設計安排不同的主題給孩子們。這活動可以是小的美勞作品，短程的戶外教學，甚至是一個在教室裡的派對！主題往往來自世界各地的相關節慶，所以這真能幫助孩子們在從事有趣的活動中同時了解不同的文化。四月的主題將周旋在國際性的主題，如傳統的食物和建築，及圖畫和動物等。

歌曲律動

這對我而言，是一個很好的機會讓我和孩子們連繫在一起享受些歌曲。唱歌和跳舞並非只教些新字和旋律，也學了聆聽力和粗細動作，當他們在跳舞時需要學習好的合作關係。這些歌曲和舞蹈通常都會涵蓋在話劇表演中，所以在瑪歇爾的生活是很被看重的一部份。

4/05-4/07: The shapes threw a party

4/10-4/14: Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar。

4/17-4/21 : Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar

4/24-4/28: Drama Play Songs

書寫

今年我們仍持續有書寫練習來啟發他們小肌肉的應用。我們朝著用鼓勵獨立或不用分隔線引導來協助讓他們書寫。這些的活動是有字體的目標模式，大小寫，引導孩子正確的方法然後使用導引線讓孩子們自己練習。我總是提醒他們“要記得分隔線”讓他們寫得端正些。重點在於啟發“肌肉的記憶”讓他們能自由的書寫。如果我們有些多餘的時間，我會讓他們在白板上書寫，是很好的自由書寫及拼字練習。我已經透過上課，看見他們真的進步非常多，這真的是我所樂見的！

圖書室故事時間

每週孩子們都有機會借一本書回家自己閱讀，最近我選了一些好玩有趣的故事書在課堂裡讀給他們聽，我花了些時間從故事書中解說些道德的概念，看著他們充滿興趣的聆聽故事，真的很可愛！他們真的很熱衷於這些故事，我也深信這將有助於他們的聽力和想像力。

我希望我的這封信能帶給您們有所啟發。

感謝您的閱讀！

祝福您們，

Eamonn 老師