



Zebra Class Newsletter December 2017

Dear parents,

In the past month we focused a lot on preparing for our drama play. This taught the students a lot about performing on stage and was a good experience for them. Being on stage also play a big role in personality development. Not only does it help them get over stage fright and shyness, making them more outgoing and confident in themselves, it also gives them an experience that they will remember throughout their lives and help in any future performances at Marshall or any other schools they may attend in the future. The students also put in a lot of time, effort, and work into preparing their performance. I tried to use many fun methods to encourage them and help everyone feel less nervous. To help them get into character we even made headbands of the different animals everyone was and this really helped them better understand their parts in the play.

Understandably, when they were actually on stage in front of many people that affected their performance compared to when we have no distractions in the classroom. It is important to give them lots of encouragement and positive feedback on their performance as it was their first time performing on stage and they were likely very nervous. I hope you were also able to see how hard everyone work on this play as they are all very proud of their parts and performance.

At Marshall School we care a lot about the children and want their first impression of going to school and learning to be a good and wonderful experience. Therefore not only do we care about their learning and education, but we also want everyone to have fun and memorable experiences that will leave a good impression on their attitude towards learning. This month is December and I'm sure one of the many things that comes to mind is, of course, Christmas! And yes, we will be having a Christmas celebration in which all the classes at Marshall with come together to bring you an exquisite show to display what they've learned in their extracurricular classes such as music and dance class. Despite having our Christmas program, our class schedule will be returning to normal.

Reading

This month we have quite a variety of reading books. From simple but educational books, to fun stories with new words for the class to learn. This month's book also cover a broad variety of topics. One that I particularly like is the insect book which teaching about where insects live while also introducing a lot of

useful nouns such as grass, tree, leaf, rock, etc. The book 'Apples' teaches students about numbers and counting. Though this book may seem very simple but it's a good opportunity for the students to learn about counting different objects. As though they might know the numbers 1 – 10, they are not as familiar with counting in English. On Monday through Thursday I usually focus on introducing the book and reviewing it, then in Friday if I like to let the students play a game involving reading or something related to what we learned in our that week's reading book.

December

Week 1- Is it Time?

Week 2 – Apples

Week 3 –Noisy Breakfast

Week 4 – Where do insects live?

Core Material/Phonics

We have been working on Start Smart, Unit 1 and have just started to learn Unit 2. The students understand the basic concept and new words, however I want to focus more on helping Zebra class recognise the sight words in the books. Each book we learn two to three new sight words as well as new vocabulary words from nouns like books, pens, tables, to verbs such as ride, rake, bake, etc. I encourage them to use these new words whenever the opportunity arises to help them practise and embed into their minds.

In phonics we had a rough start as it was hard for the students to understand the concept of letters and their sounds. However now they are coming along nicely. I'm glad to say that almost everyone on Zebra class can recognise most of the letters in the alphabet. While we go through the phonics part I want to make sure to also take lots of time to review the previous letters we have learned. Phonics is the base to reading and writing, so I feel even if we go a little slower I want them to have a solid foundation in phonics.

December

Week 1- Unit 3 – Rules to Go By: Phonics Ii

Week 2 –Unit 3 – Can I Pat It? Tim Can Tip It

Week 3 –Unit 3 – Sounds Around Us: Phonics Nn

Week 4 –Unit 4 – Nat and Tip. Tim and Nan.

Maths

In math we will be learning a lot about separating objects into groups as well as matching things that are the same i.e. colors, shapes, animals etc. We have recently been learning about same and different so this is a good practise for them. There are also many activities we can do based around this month's MPM concept of matching and grouping objects. Math continues to be one of the student's favourite subjects as it has a lot of flashy material. I also use math to teach comparative words,

December

Week 1- A4: P6 – 10 Matching colors and shapes

Week 2 –A4: P 11- 14 Matching shapes and color patterns

Week 3 –A4: P 15 – 18 Matching object amounts with numbers

Week 4 –A5: P 1 – 5 Directional paths between objects

Physical Education

This month the students had so much fun with their Physical Education classes. I think that their favourite by far was the Obstacle Course. We prepared it by placing a several padded mats, followed by hoops laid out on the floor, and finally a small tunnel for the students to crawl through. They then had to complete the obstacle course and use their decision making skills and coordination to make it through without knocking any of the pieces over. All of the students performed so well and had a lot of fun. I'm hoping to repeat a similar variation of this activity next month, as they enjoyed the challenge it provided so much. We also have some other fun games and activities for our P.E. this month and I think everyone will learn a lot and get some great exercise.

December

Week 1- Limbo

Week 2 –Freeze Dance
Week 3 –Balloon bounce
Week 4 –Obstacle Course

Song and Dance

This month we have a very fun song 'Old McDonald had a Farm'. When it plays in Zebra class I can already see everyone getting excited about it. Everyone loves to dance and it's also the perfect way to get them awake in the morning. As you might already know, besides our assigned songs I've also selected a variety of other educational and engaging songs that we sing in the mornings. As you might remember we also used some of these other songs in our drama play. I would also suggest letting the students listen to English songs at home is also a great way to help them get more used to hearing English at home. Songs are a fun and fast way for children to pick up on new words and sentence patterns, so this is an important part of our day.

December

Week 1- The Queen is Taking a Walk
Week 2 –The Queen is Taking a Walk
Week 3 –Old McDonald had a Farm
Week 4 –Old McDonald had a Farm

Conversation

As time goes by and the student's vocabulary expands, I can hear Zebra class speak more and more English on their own in class. Everyone is also a lot more willing to come up to me, talk, or ask questions, unlike when they first arrived at school and were afraid that I wouldn't be able to understand them. This upcoming month's conversation topic will be a little more challenging than before. We are starting to learn are/is/am and subject verb agreement. This might be a little hard at first as it is very different from Chinese, so we will be focusing a lot on this and doing a lot of review.

December

Week 1- Unit 11 Hello. How are you?
Week 2 – Unit 12 Please, stand up.
Week 3 –Unit 13 May I...
Week 4 – Unit 14 Nouns



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親愛的家長：

在過去的一個月裏，我們集中精力為我們的戲劇表演做準備。這讓學生們在舞臺上有了很多的準備，對他們來說是一個很好的經歷。站在舞臺上也在人格發展中扮演着重要的角色。它不僅幫助他們克服怯場和害羞，使他們更活潑和自信，這也給了他們一個經驗，將來在瑪歇爾或任何其他學校他們可能會參加任何的表演，他們會記得這次的經歷，和對未來的表演有所幫助。學生們也投入了大量的時間、精力和工作來準備他們的表演。我試着用很多有趣的方法來鼓勵他們，讓每個人都感到不那麼緊張。為了幫助他們進入角色，我們甚至製作了不同動物的頭飾，這真的幫助他們更容易理解他們在遊戲中的角色。可以理解的是，當他們在很多人面前的時候，會影響到他們的表現，而不是我們在教室裏沒有分心的時候的狀況。對他們的表現給予他們大量的鼓勵和積極的反饋是很重要的，因為這是他們第一次在舞臺上表演，他們可能非常緊張。我希望您也能看到每個人在這齣戲上的努力，因為他們都為自己的角色和表演感到驕傲。在瑪歇爾，我們非常關心孩子們，希望他們在學校，學習是一段美好的經歷。因此，我們不僅關心他們的學習和教育，而且我們也希望每個人都有愉快和難忘的經歷，這將給他們的學習態度留下良好的印象。這個月是 12 月，我敢肯定，我們心裏想到的許多事情之一，當然是聖誕節！是的，我們將舉行一個聖誕慶祝活動，在瑪歇爾的所有課程都聚集在一起，為您帶來一場精美的表演，展示他們在音樂和舞蹈課等課外課程中所學到的東西。儘管有了我們的聖誕計劃，我們的班級計劃仍將恢復正常。

Reading

這個月我們有各種各樣的閱讀書籍。用新詞彙來學習從簡單但教育性的書籍到有趣的故事。這個月的書也涵蓋了各種各樣的話題。我特別喜歡的是昆蟲書，它教授昆蟲生活的地方，同時也介紹了許多有用的名詞，如草、樹、樹葉、石頭等，書本“蘋果”教學生數字和計數。雖然這本書看起來很簡單，但對於學生來說，這是一個很好的機會去學習計數不同的物體。雖然他們可能知道數字 1-10，但他們對英語的計數並不熟悉。在週一，我通常會把注意力集中在這本書的介紹上，然後在週五的時候，我讓學生們玩一種與閱讀相關的遊戲，或者與我們在那周的閱讀書中學到的東西有關。

December

Week 1- Is it Time?

Week 2 – Apples

Week 3 –Noisy Breakfast

Week 4 – Where do insects live?

Core Material/Phonics

我們一直在研究的核心材料/語音自然發音，第 1 單元，剛剛開始學習單元。學生們理解基本概念和新單詞，但我想更多地關注於幫助斑馬班識別書籍中的視覺詞彙。每本書我們學習兩到三個新的視覺單詞以及新的名詞，例如，書，筆，桌子等；動詞有，騎，耙，烤等。我鼓勵他們如何使用這些新單詞，幫助他們練習並嵌入到他們的想法。在自然發音中，我們經歷了一個艱難的開始，因為學生們很難理解“音”和“音”的概念。然而，現在他們的進展很好。我很高興地說，幾乎所有在斑馬班的人都能認出字母表裏的大多數字母。當我們通過發音部分的時候，我想要確保我們花了很多時間來複習我們學過的之前的字母在基礎上讀和寫音。，所以我覺得即使我們走得慢一點，我希望他們在音韻學上有更堅實的基礎。

December

Week 1- Unit 3 Rules to Go By: Phonics li

Week 2 –Unit 3 Can I Pat It? Tim Can Tip It

Week 3 –Unit 3 Sounds Around Us: Phonics Nn

Week 4 –Unit 4 Nat and Tip. Tim and Nan

Maths

數學上的教學我們將會學到很多關於把物體分成不同的組的知識，比如顏色，形狀，動物等等。我們最近學習的是相同的和不同的，所以這對他們來說是一個很好的練習。我們還可以在本月 MPM 的匹配和分組對象的概念上做很多活動。數學一直是學生最喜歡的科目之一，因為它有很多有趣的東西。我也用數學來教比較單詞。

December

Week 1- A4: P6 – 10 顏色形狀配對

Week 2 –A4: P 11- 14 配對形狀和顏色花樣

Week 3 –A4: P 15 – 18 數量和數字配對

Week 4 –A5: P 1 – 5 物品和方向

Physical Education

這個月的體育教育讓學生們在體育課上玩得很開心。我認為他們最喜歡的是障礙賽。我們先準備了幾個墊子，然後在地板上放了圓圈，最後是一個小通道，讓學生們爬過去。然後，他們必須完成障礙課程，運用他們的決策技巧和協調能力來完成這一過程，而不需要竅門。所有的學生都表現得很好，玩得很開心。我希望在下個月重複類似的活動，因為他們非常喜歡它所提供的挑戰。我們這個月還有一些其他有趣的遊戲和活動，我想每個人都會學到很多東西，做一些很棒的運動。

December

Week 1- Limbo

Week 2 –Freeze Dance

Week 3 –Balloon bounce

Week 4 –Obstacle Course

Song and Dance

這個月的歌曲和舞蹈，我們有一首非常有趣的歌曲“老麥當勞有一個農場”。當它在斑馬課堂上表演時，我已經看到每個人都對它感到興奮。每個人都喜歡跳舞，而且這也是讓他們在早上醒來的最佳方式。正如你們可能已經知道的，除了我們指定的歌曲之外，我還選擇了許多其他的教育和迷人的歌曲，我們在早上唱歌。你們可能還記得，我們在戲劇中也使用了其他一些歌曲。我還建議讓學生在家聽英文歌曲，這也是幫助他們在家裏聽英語的好方法。歌曲是孩子們學習新單詞和句型的一種有趣而快捷的方式，所以這是我們日常生活中很重要的一部分。

December

Week 1- The Queen is Taking a Walk

Week 2 –The Queen is Taking a Walk

Week 3 –Old McDonald had a Farm

Week 4 –Old McDonald had a Farm

Conversation

隨着時間，學生的詞彙量不斷增加，我可以聽到斑馬班在課堂上越來越多地說英語。每個人都更願意找我談論或者問問題，不像他們剛到學校時，他們害怕我不能理解他們。這個即將到來的 12 月的談話主題，將會比以往更具挑戰性。我們開始學習“主題動詞”。這可能會有點困難，因為它和中文非常不同，所以我們會把重點放在這方面，並進行大量的複習。

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Week 1- Unit 11 Hello. How are you?

Week 2 – Unit 12 Please, stand up.

Week 3 –Unit 13 May I...

Week 4 – Unit 14 Nouns