

Penguin Class Newsletter February and March 2019

Dear parents,

Happy Chinese New Year everyone. I hope you all had a nice vacation and the children are all refreshed and ready for the new semester.

We are now half way through our first year at Kindergarten. I cannot believe it has gone by so quickly! I have seen a lot of development with the students and I can see it is becoming more natural for them to speak English and they are really try to speak and communicate in English. I can see they now understand that I do not speak Chinese and have realised that they must try to speak English if they want to chat or communicate with me. I am really pleased with this as it shows they are developing and growing up. I look forward to seeing their continued development.

Please see below a detailed schedule for February and March. Please feel free to ask myself or Tr. Pinky any questions.

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. 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.

Feb 1: Bubble Trouble
Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation
Feb 11-15: Bubble Trouble
Feb 18-22: Beautiful Bugs
Feb 25-27: I Do Not Want to
Mar 4-8: Lara Ladybug
Mar 11-15: I am the Artist
Mar 18-22: Bears, Bears, Everywhere
Mar 25-29: I Like Shoes

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.

Feb 1: Unit 5: How does your garden grow?
Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation
Feb 11-15: Unit 5: Trees
Feb 18-22: Unit 5: Fresh from the farm
Feb 25-27: Unit 6: Weather for all seasons
Mar 4-8: Unit 6: The Four seasons
Mar 11-15: Unit 6: What's the weather
Mar 18-22: Unit 6: Stormy weather
Mar 25-29: Unit 7: The animal kingdom

Conversation

Conversation is an integral aspects of life at Marshall. We teach this formally in class but also at every moment when the English Teacher is present. We try to encourage speaking English from the moment they start and all through lunchtime, playtime and as they go about their daily lives. The conversation starts with simple questions such as what's your name and develops as their English develops. I love talking with the children and watching their skills grow and seeing their personalities shine threw.

Feb 1: Unit 18: Numbers 1-5
Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation
Feb 11-15: Unit 18: Numbers 6-10
Feb 18-22: Unit 19: What's your phone number? How old are you?
Feb 25-27: Unit 20: This is/ That is
Mar 4-8: Review
Mar 11-15: Unit 21: These are/ Those are
Mar 18-22: Unit 22: Color

Mar 25-29: Unit 23: This/ That/ These/ Those

Phonics

This semester we will increase our focus on phonics to aid their reading development to add to their pre-existing knowledge and of sightwords. This is the basis of reading so is very important as their vocabulary increases and difficulty level advances. We use a combination of workbook exercises and whiteboard activities and combine it with spelling.

Feb 1: P91: High frequency words

Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation

Feb 11-15: P92,93: Letters l, d, ,c, n, g, w

Feb 18-22: P94,97,98: Letters l, d, ,c, n, g, w

Feb 25-27: P104,105: Writing Pp

Mar 4-8: P106,107: Writing Rr

Mar 11-15: P108,109: Writing Rr

Mar 18-22: P110,111: Writing Kk

Mar 25-29: P112,113: Writing Kk

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...

Feb 1: B1:P01-05: Basic recognition and comparison of colors

Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation

Feb 11-15: B1:P06-10: Writing practice

Feb 18-22: B1:P11-14: Reciting numbers

Feb 25-27: B1:P15-16: Learning the shape and use of number 6-8

Mar 4-8: B2:P01-05: Properties (shapes, colors...)

Mar 11-15: B2:P06-10: Reciting numbers

Mar 18-22: B2:P11-14: Spatial Description

Mar 25-29: B2:P15-18: Above and below

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.

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.

Feb 1: I'm a Little Teapot

Feb 4-8: Winter Vacation

Feb 11-15: I'm a Little Teapot

Feb 18-22: The Ants Go Marching

Feb 25-27: The Ants Go Marching

Mar 4-8: Jack and Jill

Mar 11-15: Jack and Jill

Mar 18-22: This Little Light of Mine

Mar 25-29: This Little Light of Mine

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. February and March's activities will revolve around thematic activities for Chinese New Year and various countries. These are always fun and exciting for the children.

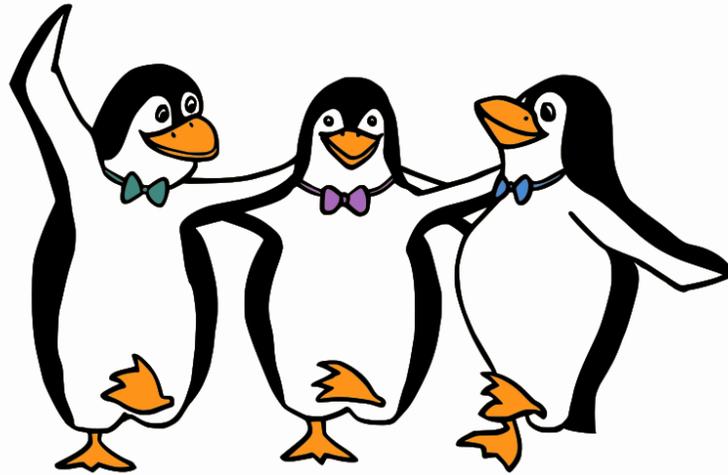
Library/Storybook

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



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親愛的家長您好：

祝大家新年快樂！希望你們都能有個美好的假期，期待孩子們精神煥發為新學期做好準備。

孩子們來上學已經半年，我真不敢相信時間過的這麼快！孩子們已經開始自然地說英文以及和其他人交流了。逐漸明白 Tr. Eamonn 不會中文，並且想要多跟 Tr. Eamonn 聊天就必需要嘗試用英文說出想要表達的內容，對於此情況我非常開心，正代表著孩子們正在進步與成長，我期待孩子們的持續進步唷！

請詳細參閱以下為 2 月份、3 月份的進度表，若有任何問題，歡迎各位爸爸、媽媽向我或是 Pinky 老師提出唷！

誠摯的祝福您
老師 Eamonn

閱讀

閱讀課是我們馬歇爾引以為傲的課程。我們的目標是讓孩子能夠獨立閱讀，並且正確念出單字的發音及語調。孩子們正快速累積他們的單字詞彙量，這對孩子們的對話技巧是有很大的幫助。

我發現這個課程能夠激發孩子們的想像力，激發他們利用時間閱讀故事。由於閱讀對我個人而言是最喜歡的一件事情，我花很多心思地為思考如何讓孩子們的能力提升，我希望你們會看到孩子的能力在逐漸進步。

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主教材

此課程主要是圍繞著孩子的閱讀、語法和發音技能。在課程中，會讓孩子分析故事，練習發音，並使用關鍵字造句和語法使用。今年，我們開始評估學生的拼寫和對概念的理解。這是一種沒有壓力情況，我們通過“填補空白”或“選擇正確的單詞”練習來讓孩子學習。我鼓勵孩子們自己做，而不是大聲說出答案，這樣每個人都有機會獨立完成它。之後我們便複習並測試拼出這些關鍵字

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會話

會話是馬歇爾生活中不可或缺的一部分。我們用此方式教學，當然在英文老師在場時也全然是英語的。我們鼓勵孩子們說英語，即使是午餐時、遊戲時間或是生活中的一切。彼此的對話從簡單的問題開始，例如：你的名字去啟發孩子們說英語。我喜歡和孩子們交談，看著他們的會話技巧一次比一次進步，及每個孩子不同的人格特質。

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自然發音

本學期我們將著重自然發音法協助孩子們的閱讀，並增加他們原有的知識和單字。這是閱讀的基礎，隨著詞彙量的增加和難度的提高，因此自然發音非常重要。我們使用作業簿練習和白板活動的結合，將其拼寫出來。

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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...

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體能課

這是對每個人都很重要的課。在我們忙碌的生活中常忘記運動，我相信有健康的身體才有健康的心靈。所以讓孩子們擁有適當的運動量和呼吸新鮮空氣是很重要的。不只是對身體有益，對社交如團隊合作、比賽和公平競爭都有益。透過團隊活動，促進團隊合作，我鼓勵著孩子們為自己的團隊歡呼加油。大肌肉運動有助於孩子的精細動作技巧，所以我們嘗試了接力賽等活動，這些任務既有趣又有吸引力。

歌曲律動

這對我自己和學生們來說是一個很好的機會，可以將這些歌曲與英文結合在一起。唱歌和跳舞不僅學習新單字和旋律，還輔助聽力、律動、肢體協調等技能，這些歌曲和舞蹈則會在我們的戲劇劇中出現，因此是馬歇爾學校生活中很被看中的一環。

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主題活動

每個月都會由一名外籍教師來規劃和安排特定主題的活動。這可以是小型藝術項目，不僅是戶外教學，甚至是教室裡的派對！這些主題通常與世界各地的不同節日有關，因此它確實有助於孩子們從事有趣活

動中，同時理解不同的文化。2月、3月的活動將圍繞著中國新年及各國的主題活動，這些活動對孩子們來說總是充滿樂趣和刺激。

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釋道德的概念，很高興看到他們都聽故事並引起興趣！他們真的參與了這些故事，我相信這對他們的傾聽和想像力都有好處！

希望這封信對所有人而言是具有洞察力的信。

感謝您的閱讀

祝福您

老師 Eamonn