

Shark Class Newsletter

January 2020

The festive season must come to an end every year no matter how much fun it can be, but we will always look forward to the next one. I hope all the kids and their families had fun over Christmas and new year. We have been working through the usual schedule of material and also been practicing some added extras for those that wish to join the entrance tests to private schools. I have updated some progress through the subjects below, so please have a quick read through.

Reading

The reading books have started to feel too easy for some of the kids, while we have been revising all the older stories for the reading competition they have all become overly familiar with the stories and can near enough recite the books without looking at the pages. Even though the kids have reached this stage, I persist to help them find a better way to read aloud and not just speed through what they know. The reading contest is not going to be about whether or not they remember the words on the page, but rather if they can read the sentences with correct pronunciation and intonation. Sounding like speaking in conversation is the goal rather than being robotic. And even though we will continue to practice the selected books, we will continue with new books as follows:

Week 1 - "Is Anybody Home?"

Week 2 - Reading Contest Week

Week 3 - "Inu Duck's Toy"

Week 4 - "I can do it all"

Core Material

Most of the students are finding the core material quite easy to understand. The subject matter is covered in more detail in the other books we have been working through, but the stories at least provide some variety to concepts being taught and also some different usage for the same vocabulary.

In January we will finish off the short 'u' story of "Cubs in a Hut" and then after that we'll pick up the next story for the rest of January which looks at final blends and the story of "The Best Spot"

Phonics

The kids have all done very well to absorb all the material about long and short vowels. Some are still struggling a little with letter blends, but if they have as much practice as we had with short vowels then they will ace this too. In the phonics lessons we will move on from blends and short and long vowel sounds, even though there will be revision sessions and the other subjects equally revise them too, and start with syllables and counting vowel sounds. We will also see how 'y' is used like an 'i' and also touch on silent letters.

Workbook Jump 2

The kids have all enjoyed the exercises in this series, they are quite easy for them now, and when things are easy we enjoy completing them more than when it's too hard. Keeping things a little bit challenging in any case to make sure that we continue to progress nicely too. Jump 2 is following in line with the weekly vocabulary spelling and also keeps up with the same grammar rules for sentence structures like we see in the Write Now book and some the worksheets we have been doing.

Week 1: Animal Vocabulary/ Do you like/ they like...

Week 2: Does he/she like and positive and negative responses

Week 3: Belongings vocabulary- Do you have?

Week 4: Do they have? Present simple negative questions

Writing

Write Now workbook provides topical subject matter to work with, more than it provides independent work through exercises. So while I am still keeping tight supervision on the actual writing input, I allow more individual input through discussion in class as a group. This is working nicely to get students thinking in the target language and responding appropriately. January will follow a similar series of workbook page stages, story, then comprehension questions in the form of pictures and tables or sentence corrections and multiple choice, followed by sentence creation and creative writing practice using the vocabulary and sentence structures we practiced earlier on in the chapter.

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

The MPM Math series focuses a lot on a variety of daily problem solving strategies, not just math, although counting plays a large role in the functions of the guided stories through a variety of topics, including farming, travel, colour coordination, baked goods, sweets, exploring and many more. These also provide great material for conversation practice, including but not limited to: what fruit and vegetables do you like, I like.... and have you ever picked or planted.... and have you ever taken a plane or been on a bus or or or.....

Week 1 - Crossing off subtraction exercises

Week 2 - Comparing subtraction exercises

Week 3 - Shapes and function corresponding

Week 4 - Colours and function corresponding

Library

Library time was mostly in the classroom with the school having inspections and various other changes to rooms and practice for activities, but we will be getting back to usual Library time again. It will be nice for the kids to get the change of atmosphere for a story time read. Hopefully I will be able to warm them up to choice student reads... Maybe this is ambitious but testing the waters will keep them on their toes.

Spelling

We will pick up on a full month of vocabulary to try out some spelling, I think most of the students are keen to test their abilities again, some are still struggling with phonics strategies to help them, but while they keep practicing, it will only get easier after time. As I advised parents before, you can help your children greatly by just simply reviewing the weekly list with them, sounding the word and spelling it together, at least just once a day and on weekends, not making a big deal of it or taking time out of your day, just quickly revise a word or two here and there will help plenty enough.

This months spelling vocabulary are:

Week 1: went, bought, show, coming, friend, try, why, sea, city, dry

Week 2: watch, backpack, computer, trip, slide, picture, gift, clown, people, hope

Week 3: pool, mango, wave, stay, sheep, shell, wheel, chain, whale, think

Week 4: does, grow, day, row, seed, dress, nice, knife, carrot, tomato

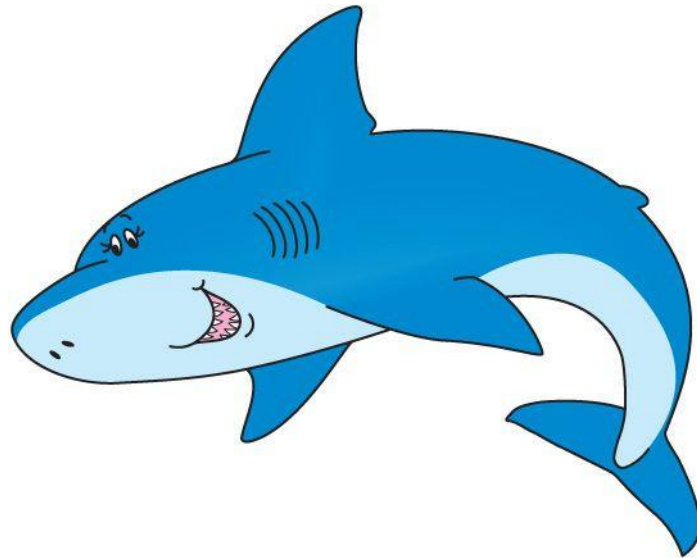
Conclusion

The students are doing well in different areas compared to each other, exposing their underlying talents and how they can excel in some things while they struggle with others. We are trying to allow for any compensation requirements with extra practice in areas that need it.

I hope that we will continue to enjoy watching our Shark class kids progress nicely over the last semester coming up and thank you to all the parents for your support and for raising concerns through communications and otherwise, your feedback is always appreciated.

Thanks

Teacher Justin



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在這歡樂的季節已經快結束囉，不論每年過得如何，每一年都是很有趣的。我們也很期待新的一年的到來唷。我希望孩子們和家人們過個很棒的聖誕節和過年喔。而課程我們也已經上的差不多了，額外的補充練習也都完成囉，希望努力要進入私立小學的孩子們能夠順利通過考試喔。以下為最新的課程進度，再麻煩詳細閱讀。

閱讀

在閱讀的部分，有些書對有些孩子來說已經太簡單了，所以，這次的朗讀比賽我們挑選了之前孩子們都念得非常熟習的閱讀書本，孩子們也大部分都把內容背起來囉。儘管孩子們都已經有上台的經驗了，我還是堅持幫助孩子們能夠找出好的方式，將書本念好，而不是快速的念完。在朗讀比賽中，孩子不是只要認得字將它念出來，主要還有是要念出單字的正確的發音和語調。如果，只是單單的唸完沒有任何語調，就如同機器人在念一樣。我們除了會一直都有再持續的練習要朗讀的書本外，也有念新的閱讀書本喔。

參考書本為以下:

第一週 - "Is Anybody Home?"

第二週 - Reading Contest Week

第三週 - "Inu Duck's Toy"

第四週- "I can do it all"

核心課程

大部分的孩子在這部分的學習上已經都很容易的理解囉，每一章節的主題都是跟之前的課本內容都滿相識的。不過，最大部分是，內容提供了很多基本的概念，還有不一樣的單字來協助孩子們能夠清楚的理解喔。在一月中，我們將完成短音'u'的"Cubs 和 Hut"，之後，我們將會結束一月的整個總複習和學習"The Best Spot"做最後的課程結束。

發音

孩子們幾乎都把核心課程的長短母音都學習完畢了，但是，有些字母混在一起時對孩子來說比較困難，如果，孩子們可以透過多練習，慢慢地都會進步的。在發音這部分我會將長短母音都混一起，並且，試著修改一些主題的部分，開始指導孩子們將字母一個個拆開拚並且再將單字組合起來。我也有指導孩子們如何分辨 y 和 i 的發音差別及無音的學習喔。

Jump 2 書寫本

孩子們都很喜歡練習這一系列的東西，很容易都能理解學習的內容，當很多內容越來越簡單時，孩子們就會越學越快也不會學得很痛苦。但是，我還是會試著讓孩子們去挑戰看看一些較難的部分。每週的單字都是從此本書抓出來的，文法的造句規則都是一樣的。孩子們也常在其他書寫的本子和學習單的練習中看到喔。

第一週:Animal Vocabulary/ Do you like/ they like...

第二週:Does he/she like and positive and negative responses

第三週:Belongings vocabulary- Do you have?

第四週 Do they have? Present simple negative questions

書寫

現在的書寫本都會以主題的方式讓孩子們學習，不是只有單單的就是書寫練習，所以，我持續的指導孩子們書寫時必須要正確且整齊。我也讓孩子們透過團體導論的方式進行學習，這方式還不錯，孩子們也都學得不錯，且也幫助了他們在口語上的進步喔。在一月中，我們也會持續的把每一個系列的書寫本透過故事”問句”圖片和造句等來協助孩子們能過自己想出完整和有創意的句子，並將單字融入練習寫出和造出正確的句子。

MPM 數學

在 MPM 數學中，主要是讓孩子們透過生活中多樣性的問題來解出題目，不是單單只有算術而已，透過多樣性的主題，包括:農業”旅行”顏色分類”物品等，來解出答案。在這部分，也提供了孩子們多練習英文口說，沒有任何限制，如: what fruit and vegetables do you like, I like.... and have you ever picked or planted.... and have you ever taken a plane or been on a bus or or or.....。

第一週 – 加減練習

第二週- 比大小

第三週- 形狀對應

第四週- 顏色對應

圖書館

近期圖書館因一些活動的關係，所以，孩子們都在教室裡聽故事，不過，活動也結束了，所以，我們又可以再次回到圖書館去聽故事，這對孩子來說是不錯的氣氛來聽故事，希望，孩子們也可以慢慢的選怎故事書自己分享給大家聽，這可能會讓孩子們緊張不知道該如何分享故事，但這也是個練習的好機會。

拼音

我們將會把整個月的單字挑選出來，讓孩子們練習拚，我想以些孩子已經都能夠將每個單字都拚完整，而有些孩子還是需要透過協助他們拚出單字。每天的練習，都對孩子們很重要。我之前，爸爸

媽媽們在每一週能夠一銅和孩子們在家中練習，一點一點練習不要一次太多，反爾會造成反效果喔。

本月單字:

第一週: went, bought, show, coming, friend, try, why, sea, city, dry

第二週: watch, backpack, computer, trip, slide, picture, gift, clown, poeple, hope

第三週: pool, mango, wave, stay, sheep, shell, wheel, chain, whale, think

第四週: does, grow, day, row, seed, dress, nice, knife, carrot, tomato

總結

每個孩子在每個領域都有自己厲害的地方，每個孩子的理解能力也不一樣，最重要的是，孩子們要如何去突破自己。我們會持續的去指導孩子們的學習和協助孩子們的需求成長。希望在下學期，我們能夠一起和鯊魚班的孩子們一同學習成長，在下學期也有梗多的突破喔，也謝謝鯊魚班家長們的支持和持續的與我們的溝通，您好的回饋也讓我們在指導孩子們上有更多的力量和成就感。謝謝！

Teacher Justin