



## **Dinosaur Class Monthly Newsletter**

### **August 2020**

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

I am Teacher Justin and will be taking over the Dinosaur Class from where Teacher Gareth left off. My nationality is British (England), although my accent has changed a little since my youth because I have traveled far and wide for so long until now, having lived for extended periods of time in Australia, South Africa, Scotland and now Taiwan for 5 years and counting. I have recently graduated my previous class from Marshall, and it was sad to see them go, but as with all students, they grow, progress and move on to bigger and better things. It is a pleasure to be starting with a new set of keen and energetic students, I hope they will continue to enjoy their time at Marshall School under my guidance and with the help of Teacher Vivi as well. Every month I will write up a newsletter as this one to let you parents know how the class is progressing as a whole and what we will be doing with the scheduled curriculum. So to start, let's have a look at some of the subjects and material we will be doing in our first month of the first K4 semester.

#### Reading

Reading really is so important and if the kids continue to grow with reading then so will their English ability.

Even though we will be practicing the reading material at school, I urge you all to still pick up an English story once in a while and have your kids read them to you at home. The revision is great practice and keeps their little brains actively returning to 'English mode'.

Growth and progress comes from consistent repetition, try to make or fit into a routine, reading, if you do nothing else for English with your kids at home, this should be the bare minimum.

In the first month of August we will be picking up these books:

Week 1: What Lila Loves/ My Mom

Week 2: Time for Bed

Week 3: Joshua James Likes Trucks

Week 4: Flying Butter

Week 5: Snow Joe

#### Core Material

For this subject we will use the McGraw-Hill book series that works through a story and then explains the grammar rules and other points through exercises based on the story. We also discuss the real world topics in these stories and try to relate them to each kids life and experiences using the vocabulary learned and the new sentence structures we practiced. Usually we do one unit per 2 months to start, but while some months are irregular in their number of schooling days, sometimes they overlap. So this month we will look into the first unit which covers:

Week 1 - 5: Workshop (Reading/Writing)

- Short 'a'
- Story: "Jack Can"

### Phonics

For phonics we will be practicing a wide variety of sounds and how they are represented in the written form. This book provides a great many exercises relating to the new rules that we cover. I always hope to make all the students familiar with each rule as we cover them, because they help a great deal with reading ability and also pronunciation. This month we will cover phonics rules for....:

Week 1: Phonemic Awareness - Sound to symbol (letter sounds - 'f','m','s')

Week 2: - Sound to symbol (letter sounds - 't','h','b')

Week 3: Assessment (extra practice) and (letter sounds - 'l','d')

Week 4: Sound to symbol (letter sounds - 'c','n','g')

Week 5: Sound to symbol (letter sounds - 'w') and Assessment

### Workbook Jump

This workbook works great as complimenting material for the phonics book and also with conversation practice. The exercises emphasize grammar points and sentence construction. This month we will be looking into...:

Week 1: Vocabulary - name to picture (animals)

Sentence structures - "It's a..."

Week 2: Sentence structures - "It isn't a..."

Practice exercises

Week 3: New Vowel starting Vocabulary - 'egg', 'apple' etc.

Practice using 'an' instead of 'a'

Week 4: Questions - "Is it a/an...?"

Practice answering - "Yes, it is." or "No, it isn't."

Week 5: Practice exercises for the above lesson material

### MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

The MPM Math series focuses a lot on a variety of daily problem solving strategies. It teaches the kids the basics of mathematics in fun and interesting ways. Their new MPM boxes are full of stuff to help them learn. This subject involves more impractical maths and allows for creative association of numbers.

This month we will look at the following topics:

Week 1: Shape matching and colour matching. Straight line drawing, properties.

Week 2: Polyline drawing exercises, 'L' and reverse, curves and winding. Complex polyline drawing, shape and colour matching.

Week 3: Arc curve line drawing, fixed drawing and find the way pictures. Number recognition and counting exercises.

Week 4: Recognize 5, 6. number concept, writing numbers 5,6. counting. Polyline drawing.

Week 5: Sticker book pages relating to above material covered, including extra conversation practice about topics from above.

#### Conclusion

This concludes the first Dinosaur's Monthly Newsletter. Although we have plenty more to cover in the first month than just what is mentioned here, like song and dance, thematic activities and library time, I will continue to keep you all up to date through the weekly newsletters as well. Also, if you have any suggestions or feedback please don't hesitate to let me know through the weekly communication or even through Teacher Vivi. I look forward to working with you all to help improve your children's English and also to have as much fun as possible while doing so.

Teacher Justin



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### **August 2020**

親愛的恐龍班家長 您好！

我是Tr. Justin，將接任Tr. Gareth成為恐龍班的老師。我來自英國（英格蘭），我的口音因為我到過許多國家而有些許的改變，直到目前為止，我去過澳洲、南非、蘇格蘭和在台灣有五年多了。最近，我有一批學生從瑪歇爾畢業，雖然離別令人感傷，但很開心看著他們成長且茁壯到達更好的地方。很榮幸可以迎接這群充滿活力且優秀的恐龍班的孩子們，期許他們可以在我和Tr. Vivi的帶領下在瑪歇爾快樂學習。我將在每個月寫一份計畫，讓你們可以了解恐龍班的學習進度及課程安排。讓我們來看看接下來的第一個月我們要學習的主題及內容。

#### **閱讀**

閱讀是學習英文很重要的能力之一。如果孩子們透過閱讀而成長，他們的英文能力也會相對的提升。雖然我們在學校會有練習閱讀的書籍，但我建議還是要讓孩子們在家唸給你們聽。這些書籍可以幫助孩子們練習且讓他們的頭腦活用並處於在英文模式中。成長和進步來自於不斷的重複練習。如果平常在家沒有做相關的英語學習，養成閱讀的好習慣是學習英文的基本要求。

以下是8月我們為孩子們推薦的書籍：

第一週: What Lila Loves/ My Mom

第二週: Time for Bed

第三週: Joshua James Likes Trucks

第四週: Flying Butter

第五週: Snow Joe

#### **主為書籍**

在這個主題中我們使用McGraw-Hill系列叢書。在這系列的叢書透過故事貫穿整個學習內容，過程中練習語法及其他要點。除此之外，我們透過故事討論孩子們的生活，利用相關詞彙和句子結構練習，並和他們的生活中做連結。通常，我們每兩個月會上一個單元，有些月份的上學天數不一樣，因此會有些微重疊。讓我們來看看第一個月我們要討論的主題：

Week 1 - 5: Workshop (Reading/Writing)

- Short 'a'

## - Story: "Jack Can"

### 拼音部分

在拼音部分，我們將練習更多種的發音和如何用書寫的方式呈現。本書提供許多的練習和新的規則方式。我期許在介紹這些規則時可以讓每個孩子們都熟悉，因為這些規則對於他們日後在閱讀和發音有很大的幫助。

讓我們介紹這一個月的拼音規則：

第一週：拼音辨識-聲音到符號（字母的唸法"r","m","s"）

第二週：聲音到符號（字母的唸法"t","h","b"）

第三週：評量（練習）和字母（"l","d"）

第四週：聲音到符號（字母的唸法"c","n","g"）

第五週：聲音到符號（字母的唸法"w"）和評量

### 工作簿

此工作簿是很好的拼音和練習會話的的補充教材。可幫助強調語法要點和句子結構，這個月我們會學到：

第一週：詞彙-圖片名稱（動物），句子結構" It's a..."

第二週：句子結構" It isn't a..."和練習

第三週：新的母音詞彙'egg', 'apple' 等，練習用 an 替代 a

第四週：問題"Is it a/an...?" 練習回答"Yes, it is." or "No, it isn't."

第五週 練習一到四週的內容

### MPM數學

MPM數學系列將重點放在解決各種日常生活中的問題，它以有趣的方式教導孩子基礎數學知識。新的MPM數學盒子有多元的東西，可以幫助孩子們學習。這次的主題包含更多創造性的數字關聯。

這一個月我們來討論：

第一週：形狀和顏色的配對，直線的特性

第二週：折線繪圖練習。"L"和反向，曲線和彎曲。複雜的折線圖，形狀和顏色的配對

第三週：圓弧線，尋找圖片的方式。數字辨識和數數練習。

第四週：認識數字5、6，寫數字5、6。折線圖

第五週：練習第一到四週的對話並結合材料貼紙

### 總結

上述為恐龍班的第一個月學習內容。第一個月有許多活動，像跳舞、唱歌、主題活動和圖書館借書，會持續透過每个月的計畫讓您們了解孩子們的學習進度。若您有任何的問題或給予回饋的，可於每週的交流與我分享或是透過Tr. Vivi讓我知道。我期許和各位家長們一起幫助孩子們在英語能力上的提升，並在學習過程中獲得更多的樂趣。