



Dinosaur Class Monthly Newsletter

December 2020

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

November has been heavily themed by the drama play, with plenty practice for remembering lines in the correct order and also for dance move routines alongside singing. The students have all enjoyed their parts and although the practice could at times feel intense and difficult, I believe they all appreciated the hard work they did which paid off and was really fun to see come together.

The behaviour in class has had substantial improvement since the start of the year, with students following instruction relatively well. There are obvious expected moments where kids develop their own chaos in class and at times they are allowed to indulge if appropriate, especially after behaving well for long periods. And even more so when they settle down again quickly after being told to. This has had a great effect on atmosphere in the classroom, allowing more time to interact constructively and also allow everyone to participate equally.

Reading

We have only read one book this last month, but I have tried to encourage students to pick up story books in between classes, which a lot of them do enjoy doing. Other reading relates mostly to the drama play, but was then passed over to try encourage remembering the lines and not just reading them.

I want the kids to enjoy reading as well, this is a rather important point to continuing with improving their reading ability. Reading is a very enjoyable activity when ability matches the difficulty level of the material. It is better to read easier books that entertain than really hard ones that discourage and demotivate.

Can parents please continue to help kids with keeping up their reading outside of school, this makes a big difference to their progress and will help them develop a comfortable routine with picking up books.

Next month we will look at the usual routine of one book per week:

Week 1: So Many Houses

Week 2: Shadows

Week 3: Hot, Hot, Hot

Week 4: Is Anybody Home?

Week 5: Please Sit Still

Core Material

Having read stories relating to short vowels, and one more to do with short 'i', we will begin a new story 'A Pig for Cliff' which focuses on the phonics for 'l'-blends. 'fl', 'sl', 'gl' etc. While phonics class won't be lining up with the same subject matter, this letter blending is a good introduction to the students for what is to come after basic CVC short vowel rules, and we touch on long vowels in between constantly to also keep their awareness switched on.

Phonics

Like I mentioned before, phonics will continue to focus on short vowel CVC rules, until we have covered all five vowels. Although the speed at which we move through the rest of the vowels should be double time, since they are familiar with the routine and the process to reach understanding should be easier.

This coming month we will look into:

Week 1: Short 'a' reviews and word usage, as well sound in segments

Week 2: Short 'i' reviews and word usage, as well sound in segments

Week 3: Short 'o' straight into segmenting and word usage

Week 4: Short 'u' same as 'o'

Workbook Jump

We will be playing a little bit of catch up with the schedule for this subject, but the concepts are fairly easy, based on everyday conversation about colours and questions about what objects look like. After we are confident that kids are familiar with this material then we will move onto transportation with some new vocabulary and hopefully we will get some good spelling practice in with these too.

Week 1: Questions with 'is' and 'are'

Week 2: Revise and review

Week 3: Yes, it is.../No, it isn't, Yes they are... / No, they aren't...

Week 4: Transport, this/ that

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

MPM will follow suit much the same as in previous months. We will do exercises that use pictures, shapes and colours to coordinate and match appropriately to the activities in question. Ordinal numbers are the first sets of material we cover, although this concept is quite familiar with the kids already, matching animals to their number in accordance with their correct positions, much like finding a seat in a cinema or on a train. Other concepts are repeats and practice of functions and properties, also matching position and place of objects and characters as appropriate. By the end of the month we will have covered simple counting again, related to numbers and images as well as paths. Math really is more of a fun subject at this stage and learning through fun activities sometimes feels more like play time than learning time, and I hope to maintain this atmosphere for the subject while it lasts.

Thank you,

Teacher Justin



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恐龍班爸爸媽咪們，

十一月以戲劇表演為主，我們進行了大量練習在熟記台詞的順序，並伴隨著歌舞表演。孩子們都很喜歡他們的角色，儘管練習有時會感到緊張和困難，但我相信他們辛勤努力試值得的，這些努力得到了回報，很高興看到他們在一起享受這個時刻。

自今年年初以來，孩子們在課堂上的行為有了很大的改善，學習情況相對較有效率。他們的行為是可以預期的，若孩子們在課堂上有些活躍，有時會視情況讓他們稍微釋放一下，特別是長期表現良好之後。但他們是有辦法馬上恢復，當他們被告知需冷靜後很快又安定下來。這對教室的氣氛上有顯著的進步，它允許更多的時間進行良好互的動，且每個孩子都能參與其中。

閱讀

上個月我們只讀了一本小書，但我鼓勵孩子們在課堂轉換間可以學習閱讀故事書，很多人都喜歡這樣做。其他閱讀大部分與戲劇有關，但後來轉而變成以鼓勵記住這些台詞，而不僅僅是閱讀它們。我希望孩子們也喜歡閱讀，這對於繼續提高他們的閱讀能力來說是很重要的一點。當能力與程度的難易相訪時，閱讀是一項非常愉快的活動。最好閱讀輕鬆有趣的書，而不是那些超乎孩子們程度的書，這會使他們沒信心及缺乏動力。

父母是否可以繼續幫助孩子們在學校外繼續閱讀，這對他們的進步有很大的影響，並且可以幫助他們養成日常拾書習慣。

下個月，我們將討論每週一本書的慣例：

Week 1: So Many Houses

Week 2: Shadows

Week 3: Hot, Hot, Hot

Week 4: Is Anybody Home?

Week 5: Please Sit Still

核心教材

閱讀了與短元音有關的故事，以及與短“i”有關的故事之後，我們將開始一個新故事“Pig for Cliff”，重點是“i”的拼音。“fi”，“si”，“gi”等。雖然拼音課不會涉及相同的主題，但這種混合字母的方法很好地向學生介紹了基本 CVC 短元音規則之後的內容，我們會不斷地在它們之間接觸長元音。

拼音

正如我之前提到的，拼音將繼續關注短元音 CVC 規則，直到我們了解所有五元音為止。儘管我們在其他元音中移動的速度應該是兩倍，但因為它們熟悉了規則，並且理解過程也更加容易。

下個月，我們將了解：

第一週：複習簡短的“a”和字詞用法，以及部分語音

第 2 週：複習簡短的“i”和字詞用法，以及部分語音內容

第 3 週：直接將“o”簡短地用於細分和單詞用法

第 4 週：簡短的“u”和“o”相同

Workbook Jump

我們將趕上該主題的計畫安排，但根據我們每天討論有關顏色以及對像外觀的問題，這些概念相當容易。在確實了解孩子們熟悉這種材料之後，我們將以一些新詞彙開始，並希望他們也能獲得一些良好的拼寫練習。

第一週：關於“是”和“是”的問題

第 2 週：預習及複習

第 3 週：是，這是... /否，不是，是，他們是... /否，不是...

第 4 週：交通運輸

MPM 數學

MPM 將跟前幾個月一樣。我們將使用圖片、形狀和顏色進行練習，以適當地協調和配合所討論的活動。序列是我們第一個討論的部分，儘管這個概念孩子們已經很熟悉，根據將動物與數量的配對，就像在電影院或火車上找到座位一樣。其他概念是功能和屬性的重複和實作，和適當地搭配對象和字符的位置。到本月底，我們將再次介紹與數字、圖像以及路徑有關的簡單計數。在這個階段，數學確實是一門有趣的科目，透過有趣的活動進行學習更能讓孩子們融入其中，我希望孩子們在學習的過程中一直保持這樣的感受。

謝謝，

賈斯汀老師