



## Whale Class Newsletter January 2021

Hello Parents,

This month's special event is the reading contest. The students are assigned a book this time and they will have lots of time to practice. During reading classes I try to have the kids focus on the words rather than just look at pictures and repeat sentences they have memorised. Although they obviously can't read all of the words, they do know quite a lot of key words and can read parts of the sentences in their stories. The kids will have some time to practice on the stage before the contest and I hope everyone will enjoy going on the stage and reading.

### **Core Material**

This month we will move onto book 4 of Core Material. The phonics letters are Oo and Dd. The key words are "you" and "do". The final chapter is a review of all of the keywords so far. The stories continue to build up short sentences using the key words the kids have learned so far. The stories this month include one about a fire station and another about going to the beach, both of which are topics the kids are interested in. The class have made good progress with these books and almost every student knows the key words now. The class have learnt very quickly.

Week 1: Rules to Go By

Week 2: Sounds Around Us

Week 3: The Places We Go

Week 4: Unit Review

### **Conversation/Grammar (Up and Away)**

The book covers fairly simple concepts and introduces some vocabulary such as animals and vehicles. For conversation class I use this book mostly for vocabulary and also to introduce other sentence patterns like "I want a..." and "I like..". As well as practicing with the book, I like to use flashcards so the class can play some games while learning. There are also lots of other opportunities for conversation practice such as when the kids want more food.

The first 2 weeks of the months are used for review and practice. After that we will focus on pronouns – it/you/they/we and is/are.

Week 1: Review

Week 2: Prepare for reading contest

Week 3: It is/they are

Week 4: You are/we are

### **Phonics**

This month starts with a review of the previous month's phonics and then moves onto 3 new letters. The exercises are the same, letter tracing and writing and matching sounds to words. The class are steadily improving in this area but we will continue to practice the alphabet every day.

Kindergarten age children struggle to understand these concepts and also find it hard to hold a pencil for a long period of time. For the first semester its best to think of phonics as helping them remember the letters and also introducing new vocabulary. I am very happy with the classes progress so far, they have done a great job with learning the starting sounds of letters.

Week 1: The letter C

Week 2: The letter C

Week 3: Review – C,D, L

Week 4: The letter N

### **Fine Motor Skills**

The class have 2 colouring books which are “letters and numbers” and “shapes and colours”. These books allow the class to practice drawing lines and colouring. I have noticed that children who like to draw find handwriting much easier so try to encourage them to draw and color. There is not a set schedule for these books. This semester we will focus on the “shapes and colours” book, so the class can practice the names of shapes and also on tracing shapes.

### **Story Books**

There are only 2 books this month due to rehearsal times for the reading contest. If you have time, try to read with them as it will encourage them to read by themselves. In class I focus on pronunciation of the sentences and also on some key words that they can learn to recognise like “can” and “go”. I also try to have the kids touch each word as we read, so that can learn to recognize some of the words.

We also do some simple Q&A with the stories, the class are quite enthusiastic about trying to answer questions and they are have lots to say about the stories.

Week 1: The Haircut

Week 2: Prepare for Reading Contest

Week 3: Prepare for Reading Contest

Week 4: Boots

### **Math**

This month we will finish book 5 of MPM. This month starts with “paths”, there are pictures of animals connected by shapes or colors and the class need to figure out what animal they will see if they use a particular path. The middle of the month is counting and number reciting. Although everyone can count, not all of the students recognize the numbers so we will spend more time on that. We will finish with inside and outside, with the class circling objects depending on whether they are inside or outside of boxes. This class is a good opportunity for lots of speaking practice.

Week 1: Paths

Week 2: Prepare for Reading Contest

Week 3: Counting

Week 4: Inside/Outside

### **Thematic Activity**

January's thematic will be Lunar New Year

### **Physical Education**

We currently have PE on Thursday afternoons. At the moment we are just doing simple activities like foot or tricycle races because the kids can understand the idea easily. Everyone seems to like joining in.

Week 1: Tricycle race

Week 2: Foot race

Week 3: Car race

Week 4: Obstacle Course

### **Song and Dance**

The school day starts with song and dance. The children get the chance to move around and have some fun before we start our first class. I also like to have them practice between classes or at the end of the day sometimes so that the students have the opportunity to move around and have some fun rather than sit for extended periods of time.

Week 1: High Five

Week 2: High Five

Week 3: Listen and Move

Week 4: Listen and Move

See you next time!

Teacher Kevin



## **Whale Class Newsletter January 2021**

親愛的家長您好，

本月的特別活動是朗讀比賽。這次給孩子們個別分配了一本書，他們將有很多的時間可以在班上練習。在閱讀課上，我試著讓孩子們專注於認識單詞，而不是只有看圖片和重複他們所記住句子。雖然他們還不是能夠閱讀所有的單詞，但他們確實知道了很多的關鍵字，並且可以閱

讀他們故事中的部分句子。孩子們在比賽前也會有一些時間能夠在舞台上練習，我希望這練習的過程中，每個人都能喜歡上台和閱讀。

### **Core Material:**

本月我們將進入主教材的第 4 冊。拼音字母是 Oo 和 Dd。關鍵詞則是“你”和“做”。最後一章節回顧了到目前為止的所有關鍵詞。這些故事繼續使用孩子們過去曾學到的關鍵詞來構建新的短句。這個月的故事包括一個關於消防局的故事和另一個關於去海灘的故事，這兩個都是孩子們很感興趣的話題。

整個班級學習了這些書，進步了許多，現在幾乎每個學生都知道關鍵詞了。班級的孩子們學得很快。

第 1 週：要遵守的規則

第 2 週：我們身邊的聲音

第 3 週：我們去的地方

第 4 週：單元回顧

### **Conversation/Grammar (Up Away Book)**

這本書涵蓋了相當簡單的概念，並介紹了一些詞彙，如動物和車輛。在會話課上，我主要使用這本書來學習詞彙，並介紹其他句型，例如“我想要一個……”和“我喜歡……”。除了用書練習外，我還喜歡使用閃示圖卡，這樣全班可以在學習的同時玩一些遊戲。還有很多其他的對話練習機會，例如當孩子們想要更多食物時。每個月的前兩週用於復習和練習。之後，我們將專注於代詞—它/你/他們/我們和是/是。

第 1 週：回顧

第 2 週：準備朗讀比賽

第 3 週：是/他們是

第 4 週：你是/我們是

### **Phonics**

這個月我們先回顧一些上個月的拼讀，然後進入 3 個新字母。練習的內容是相同的方式，字母的描寫以及將聲音與單詞配對。班級在這方面進步許多高，我們也將繼續每天練習字母的發音及書寫。幼兒園年齡的孩子很難理解這些概念，並且很難長時間的握住鉛筆。第一學期最好的的是將字母的發音練習視為幫助他們記住字母的第一步，並更容易藉此引入新詞彙的認識。

對孩子們到目前為止的課程狀態與進步，我感到非常開心，他們在學習字母的起始發音方面做得很好。

第 1 週：字母 C

第 2 週：字母 C

第 3 週：複習 - C、D、L

第 4 週：字母 N

### **Fine Motor Skill**

班級共有 2 本填色書，分別是“字母和數字”及“形狀和顏色”。這些書讓班級孩子們能夠練習描畫線和著色。我發現那些喜歡畫畫的孩子對於日後的書寫將會更容易些，所以如果可以的話，請多鼓勵孩子們在家也能夠繪畫和著色，這將會是很好的練習。

這些書籍沒有固定的學習進度，本學期我們將專注於“形狀和顏色”，以便全班能夠練習形狀的名稱以及描畫形狀。

## **Story Books**

由於戲劇排練的時間，這個月只有2本書。如果你有時間，試著多帶著孩子們一起閱讀，因為這會鼓勵到他們慢慢能夠自己閱讀並喜歡上閱讀。在課堂上，我專注於句子的發音以及他們可以學習識別的一些關鍵詞，例如“can”和“go”。我們還對故事進行了一些簡單的問答，班級非常熱衷於回答問題，他們對故事有很多話要說及想分享的。

第 1 週：理髮

第 2 週：準備朗讀比賽

第 3 週：準備朗讀比賽

第 4 週：靴子

## **MPM**

這個月我們將完成 MPM 的第 5 冊。這個月從“路徑”開始，有一些動物的圖片，它們透過由不同的形狀或顏色而連接起來，班級的孩子們則需要弄清楚如果他們使用特定的路徑，他們會看到什麼動物。月中的進度是數數和認識數字。雖然每個人都會數數，但並不是所有的學生都能認出數字，所以我們會花更多的時間在這上面。我們將完成內部和外部，像是在盒子的裡面還是外面，類似的概念。這門課也會是讓孩子們有大量口語練習的好機會。

第 1 週：路徑

第 2 週：準備朗讀比賽

第 3 週：計數

第 4 週：裡面/外面

## **Thematic Activity**

一月分的主題活動將會是...

## **Physical Education**

我們目前在星期四下午有 PE。目前我們只是在做一些簡單的活動，比如步行或三輪車比賽，因為孩子們很容易理解這個想法。每個人似乎都很喜歡加入並一起參加。

第 1 週：三輪車比賽

第 2 週：賽跑

第 3 週：賽車

第 4 週：障礙賽

## **Song and Dance**

在校園課程活動的每一天，我們都會運用歌曲律動來開始展開。孩子們在進行第一堂課程活動之前能夠有動動身體並享受於歌曲其中的機會，除此之外，在課程的轉銜時間或是每天將結束課程活動之時，我也喜歡讓孩子們能夠有唱歌跳舞的娛樂時間勝過於只是坐著等待課程的轉換。

第1週: High Five

第2週: High Five

第3週: Listen and Move

第4週: Listen and Move

我們下次見！

Teacher Kevin