



## **K3 Penguin Class Newsletter January 2022**

Dear parents,

We are coming towards the end of our first semester as Penguin Class. During the first few months of the semester the kids are real 'babies' who don't know any or little English and have not been in a school environment before. So, the first semester is a new and very different experience for the students, but I am very proud of the development and improvement of everyone. As their confidence grows and they become used to daily life at Kindergarten they have become really enthusiastic and positive about learning English. Their behaviour is very good and they follow instructions well. I am starting to hear more English being spoken in a natural manner rather than speaking Chinese. It takes a long time for it to become fully natural, but I am happy with their progress so far. I know if they keep working hard they will become great English speakers.

Please see below a detailed schedule for January and please feel free to ask myself or Tr. Athena 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.

Jan 3-7: Prepare for Reading Contest

Jan 10-14: Noisy Breakfast

Jan 17-21: Boots

Jan 24-28: The Haircut

### **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 key words.

Jan 3-7: Unit 4

Jan 10-14: Unit 4

Jan 17-21: Unit 4

Jan 24-28: Unit 4

### **Conversation**

Conversation is an integral aspect 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 through.

Jan 3-7: Prepare for Reading Contest

Jan 10-14: Prepare for Reading Contest

Jan 17-21: Unit 16. It is a ball/They are balls.

Jan 24-28: Unit 17. You are boys. Yes, we are boys. Are they students? Yes, they are. No, they are not.

### **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.

Jan 3-7: P79, 80. Sound to Symbol.

Jan 10-14: P82, 83. Letter Recognition, Sound to Symbol.

Jan 17-21: P85, 86. Phonemic Awareness, Letter Awareness.

Jan 24-28: P87, 88. Sound to Symbol,

### **Math**

We are using the MPM books and boxes for our math 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...

Jan 3-7: Prepare for Reading Contest

Jan 10-14: A5:P06-10 Learning concept of non-directional paths.

Jan 17-21: A5:P11-14 Exercises on recognising numbers 1-5, reciting and finding missing number.

Jan 24-28: A5:P15-18 Learning concepts of "inside & outside" and "above & 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.

Jan 3-7: High Five

Jan 10-14: High Five

Jan 17-21: Listen and Move

Jan 24-28: Listen and Move

### **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. January's theme will revolve around thematic activities relating to Chinese New Year. 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



### **K3 Penguin Class Newsletter January 2022**

親愛的家長您好：

時間過得很快，第一個學期即將結束了。在學期初前幾個月，孩子們就像真正的「嬰兒」，孩子們不會英語，或是會一點點英語，大部分的孩子也沒有上過學，這是孩子第一個校園生活，所以這第一個學期對企鵝班的孩子們來說是非常不一樣的、全新的體驗。然而我對於每一個孩子的進步與成長感到非常驕傲！隨著孩子自信心的增長，孩子們會越來越熟悉與習慣學校生活，這也會使孩子對於學習英文更有熱忱、更積極學習英文。孩子們的行為已經越來越好，也能遵從老師的指導。我開始聽到孩子以自然的方式說英語，而不是說中文。這需要

很長時間才能完全自然而然地說英語，但我很樂見於孩子們的進步及發展過程。我知道如果孩子們堅持、持續努力，他們會成為優秀的英語使用者。

請參考以下1月份的行事曆，如有任何疑問歡迎詢問Tr. Athena或我。

## **Reading**

閱讀課在馬歇爾是引以為傲的一門課，我們的目標是讓孩子成為小讀者，掌握發音和拼音來自行閱讀，這門課也是很好的機會讓孩子能夠累積單字量及促進對話技巧。我發現閱讀課可以激發孩子的想像力及促使他們在自己的時間進行閱讀。閱讀是我個人很享受的消遣時光，因此我會盡可能地促使孩子在這個項目有好的表現，希望你能夠看到孩子穩定的成長。

1月3日-1月7日: Prepare for Reading Contest

1月10日-1月14日: Noisy Breakfast

1月17日-1月21日: Boots

1月24日-1月28日: The Haircut

## **Core Material**

這是包含閱讀、文法和發音技能的全方位課程。在這些課程中，孩子們被要求學習分析故事、練習母音，並使用一系列關鍵字來練習完整句子及文法。這一年我們會評估孩子的拼念和概念理解。這是一種無壓力的情況，透過讓孩子練習“填空”或“選擇正確的單字”來進行評估。我會鼓勵孩子自己做，而不是大聲說出答案，這樣每個孩子都有機會獨自完成。我們會複習並測試關鍵詞的拼念。

1月3日-1月28日: Unit 4

## **Conversation**

在馬歇爾，生活會話是不可或缺的一部分，在課堂上我們會正式的進行教學，並且在英語老師在的時時刻刻都會進行教學，我們鼓勵孩子在上學的期間說英文，在午餐時間、遊戲時間...在日常生活練習說英文。生活會話開始於簡單的問題，像是你叫什麼名字？並隨著他們的英文能力發展而發展，我喜歡看著孩子成長並樂見孩子展現他們的個人特質。

1月3日-1月14日: Prepare for Reading Contest

1月17日-1月21日: Unit 16. It is a ball/They are balls.

1月24日-1月28日: Unit 17. You are boys. Yes, we are boys. Are they students? Yes, they are. No, they are not.

## **Phonics**

這學期我們將重視發音，以幫助孩子們的閱讀發展，以增加他們已有的知識和關鍵字。這是非常重要的閱讀基礎，因此隨著他們詞彙量的增加，難度也會逐漸提高，這一點非常重要。我們藉由簿本練習和白板活動，並將發音與拚念結合起來。

1月3日-1月7日: P79, 80. Sound to Symbol.

1月10日-1月14日: P82, 83. Letter Recognition, Sound to Symbol.

1月17日-1月21日: P85, 86. Phonemic Awareness, Letter Awareness.

1月24日-1月28日: P87, 88. Sound to Symbol,

## **Math**

我們採用MPM教材及簿本進行數學教學，MPM教材真的有一種獨特而有趣的方式，讓孩子們透過有趣的方式和遊戲相關聯的動物、顏色和物體讓孩子們學習基礎的數學概念！本月我們將專注於.....

1月3日-1月7日: Prepare for Reading Contest

1月10日-1月14日: A5:P06-10 Learning concept of non-directional paths.

1月17日-1月21日: A5:P11-14 Exercises on recognising numbers 1-5, reciting and finding missing number.

1月24日-1月28日: A5:P15-18 Learning concepts of “inside & outside” and “above & below.”

### **Physical Education**

這對每個人都很重要。在忙碌的生活中，我們經常忘記鍛煉，而我堅信“健康的身體/健康的心靈”，因此對我們的年輕一代進行大量鍛煉和呼吸新鮮空氣至關重要。運動不僅有益於我們的身體，還有益於我們的社交技能，例如團隊合作、競爭和公平競爭。我已經開始用團隊活動來促進孩子學習團隊合作，並在過程給予鼓勵，以及教導孩子理解如果不遵守團體規範會造成的後果。大肢體運動技能也有助於我們的精細運動技能，所以我嘗試用接力賽、跟隨領導者和合作任務等有趣的活動讓孩子參與。

### **Song and Dance**

這對我和學生來說是很好的機會，可以一起欣賞、享受歌曲。唱歌和跳舞不僅可以教授單字和曲調，還有助於聽力和大肌肉運動技能，因為舞蹈涉及學習動作，因此需要良好的協調。這些歌曲和舞蹈通常包含在我們的戲劇表演中，這也是馬歇爾學校生活的一個重要部分。

1月3日-1月14日: High Five

1月17日-1月28日: Listen and Move

### **Thematic Activity**

每個月不同的英文老師會計劃並安排特定的主題活動。可以是小型的美術創作、學校附近的短途實地考察，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，因此這些活動有助於孩子們在享受樂趣的同時可以了解不同的文化。1月的活動將圍繞中國新年的主題活動展開。這對孩子們來說總是有趣和令人興奮的。

### **Library/Storybook**

每個禮拜孩子都有機會借一本故事書回家並進行閱讀，最近我選擇了一本有趣的故事和孩子分享，並花時間解釋故事中的觀念。很高興看到孩子們仔細聆聽故事及非常感興趣的樣子。孩子們非常投入故事當中，而我相信這是一個非常好的時光並且有助於孩子們的聽力及想像力！

感謝你的閱讀，希望這封信能使你更清楚的了解課程

Best wishes, Tr. Eamonn