

## **Whale Class Newsletter February and March 2023**

Hello Parents,

It's the start of a new semester and the class have made a lot of good progress. In terms of phonics and reading they are doing well and I hope to continue this with the new reading books and phonics material. This semester follows the same pattern as the last, there are no new books or exercises, but the weekly stories are slightly longer and contain a wider variety of vocabulary. The Reading Wonders books focus on a lot of high-frequency words, like "can", "do", "my", "you", etc... It is much easier for the kids to read stories and follow sentences if they can recognize these words when they see them. For this reason, it is good to try and review the Wonders books that have been sent home.

Parent's evening will be Wednesday 22nd of February, and on Monday 6th of March we will have the school sports day.

### **Core Material**

We will be completing books 5 and 6 over the next 2 months. Book 5 focuses on nature. The key words are "my", "are", "he", and "with". The phonics letters are H, E, and F, R. Book 6 is about weather. The key words are "is", "little", "she", and "was". The phonics letters are B, L and K. Both books continue to build on what the kids have already learnt and use simple, repetitive sentences that help them learn vocabulary and practice sounds out short words like "Kim" and "hot". As well as reading the stories I try to do lots of sentence making and have the class repeat the best answers. We have a lot of time for each chapter, so there is no need to focus only on reading.

### **FEBRUARY**

- Week 1: Winter Holiday
- Week 2: Book 5 – How Does Your Garden Grow?
- Week 3: Book 5 - Trees
- Week 4: Book 5 – Fresh from the Farm

### **MARCH**

- Week 1: Book 5 – Unit Review
- Week 2: Book 6 – The Four Seasons
- Week 3: Book 6 – What's the Weather?
- Week 4: Book 6 – Stormy Weather
- Week 5: Book 6 – Unit Review

### **Conversation/Grammar (Grammar Space book)**

For February we will be finishing the current chapter with some review pages followed by a "grammar test". It won't really be a test and we will just go through the pages together. The class are making good progress so I usually ask them to finish the last few questions

by themselves and then we go over the answer together. For March we are moving on to subject-verb agreement using “like.” E.G. I like, he likes and do/does... The unit also features questions about animals and foods. I will try to add some extra vocabulary to make this more interesting for the class.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Review (is/are, this/that, etc)

Week 2: Review (is/are, this/that, etc)

Week 3: Review (is/are, this/that, etc)

Week 4: Review (is/are, this/that, etc)

## MARCH

Week 1: I like, he/she likes

Week 2: I like, my father likes/my mother likes

Week 3: I don't like, he/she doesn't like

Week 4: Review

Week 5: Review

## Phonics

This month will focus on writing short vowel words like hen, ten, bug, rug and also high frequency words like do, help, see, etc. In March, we will be starting on long vowel words. We will begin with long a and start looking at long I at the end of the month. The class are already familiar with silent e words, but we will now also look at other ways to write long vowels – ay (day) and ai (snail). This can be a bit confusing at first, and there is no way to know when to use silent e or when to use ai other than memorization. However, I think the class will improve in this area. We have already looked at words like snow and grow, so they know that there are other ways to make long vowels.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Winter Holiday

Week 2: Word writing (short e)

Week 3: Word writing (short e)

Week 4: Word writing (short vowels +high frequency words)

## MARCH

Week 1: Review

Week 2: short a review

Week 3: Long a

Week 4: Long a

Week 5: long i

## Writing Workbook

The class have a new writing workbook, which uses material from Reading Wonders. They will complete 4 pages a week, but some of them are just reading pages. To complete the work, they will read short stories and then write sentences about what they have read. Some of the questions are simple Q&A like “write what Tim does on page 2”, others are more open like “what can friends do”.

I will try to encourage the class to think of their own ideas as it's nice if they can write independently.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Friends Can

Week 2: We Can Move

Week 3: What Can I See?

Week 4: I Can Help

## MARCH

Week 1: Review

Week 2: I Like, You Like

Week 3: Tam and Pam Help Tim

Week 4: Nat, Tim and Nan Play

Week 5: Tam and Pam Can Play

### **Story Books**

We are beginning new books this semester, they are quite similar to last semester's. The difficulty level is quite similar so I think the class will do well.

We also do some simple Q&A with the stories, the class are quite enthusiastic about trying to answer questions and they have lots to say about the stories. This semester's books are a bit more complicated, but still quite similar to last semester. Most of the books focus on one or two sentence patterns so the class don't find them too hard to memorize.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Busy Day, Busy Night

Week 2: What's the Weather?

Week 3: Eat Your Peas Louise

Week 4: Little Sister, Big Mess

## MARCH

Week 1: Review

Week 2: Sometimes Things Change

Week 3: One Smart Fish

Week 4: Stinky Clothes

Week 5: Being Me

### **Math**

We start a new set of MPM books this semester. In February we will be counting and then go onto mazes. After that we will go onto spatial correspondence. This means things like placing shapes or number cards in the same position as they are shown in the book. The box also contains a kind of shoe lace which the class need to thread through holes in the same way as they are shown in the book. The kids usually enjoy this activity.

In March we will do more matching and counting exercises and then look at inside/outside and above/below. For this topic there is a lot of time for speaking practice to help reinforce the words and sentence patterns.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Counting

Week 2: Mazes

Week 3: Counting

Week 4: Spatial Correspondence

## MARCH

Week 1: Review + sticker book

Week 2: Patterns

Week 3: Counting – 9 and 10

Week 4: Properties – Combining shapes and colors

Week 5: Properties – Combining shapes and colors

### **Thematic Activity**

February and March's thematic activity will be about Spring and International Culture.

### **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. This semester we can try relay races where the kids pass batons to each other and race in teams.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: Winter Holiday

Week 2: Foot race

Week 3: Car race

Week 4: Obstacle Course

## MARCH

Week 1: Car race

Week 2: Tricycle Race

Week 3: Obstacle Course

Week 4: Foot Race

Week 5: Car race

### **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.

## FEBRUARY

Week 1: We Will Rock You

Week 2: We Will Rock You

Week 3: We Will Rock You

Week 4: I Will Follow Him

## MARCH

Week 1: I Will Follow Him

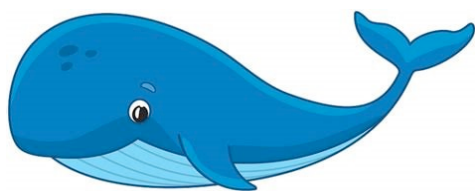
Week 2: I Will Follow Him

Week 3: The Shapes Threw a Party

Week 4: The Shapes Threw a Party

Week 5: Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

See you next time!  
Teacher Kevin



## Whale Class Newsletter February and March 2023

親愛的家長您好

新學期開始了，班級進步很大。在拼音和閱讀方面，他們做得很好，我希望通過新的閱讀書籍和拼音教材的部分繼續這樣學習。這學期和上學期一樣，沒有新書和作業本，但每週的故事稍微長一些，詞彙量也更豐富。Reading Wonders 書本中使用了很多高頻詞，例如“can”、“do”、“my”、“you”等。當他們看到它們時可以認出這些詞。出於這個原因，小班帶回去的Wonders教材鼓勵大家可以反覆多一些複習喔。

家長之夜將在 2 月 22 日星期三舉行，3 月 6 日星期一我們將舉行學校運動會。

### Core Material 主教材:

我們將在接下來的 2 個月內完成第 5 本書和第 6 本書。第 5 冊側重於自然。關鍵詞是“我”、“是”、“他”和“與”。語音字母是 H、E 和 F、R。第 6 冊是關於天氣的。關鍵詞是“is”、“little”、“she”和“was”。拼音字母是 B、L 和 K。這兩本書都繼續以孩子們已經學過的知識為基礎，並使用簡單、重複的句子來幫助他們學習詞彙，並練習發音像“Kim”和“hot”這樣的短詞。除了閱讀故事外，我還嘗試做很多造句並讓全班同學重複最佳的答案。我們每一章都有很多時間，所以沒有必要只專注於閱讀。

二月

第 1 週：寒假

第 2 週：第 5 冊 - 您的花園如何種植？

第 3 週：第 5 冊 - 樹木

第 4 週：第 5 冊 - 剛從農場出來

三月

第 1 週：第 5 冊 - 單元復習

第 2 週：第 6 冊 - 四季

第 3 週：第 6 冊 - 天氣如何？

第 4 週：第 6 冊 - 暴風雨天氣

第 5 週：第 6 冊 - 單元復習

### Conversation對話/ Grammar文法 (Grammar Space)

2 月，我們將完成當前章節的一些複習頁，然後是“語法測試”。它不會真的是一個測試，我們將一起閱讀那些頁面。班級進步很大，所以我通常讓他們自己完成最後幾個問題，然後我們一起復習答案。對於 3 月，我們將繼續使用“like”進行主謂一致。例如。我喜歡，他喜歡和做/做.....該單元還包含有關動物和食物的問題。我將嘗試添加一些額外的詞彙，使課堂更有趣。

二月

- 第 1 週：寒假
- 第 2 週：回顧（是/是，這個/那個，等等）
- 第 3 週：回顧（是/是，這個/那個，等等）
- 第 4 週：回顧（是/是，這個/那個，等等）

三月

- 第 1 週：我喜歡，他/她喜歡
- 第 2 週：我喜歡，爸爸喜歡/媽媽喜歡
- 第 3 週：我不喜歡，他/她不喜歡
- 第 4 週：複習
- 第 5 週：回顧

### Phonics發音

這個月將專注於寫像 **hen**、**ten**、**bug**、**rug** 等短元音單詞以及像 **do**、**help**、**see** 等高頻詞。三月份，我們將開始寫長元音單詞。我們將從長音 **a** 開始，並在月底開始關注長音 **i**。班級已經熟悉了不發音的 **e** 詞，但我們現在還要學習其他寫長元音的方法——**ay**（天）和 **ai**（蝸牛）。起初這可能有點混亂，除了用記憶的方式之外沒有其他辦法去知道何時使用無聲 **e** 或何時使用 **ai**。但是，我認為班級會在這方面還是能夠有所進步的。我們已經看過像 **snow** 和 **grow** 這樣的詞，所以他們知道還有其他方法可以發出長元音。

二月

- 第 1 週：寒假
- 第 2 週：文字寫作（短 **e**）
- 第 3 週：文字寫作（短 **e**）
- 第 4 週：單詞寫作（短元音+高頻詞）

三月

- 第 1 週：回顧
- 第 2 週：簡短回顧
- 第 3 週：長 **a**
- 第 4 週：長 **a**
- 第 5 週：長 **i**

### Writing Workbook 寫作練習本

班級有一本新的寫作練習冊，其中使用了 **Reading Wonders** 中的教材。他們將每週完成 4 頁，但其中一些只是閱讀頁面。為了完成作業，他們將閱讀短篇小說，然後根據所讀內容寫下句子。有些問題是簡單的問答，比如“在第 2 頁寫下 **Tim** 做什麼”，其他的則更開放，比如“朋友能做什麼”  
我會盡量鼓勵全班思考自己的想法，因為如果他們能獨立寫作就好了。

二月

- 第 1 週：朋友可以
- 第 2 週：我們可以移動
- 第 3 週：我能看到什麼？

第 4 週：我可以幫忙

三月

第 1 週：回顧

第 2 週：我喜歡，你喜歡

第 3 週：Tam 和 Pam 幫助蒂姆

第 4 週：Nat、Tim 和 Nan 玩耍

第 5 週：Tam 和 Pam 可以玩

### Story Books 故事小書

這學期我們開始了一些新書，它們和上學期的很相似。 難度級別非常相似，所以我認為這門課會做得很好。

我們還對故事進行了一些簡單的問答，班級非常熱衷於嘗試回答問題，他們對故事有很多話要說。 這學期的書有點複雜，但還是和上學期差不多。 大多數書籍都專注於一兩個句型，因此全班同學不會覺得它們太難背。

二月

第 1 週：忙碌的一天，忙碌的夜晚

第 2 週：天氣如何？

第 3 週：吃你的豌豆路易絲

第 4 週：小妹妹，大混亂

三月

第 1 週：回顧

第 2 週：有時情況會發生變化

第 3 週：一條聰明的魚

第 4 週：臭衣服

第 5 週：成為我

### Math 數學

我們這學期開始使用一套新的 MPM 書籍。 2 月，我們將數數，然後走迷宮。 之後我們將繼續進行空間對應。 這意味著將形狀或數字卡片放置在與書中所示相同的位置。 盒子裡還有一種鞋帶，學生需要按照書中所示的方法將其穿孔。 孩子們通常喜歡這項活動。

三月份我們會做更多的匹配和計數練習，然後看看內部/外部和上面/下面。 這個話題有很多口語練習的時間來幫助鞏固單詞和句型。

二月

第 1 週：計數

第 2 週：迷宮

第 3 週：計數

第 4 週：空間對應

三月

第 1 週：回顧+貼紙書

第 2 週：模式

第 3 週：數數——9 和 10

第 4 週：特性——組合形狀和顏色

第 5 週：特性——組合形狀和顏色

### **Thematic Activity 主題活動**

二月和三月份的主題活動將會是春天以及國際文化。

### **Physical Education 體能活動**

我們目前在星期四下午有體育課。目前我們只是做一些簡單的活動，比如步行或三輪車比賽，因為孩子們可以很容易地理解這個想法。這個學期我們可以嘗試接力賽，孩子們互相傳遞接力棒，並在團隊中比賽。

二月

第 1 週：寒假

第 2 週：競走

第 3 週：賽車

第 4 週：障礙賽

三月

第 1 週：賽車

第 2 週：三輪車比賽

第 3 週：障礙賽

第 4 週：競走

第 5 週：賽車

### **Song and Dance 唱歌跳舞：**

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。

二月

第 1 週：We Will Rock You

第 2 週：We Will Rock You

第 3 週：We Will Rock You

第 4 週：I Will Follow Him

三月

第 1 週：I Will Follow Him

第 2 週：I Will Follow Him

第 3 週：The Shapes Threw a Party

第 4 週：The Shapes Threw a Party

第 5 週：Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

我們下次見！

Teacher Kevin