

## Whale Class Newsletter April 2023

This month will start with a review week since the first week of April is mostly taken up by public holidays. At the end of the month we will begin practicing the school play. There are 2 events this month, the Easter activity on April 7th (Friday) and the field trip on April 18th (Tuesday). For Easter, there will be an Easter egg hunt in the play ground, followed by some games for the kids to play. For the field trip we will be visiting a zoo in Tainan, so we can review some animals and related words before hand.

### **Core Material**

This week we are finishing Reading Anthology chapter 4. This isn't a very difficult chapter so I have tried to add as much Q&A as possible and let the class get more speaking practice. There are no key words because we are doing the big book, but we will review the words the class have already learned. The story has some straight forward words like run and move, but also some more complex phrase like "I have strong legs."

These are the most useful books for helping to kids learn to read, so try to practice them with their child if you have some time.

Week 1: Review

Week 2: Friends/There are Days

Week 3: Friends/There are Days

Week 4: Prepare for School Play

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

This month we will continue looking at subject+verb agreement, which means I like, he/she likes. We will be looking at making questions with these words – "Do you like apples?", "Does she like pears?". The third week is a 2 page test which will review the chapter we just looked at. The final week of the month is sentence fills using like/likes. This is the end of the unit and we will move onto "I can" next month. In addition to writing in the book, we use some of these classes for speaking practice. The class will take turns asking each other questions. This kind of activity will be much easier this month since we are looking at "Do you like...?" We are able to do a reasonable amount of speaking practice in class and everyone is familiar with the sentence patterns, however its difficult for them to remember when to use does/doesn't or add S to verbs.

Week 1: Review

Week 2: Do you/Does he/she, etc...

Week 3: Grammar test/review

Week 4: review of like/likes + do/does

### **Phonics**

We have finished looking at short vowels and are now going back to long vowels. The class are already familiar with silent e words and we have reviewed this throughout the

semester do the kids remember the concept well. We have also looked at other ways to make long vowels like “ow” and “ay”. The class should not find this very difficult other than memorising when to use different spelling rules. (e.g. kite, night)

Week 1: Review

Week 2: long I (i+silent e, ie, igh)

Week 3: long I

Week 4: review + long o

## **Writing**

The class have now have a writing book and they will be completing one chapter a week. This book is relatively simple and is connected to the Reading Wonders books used in core material class. The chapters consist of a 2 page story and 3 questions which need one word or one sentence answers. There is then a second page which asks the class to write their own sentences. I try to encourage them to write long sentences and look for extra details in the pictures.

## **Story Books**

There are only 3 books this month due to the public holidays. 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 common words – for example a story may have a lot of long vowels or focus on a few consonant blends like sh and st.. I also try to have the kids touch each words 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. This semester’s books are a bit more complicated, but still quite similar to last semester. There is a wider variety of vocabulary and the sentence patterns are more varied, so it can be harder for the kids to remember all of the sentences.

Week 1: Review

Week 2: What Can Insects Do?

Week 3: Wind

Week 4: Who Needs Water?

## **Math**

This month we will be looking at comparatives – more than/fewer than and measurements – longer than/shorter than. This part of MPM has lots of opportunities for speaking practice so the class will practice making sentences individually and the class will then repeat them. After that we will move onto ordinal numbers – first, second, third, etc. The class have some understanding of this as we have discussed it when talking about today’s date and in other ways too. Finally, we will begin practicing the school play in the last week of April.

Week 1: Review

Week 2: More than /fewer than

Week 3: Ordinal numbers

Week 4: Prepare for school play

## **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.

Week 1: Relay 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: Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

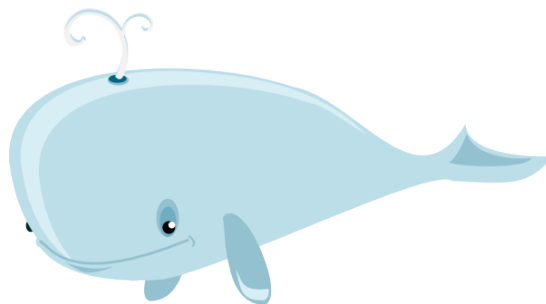
Week 2: Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

Week 3: One Elephant Went Out to Play

Week 4: Prepare for school play

See you next time!

Teacher Kevin



## **Whale Class Newsletter April 2023**

親愛的家長您好

這個月將以復習週開始，因為4月的第一周大部分時間都是國定假日。月底我們將開始練習學校的戲劇。這個月有2個活動，4月7日（週五）的復活節活動和4月18日（週二）的戶外教學。復活節期間，遊樂場將舉辦尋找復活節彩蛋的活動，然後是一些供孩子們玩的遊戲。為了戶外教學，我們將參觀自然科學博物館，因此我們可以事先複習一些科學、恐龍和相關詞彙。

### **Core Material 主教材:**

本週我們將完成 Reading Anthology 第4章。這不是一個非常困難的章節，所以我嘗試添加盡可能多的問答，讓全班有更多的口語練習。沒有關鍵詞，因為我們在進行大書的內容教學，但是我們會復習全班已經學過的單詞。這個故事有一些簡單的詞，比如奔跑和移動，但也有一些更複雜的詞，比如“我有強壯的腿”。

第1週：複習

第2週：朋友/有日子

第3週：朋友/有日子

## 第 4 週：戲劇練習

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

這個月我們將繼續研究主語+動詞的一致性，這意味著我喜歡，他/她喜歡。我們將考慮用這些詞提問——“你喜歡蘋果嗎？”、“她喜歡梨嗎？”。第三周是一個 2 頁的測試，將復習我們剛剛看過的章節。這個月的最後一周是使用喜歡/喜歡的句子填充。這是本單元的結尾，我們將在下個月轉到“我能”。除了在書中寫作之外，我們還使用其中一些課程來練習口語表達。全班同學會輪流提問。這個月透過這種活動的練習會讓孩子們學習得更多，因為我們正在研究“你喜歡.....嗎？”我們可以在課堂上進行適量的口語練習，每個人都熟悉句型，但他們很難記住什麼時候使用does/doesn't或在動詞後加s。

第 1 週：複習

第 2 週：你/他/她等等.....

第 3 週：語法測試/複習

第 4 週：回顧喜歡/喜歡 + 做/做

### Phonics 發音

我們已經看完了短母音，現在回到長母音。班級已經熟悉無聲 e 單詞，我們在整個學期都對此進行了複習，孩子們是否記住了這個概念。我們還研究了其他長母音單詞像“ow”和“ay”這樣的。除了記住何時使用不同的拼寫規則外，班級應該不會覺得這很困難。（例如風箏、夜晚）

第 1 週：複習

第 2 週：long l (i+silent e, ie, igh)

第 3 週：long l

第 4 週：複習+long o

### Handwriting Practice and Spelling 書寫練習和拼音

班級現在有了一本寫作書，他們將每週完成一章。本書比較簡單，與核心教材課用到的Reading Wonders書籍相關連。這些章節包括一個 2 頁的故事和 3 個需要一個單詞或一句話回答的問題。然後是第二頁，要求全班寫下自己的句子。我試著鼓勵他們寫長句子，並在圖片中尋找額外的細節。

### Story Books 故事小書

由於國定假期，這個月只有 3 本書。如果你有時間，試著和他們一起閱讀，因為這會鼓勵他們自己閱讀。在課堂上，我專注於句子的發音和常用詞——例如，一個故事可能有很多長母音或專注於一些輔音混合，如 sh 和 st。我也試著讓孩子們比著每個單詞，我們這樣閱讀的同時也可以學會識別一些單詞。

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。詞彙種類更多，句式也更多樣，因此孩子們更難記住所有句子。

第 1 週：複習

第 2 週：昆蟲能做什麼？

第 3 週：風

第 4 週：誰需要水？

### Math 數學

本月我們將研究比較——多於/少於和測量——長於/短於。MPM 的這一部分有很多練習口語的機會，因此班級將練習單獨造句，然後班級將重複造句。之後，我們將繼續討論序數——第一、第二、第三等。班級對此有一些了解，因為我們在談論今天的日期時已經討論過了，也以其他方式進行了討論。最後，我們將在四月的最後一周開始練習學校戲劇。

第 1 週：複習

第 2 週：多於/少於

第 3 週：序數

第 4 週：準備學校遊戲

### **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。

第 1 週：障礙物競賽

第 2 週：賽跑

第 3 週：跳躍比賽

第 4 週：車子競賽

### **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。

第 1 週：Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

第 2 週：Who Stole the Cookie from the Cookie Jar

第 3 週：One Elephant Went Out to Play

第 4 週：戲劇練習

我們下次見！

Teacher Kevin