



Dinosaur Class Newsletter August / September 2024

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

We have finally arrived at the final year of kindergarten and it seems to have all passed in the blink of an eye. Kids are all talking more and more, and with more confidence too. I will endeavor to get the kids talking more in group discussions and help them with correcting the odd little mistakes in their conversational grammar, especially now they have a good foundation from all the workbooks we've been working through.

Reading

The book list for K5 seems to take a bit of a leap after the first few weeks, so while August may seem easy peasy, September has a few more longer and more difficult ones. The later books also start to test the boundaries of the kid's abilities. But not to be discouraged, if we persevere and be consistent with practice in school and at home, then the kids will not only master the reading but also enjoy it. They do ever so love to show that they can do something and showing off their ability to read, something especially difficult is a great joy for them.

August's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: City, Farm and Sea

Week 2: Farm Animals

Week 3: Seasons

Week 4: Why Recycle?

September's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: A Pig, A Fox, and a Box

Week 2: A Pig, A Fox, and Stinky Socks

Week 3: Tiger is a Scaredy Cat

Week 4: Just a Special Day

Week 5: Just a Little Love

Phonics

The phonics rules begin to move into combination sounds in September, but remain in the realm of individual letter sounds for August, including short and long vowel sounds. We cover how to break down bigger words, in the same way the kids learnt CVC words,

sounding out the letters and working out the word, to avoid feeling intimidated by long words, which they can easily work out in the same way.

August's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P7, 8, 9	(Reviewing consonants)
Week 2: P10, 12, 17	(Reviewing consonants)
Week 3: P18, 19, 20	(Short vowel 'a' and 'i')
Week 4: P21, 22, 23	(Short vowel words in context)

September's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P24, 25, 26	(Short vowel 'o' and 'u')
Week 2: P27, 28, 29	(Short vowels in sentences)
Week 3: P32, 33, 35	(Review Short vowels)
Week 4: P36, 39, 40	(High frequency words)
Week 5: P45, 46, 47	(Long vowel 'a')

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

This subject still allows kids to enjoy the competitions to win as many points for their groups as they can. Some kids are more inclined than others to not pay attention to instructions and get easily distracted by the book or items in the box. The group tends to motivate them to focus more however and leaves me free to manage the lesson and not their focus as much. The lessons tend to be quite fun as well, with a mix of numbers, and also mazes and other games, so this class is very easy to kill time with.

August's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: E1: P01-04
Week 2: E1: P05-08
Week 3: E1: P09-12
Week 4: E1: P13-16

September's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: E1: P17-18 / E2: P01-02
Week 2: E2: P03-06
Week 3: E2: P07-10
Week 4: E2: P11-14
Week 5: E2: P15-18

Grammar - Space

The grammar book has 2 components, which I believe everyone should be familiar with by now. The thin book has related worksheets to the exercises and lesson pages we go through in the main book during class time. I also briefly gloss over the homework page so that kids are familiar with what is being asked. Early August we only did half pages for homework and by September we should be managing whole pages twice a week. Homework should always be fairly simple though and no stress to complete accurately, as I do go over the pages with kids individually to fix any shortfalls.

August's schedule is as follows:

Textbook	Workbook
Week 1: P6-9	P03-04
Week 2: P10-13	P05-06

Week 3: P14-15

P07-08

Week 4: P18-21

P09-10

September's schedule is as follows:

Textbook

Workbook

Week 1: P22-25

P11-12

Week 2: P26-29

P13-14

Week 3: P30-33

P15-16

Week 4: P34-37

P17-18

Week 5: P38-41

P19-20

Spelling

With the start of K5 we have dug into longer lists, and the kids are showing receptiveness to spelling them correctly, without being overly intimidated. The tests on Friday are proving a good motivator for kids to do well as they get extra points towards stickers and cookies on Fridays. The writing homework that gets sent home every Friday is the vocabulary list for the following week, so it gives kids a headstart on familiarizing themselves with the new words before I start drilling them daily until the test day. Here are the scheduled lists for your reference.

August's Spelling list is as follows:

Week 1: vet, pet, red, mess, well, help, dress, head, smell, bread, peck

Week 2: big, trip, this, drill, fill, will, sniff, lick, quick, stop, block, cross

Week 3: job, lot, down, hop, out, new, use, there, fire, play, again, truck

Week 4: jump, truck, lunch, fast, flash, car, away, spray, wait, out, down, loud

September's Spelling list is as follows:

Week 1: stack, stick, stuff, snug, duck, tuck, mud, hut, buzz, rug, fun, must

Week 2: said, very, good, tell, yell, fill, fix, move, they, with, drip, dry

Week 3: mess, toss, huff, puff, will, yell, fell, brick, kick, back, yuck

Week 4: you, look, cool, keep, three, home, ice, use, could, build, place, people

Week 5: plant, hunt, went, trunk, skunk, nest, must, fast, best, rest, grass, forest

Writing

Write now - workbook has a lot smaller spacing for writing the answers in and I am encouraging the students to concentrate on keeping all their letters the same size as they write their sentences, because most of them are so used to write with the line guides that without them they start to produce a funnel shape in their words starting smaller and eventually getting oversize.

August's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P6 - 7

Week 2: P8 - 9

Week 3: P10 - 11

Week 4: P12 - 13

September's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P14 - 15

Week 2: P16 - 17

Week 3: P18 - 19

Week 4: P20 - 21

Week 5: P22 - 23

Conclusion

The last year of kindie is a mixed bag of fun activities and a boat load of extra work and homework. But since kids should also be kids and try their best to grow through play, I try to incorporate as many fun gaming activities that relate to the subject matter they are currently learning. The best progress in learning comes from consistency however and if kids practice more outside of school, then the amount they accelerate their learning jumps in leaps and bounds. So as usual I like to encourage parents to keep up with reviewing the little readers as a bare minimum on a daily basis. This keeps the vocabulary they've learned in the books fresh in their minds and ready to use in conversation when the appropriate time comes. Teacher Iris and I are always open to suggestions and willing to help with any questions or concerns, so please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards,
Teacher Justin



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恐龍班爸爸媽媽您好：

我們終於來到了幼兒園的最後一年，一切似乎都在眨眼之間過去了。孩子們對話越來越多，而且也越來越自信。我會努力讓孩子們在小組討論中多發言，並幫助他們糾正對話中偶爾出現的小語法錯誤，特別是現在他們已經在我們一直在使用的作業本中打下了良好的基礎。

Reading

K5 的書單在最初的幾週後似乎有點跨越，所以雖然八月看起來很容易，但九月有幾本書會比較長也比較難。後面的書也開始考驗孩子們的能力邊界。但不要氣餒，如果我們在學校和家裡持之以恆地練習，孩子們不僅會掌握閱讀技巧，還會享受其中。他們非常喜歡展示自己能做的事情，尤其是當他們能夠展示自己讀懂一些特別難的東西時，這對他們來說是一件非常快樂的事。

8月的進度表如下：

Week 1: City, Farm and Sea

Week 2: Farm Animals

Week 3: Seasons

Week 4: Why Recycle?

9月的進度表如下：

Week 1: A Pig, A Fox, and a Box

Week 2: A Pig, A Fox, and Stinky Socks

Week 3: Tiger is a Scaredy Cat

Week 4: Just a Special Day

Week 5: Just a Little Love

Phonics

發音規則從九月開始進入組合音，但八月仍然保持在單個字母音的範疇內，包括短元音和長元音的發音。我們會講解如何拆分較大的單詞，就像孩子們學習 CVC（子音-母音-子音）單詞的方式一樣，通過拼讀字母來推測單詞，從而避免被長單詞嚇倒，因為他們可以用相同的方式輕鬆讀出這些單詞。

8月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P7, 8, 9 (Reviewing consonants)

Week 2: P10, 12, 17 (Reviewing consonants)

Week 3: P18, 19, 20 (Short vowel 'a' and 'i')

Week 4: P21, 22, 23 (Short vowel words in context)

9月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P24, 25, 26 (Short vowel 'o' and 'u')

Week 2: P27, 28, 29 (Short vowels in sentences)

Week 3: P32, 33, 35 (Review Short vowels)

Week 4: P36, 39, 40 (High frequency words)

Week 5: P45, 46, 47 (Long vowel 'a')

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

這門課程仍然允許孩子們通過比賽為他們的小組贏得盡可能多的分數。有些孩子比其他人更容易不注意指示，並且容易被書本或盒子裡的物品分散注意力。然而，小組的存在往往能激勵他們更加專注，這樣我就能更自由地管理課程，而不需要過多關注他們的注意力。這些課程通常也非常有趣，包含數字、迷宮和其他遊戲的混合，因此這堂課非常容易讓時間過得飛快。

8月的進度表如下：

Week 1: E1: P01-04

Week 2: E1: P05-08

Week 3: E1: P09-12

Week 4: E1: P13-16

9月的進度表如下：

Week 1: E1: P17-18 / E2: P01-02

Week 2: E2: P03-06

Week 3: E2: P07-10

Week 4: E2: P11-14

Week 5: E2: P15-18

Grammar - Space

這本文法書有兩個部分，我相信大家現在應該都很熟悉了。薄的那本書包含與我們在課堂上進行的主書中的練習和課程頁面相關的工作表。我也會簡要地講解一下作業頁面，讓孩子們

熟悉要求。八月初，我們的作業只完成了一半的頁面，到九月我們應該能每週兩次完成整個頁面。不過，作業應該始終相對簡單，不必為準確完成而感到壓力，因為我會與孩子們一起檢查作業，修正任何不足之處。

8月的進度表如下：

	Workbook
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Week 4: P18-21	P09-10

9月的進度表如下：

	Workbook
Week 1: P22-25	P11-12
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Week 4: P34-37	P17-18
Week 5: P38-41	P19-20

Spelling

隨著 K5 的開始，我們已經開始學習較長的單字，孩子們在拼寫這些單字時表現出了很好的接受能力，而不會感到過於畏懼。週五的測驗成為孩子們表現出色的動力，因為他們可以為獲得貼紙和餅乾額外加分。每週五帶回家的寫作作業是下週的詞彙列表，這樣孩子們在開始每天進行測驗前就可以提前熟悉新單詞。以下是預定的詞彙列表供您參考。

8月的進度表如下：

Week 1: vet, pet, red, mess, well, help, dress, head, smell, bread, peck
Week 2: big, trip, this, drill, fill, will, sniff, lick, quick, stop, block, cross
Week 3: job, lot, down, hop, out, new, use, there, fire, play, again, truck
Week 4: jump, truck, lunch, fast, flash, car, away, spray, wait, out, down, loud

9月的進度表如下：

Week 1: stack, stick, stuff, snug, duck, tuck, mud, hut, buzz, rug, fun, must
Week 2: said, very, good, tell, yell, fill, fix, move, they, with, drip, dry
Week 3: mess, toss, huff, puff, will, yell, fell, brick, kick, back, yuck
Week 4: you, look, cool, keep, three, home, ice, use, could, build, place, people
Week 5: plant, hunt, went, trunk, skunk, nest, must, fast, best, rest, grass, forest

Writing

現在，作業本的書寫答案空間縮小了很多，我正在鼓勵學生在寫句子時專注於保持所有字母大小一致，因為大多數學生已經習慣於使用線條指導來書寫，沒有這些線條後，他們往往會寫出像漏斗形狀的文字，從字母變小開始，最後變得過大。

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Week 2: P8 - 9
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9月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P14 - 15
Week 2: P16 - 17
Week 3: P18 - 19
Week 4: P20 - 21
Week 5: P22 - 23

Conclusion

幼兒園最後一年是一個充滿樂趣活動和大量額外活動與作業的混合體。但既然孩子們也應該保持童真，並通過玩耍來成長，我盡量將與他們正在學習的課程相關的有趣遊戲活動融入其中。然而，學習的最大進步來自於一致性，如果孩子們在課外多練習，那麼他們的學習速度將會大幅提升。因此，一如既往，我喜歡鼓勵家長每天至少複習一下小書。這樣可以讓他們從書中學到的詞彙保持新鮮，並在適當的時候準備好在對話中使用。Tr. Iris和我隨時歡迎提出建議，並願意幫助解答任何問題或疑慮，所以請隨時提出。

Regards,
Teacher Justin