



Dinosaur Class Newsletter December 2024

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

December is really one of the most enjoyable months of the year. Kids just love all the festive scenery and the decorations and the songs. Plus all the arts and crafts themed to match. We will be talking a lot about all the stories and characters from the season, which is great for conversation practice and then the grand finale we will have the evening song and dance and a seat with Santa himself. The usual program however will continue as scheduled and the progress we see with the kids is as expected to date. I hope the kids can continue to learn at the pace they have been.

Reading

The review reading has been going well during November while we were practicing for the drama play. And in December we will start a normal schedule of one new book per week, leading up to the reading contest. Which we will be focusing on the newest read books for that too, so after each book goes home, I would like to encourage some extra effort to be put into practicing those ones. We will have a collection of 8 books selected and be aware of them well enough in advance to be prepared for the contest.

The December schedule is as follows:

Week 1: Just Me and My Dad

Week 2: Just Me and My Mom

Week 3: Just My Friend and Me

Week 4: When I Get Bigger

Week 5: Prepare for reading contest

Phonics

Phonics is really one of the most important classes/ subjects which helps kids with pronunciation, spelling and word recognition. When the rules are understood well enough, it can be seen the level of progress in other subjects relating to those rules that were learnt. The rules are still being expanded on slowly but surely, and the common rules are being practiced real nicely during reading classes, so the carry-over is great to see. Even though we did less Phonics workbook over the drama practice period, we still covered a few extra pages so as not to stop progress entirely. And most of the students are getting pretty good at recognising long vowel sounds of most varieties.

December's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P77, 78, 79	(Hard and soft c and g)
Week 2: P80, 81, 82	(Hard and soft c and g)
Week 3: P83, 84, 85	(l,r,s blends)
Week 4: P86, 87, 88	(Initial blends/ final blends)
Week 5: P90, 91, 92	(Blends review/ sentence writing)

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

This subject still has the competitive element to it, and kids enjoy winning as many points for their groups as they can. Some kids are more inclined than others to lose focus and not listen carefully to instructions, so the competition element motivates them to stay with the group and try to think about how to complete tasks accurately on their own, and also to help their peers to win points for their teams. The lessons can be quite fun as well, with a mix of numbers, and also mazes and other games, so kids are still getting plenty of enjoyment out of it.

December's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: E4: P11-14
Week 2: E4: P15-18
Week 3: E5: P01-04
Week 4: E5: P05-08
Week 5: E5: P09-12

Grammar - Space

The pages in the main book relate to the homework, and even use the same example sentences and pictures.

The 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. But. Sometimes the grammar is very difficult for the little ones and they struggle, getting words confused or not understanding the questions or the way the questions are being asked. We will continue to persist with all the rules we have covered and I will try to do as much extra review and practice until they understand them all well enough. The schedule moves slowly through the rest of the book, so we should get plenty enough review time in at least.

December's schedule is as follows:

Textbook	Workbook (Homework)
Week 1: P62-65	P31-32
Week 2: P66-69	P33-34
Week 3: P70-73	P35-36
Week 4: Prepare for Reading Contest	
Week 5: Prepare for Reading Contest	

Spelling

The spelling has been a great novelty for the kids to date, but I think that is starting to wear off now, even though most of them are still keen to have the Friday test day to show off their skills in a proper test environment where they are unable to copy from anyone, so it is a true reflection of their abilities to remember, and the added incentives to win lots of points for each correct word, gets them motivated. So in December we will start up the new list of words and leave the reviews behind us.

Here is the scheduled list for December:

Week 1: read, thing, rain, dress, said, sick, shelf, shop, hand, books, too, could
Week 2: grow, great, garden, plant, pretty, fresh, fruit, clean, trash, earth, about
Week 3: each, show, chat, itch, much, lunch, catch, which, bench, sketch, check, children

Week 4: map, town, place, lake, brick, run, fun, stop, drop, letter, walk, around

Week 1: Prepare for Reading contest

Writing

Kids are doing much better at fitting their writing into the small spaces and even though they overflow their sentences into whichever spaces they can manage, I am more focused on them understanding what they are writing and are able to recreate the sentences we have been working with.

We will continue to work through a similar routine in December with each chapter, covering a new topic each time, with choice vocabulary used to write creatively by the end.

December's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P34-35

Week 2: P36-37

Week 3: P38-39

Week 4: P40-41

Week 5: Prepare for Reading Contest

Conclusion

As usual I hope the update leaves parents feeling confident about all the students' current progress and their future potential as well.

Teacher Iris and I are always open to suggestions though and willing to help with any questions or concerns, so please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you for taking the time to read the November Newsletter.

Regards,
Teacher Justin



Dinosaur Class Newsletter December 2024

恐龍班爸爸媽媽您好：

十二月真的是一年中最令人享受的月份之一。孩子們就是喜歡所有節日的場景、裝飾和歌曲，再加上所有與主題相符的藝術和手工創作。我們會花很多時間談論這個季節裡的故事和角色，這對練習對話非常有幫助，然後壓軸就是聖誕晚會的歌舞表演，還有與聖誕老人一起拍照的環節。不過，日常的課程將按計劃繼續進行，目前孩子們的進步如預期。我希望孩子們能繼續以目前的速度學習。

Reading

在十一月練習戲劇表演期間，複習閱讀進展得很順利。而到了十二月，我們將恢復正常的每週一本新書的計劃，為閱讀比賽做準備。我們的重點也將放在最新閱讀的書籍上，所以每本書帶回家後，我希望能鼓勵大家多花些時間練習這些書。我們將挑選出八本書作為比賽範圍，並提前熟悉這些書，以便做好充分準備。

12月的進度表如下：

Week 1: Just Me and My Dad

Week 2: Just Me and My Mom

Week 3: Just My Friend and Me

Week 4: When I Get Bigger

Week 5: Prepare for reading contest

Phonics

自然發音課程確實是最重要的課程/科目之一，它幫助孩子們提升發音、拼寫和單字辨識能力。當孩子們對規則有足夠的理解時，可以明顯看到這些規則在其他相關課程中的進步程度。我們仍在穩步擴展這些規則，並在閱讀課程中很好地練習了常見的規則，因此規則的應用效果令人欣喜。儘管在戲劇表演練習期間，自然發音的作業本練習較少，我們仍然完成了一些額外的頁面，以避免完全中斷進度。而且，大多數學生現在在辨識各種長母音方面表現得相當不錯。

12月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P77, 78, 79 (Hard and soft c and g)

Week 2: P80, 81, 82 (Hard and soft c and g)

Week 3: P83, 84, 85 (l,r,s blends)

Week 4: P86, 87, 88 (Initial blends/ final blends)

Week 5: P90, 91, 92 (Blends review/ sentence writing)

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

這門課程仍然保留競爭的元素，孩子們喜歡為自己的小組贏得盡可能多的積分。一些孩子比其他孩子更容易分心，或者不仔細聽指令，因此競爭的元素能激勵他們跟隨小組，並試著思考如何獨立且準確地完成任務，同時也幫助隊友為小組贏得積分。課堂活動也非常有趣，融合了數字、迷宮和其他遊戲，讓孩子們在學習的同時也能享受其中的樂趣。

12月的進度表如下：

Week 1: E4: P11-14

Week 2: E4: P15-18

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Week 4: E5: P05-08

Week 5: E5: P09-12

Grammar - Space

主教材中的頁面與家庭作業有關，甚至使用了相同的例句和圖片。不過，家庭作業始終相對簡單，且不需要壓力過大地精確完成，因為我會逐一與孩子們檢查作業，修正任何不足之處。然而，有時候文法對孩子來說非常困難，他們會感到吃力，混淆單字，或者無法理解問題的意思或提問方式。我們將繼續堅持練習所有已經學過的規則，並進行額外的複習和練習，直到他們充分理解為止。課程進度會在剩餘的書本內容中緩慢推進，因此我們應該能有足夠的時間進行複習。

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Week 5: Prepare for Reading Contest	

Spelling

到目前為止，拼寫對孩子們來說一直是個很新奇的學習內容，但我認為這種新鮮感正在慢慢減退。即便如此，大多數孩子仍然很期待星期五的測試日，因為這是他們在正式測試環境中展示技能的機會，無法抄襲任何人，這能真實反映出他們記憶單字的能力。另外，每拼對一個單字能獲得積分的額外鼓勵，也讓他們充滿動力。因此，到了十二月，我們將開始學習新一批的單詞，並結束之前的複習內容。

12月的進度表如下：

Week 1: read, thing, rain, dress, said, sick, shelf, shop, hand, books, too, could
Week 2: grow, great, garden, plant, pretty, fresh, fruit, clean, trash, earth, about
Week 3: each, show, chat, itch, much, lunch, catch, which, bench, sketch, check, children
Week 4: map, town, place, lake, brick, run, fun, stop, drop, letter, walk, around
Week 5: Prepare for Reading contest

Writing

孩子們在把字寫進小格子方面進步了許多，儘管他們仍然會將句子延伸到能夠利用的任何空白處，我更注重的是他們是否理解自己正在寫的內容，並能夠重現我們練習過的句子。到了十二月，我們會繼續按照類似的日常安排進行，每一章學習一個新主題，並運用精選的詞彙進行創意寫作作為結尾。

12月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P34-35
Week 2: P36-37
Week 3: P38-39
Week 4: P40-41
Week 5: Prepare for Reading Contest

Conclusion

和往常一樣，我希望這次的更新能讓家長對所有學生目前的進步以及未來的潛力充滿信心。

Teacher Iris和我始終歡迎家長提出建議，並願意協助解答任何問題或疑慮，因此請隨時與我們聯繫。

感謝您花時間閱讀十二月的電子報。

Regards,
Teacher Justin