



Dinosaur Class Newsletter January 2025

Hello Dinosaur Class Parents,

Christmas and New Years are always a lot of fun, and now in January we are all looking forward to the Lunar new year. And much like the themed crafts for December, we will be having lots of fun making all the new year stuff too. We also have the reading contest to look forward to and we will have started practice of the 8 allocated books in December already. The rest of the subjects we have been racing through at some kind of good pace, kids are getting the just of it by now and are keeping up nicely. The month is also a little shorter with the new year winter break starting at the end of the month and I hope everyone has a fun and safe holiday.

Reading

The reading books have been a little challenging for most of the students, as the vocabulary is too diverse to maintain a total understanding of all the words. But the kids' word recognition and phonetic strategy is getting heaps of chances to get right. With the reading contest in January though, I hope I can get the kids to understand their books a bit better and also read and pronounce all the words more clearly.

The January schedule is as follows:

Week 1: Prepare for the reading contest

Week 2: Whose Feet?

Week 3: Two Crazy Pigs

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. We have maintained a steady flow of work in this subject, with a fair amount of fill in the missing words and letter blends, since kids are quite aware of long and short vowel sounds, we are expanding on the types of exercises we can do in the subject.

January's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: P93, 94, 96 (High frequency words/ sentences)

Week 2: P97, 98, 103 (blends / two-syllable words)

Week 3: P104, 105, 106 (vccv words)

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

MPM has a lot of logic and problem solving elements to the exercises, and the kids thoroughly understand how the activities work, so often times they are inclined to try rush ahead, and to counteract this we have a 'go' rule and for a specified colour which is always unpredictable so they have to wait and listen to the instructions to get it right, they also get points for their teams for completing on time and accurately. I am trying to find the right balance to maintain enthusiasm and focus on the work covered in the activities. Kids are practicing how to answer number questions with full sentences as well, instead of just 1 word answers.

January's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: Prepare for the Reading Contest

Week 2: E5: P13-16

Week 3: E5: P17-18

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 continue to try 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 at least.

January's schedule is as follows:

Textbook

Workbook (Homework)

Week 1: P74-77

P37-38

Week 2: P78-81

P39-40

Week 3: P82-85

P41-42

Spelling

The spelling is a great way for kids to feel good about doing something well. On test day they get 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.

Here is the scheduled list for January:

Week 1: Review old vocabulary and prepare for reading contest

Week 2: draw, how, small, many, school, from, room, door, street, stand, chest, market

Week 3: map, show, how, snack, tell, real, walk, gold, school, library, way, many

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 January with each chapter, covering each new topic, with the choice vocabulary used to write creatively by the end.

December's schedule is as follows:

Week 1: Prepare for the reading contest

Week 2: P42-43

Week 3: P44-45

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



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恐龍班爸爸媽媽您好：

聖誕節和新年總是充滿樂趣，而現在到了1月，我們都在期待農曆新年。就像12月的主題手作一樣，我們也會玩得很開心，製作所有新年相關的作品。我們也很期待閱讀比賽，我們已經從12月開始練習書單的8本書了。其餘的課程我們也在以良好的速度進行，孩子們現在已經掌握了要點，並且進展順利。本月因為月底開始的新年寒假而稍微短了一些，希望大家能度過一個愉快且平安的假期。

Reading

大多數學生覺得閱讀書籍有些挑戰，因為詞彙太過多樣，無法完全理解所有單字。不過，孩子們在單字辨識和發音策略上得到了許多練習的機會。不過隨著1月的閱讀比賽到來，我希望能幫助孩子們更好地理解他們的書籍，並且能更清晰地閱讀和發音所有的單字。

1月的進度表如下：

Week 1: Prepare for the reading contest

Week 2: Whose Feet?

Week 3: Two Crazy Pigs

Phonics

自然發音確實是最重要的課程之一，幫助孩子們掌握發音、拼寫和單字辨識。當規則理解得足夠透徹時，可以看到與所學規則相關的其他課程進步的程度。這些規則仍在穩步擴展中，

並且常見規則在閱讀課堂上得到了很好的練習，因此能看到很棒的成果延續。在這課程中，我們保持了一個穩定的學習節奏，並進行了大量的「填空單字」和「字母拼合」練習。由於孩子們已經相當熟悉長元音和短元音的發音，我們正在擴展這門課程中可以進行的練習類型。

1月的進度表如下：

Week 1: P93, 94, 96 (High frequency words/ sentences)

Week 2: P97, 98, 103 (blends / two-syllable words)

Week 3: P104, 105, 106 (vccv words)

MPM Math (Multiple Practice Module)

MPM包含了許多邏輯和問題解決元素，孩子們完全理解這些活動的運作方式，因此他們經常會想要搶先完成。為了應對這種情況，我們制定了一個「開始」規則，並指定一個總是不可預測的顏色，這樣他們必須等待並聽從指令才能正確完成。他們還可以為自己的隊伍獲得按時且準確完成的積分。我正在努力尋找保持孩子們對活動內容的熱情和專注的平衡。孩子們也在練習用完整句子回答數字問題，而不僅僅是一個字的回答。

1月的進度表如下：

Week 1: Prepare for the Reading Contest

Week 2: E5: P13-16

Week 3: E5: P17-18

Grammar - Space

主課本的頁面與家庭作業是相關的，甚至使用相同的例句和圖片。不過，家庭作業始終保持相對簡單，不需要壓力地準確完成，因為我會和孩子們一對一檢查，修正任何不足之處。然而，有時候對孩子來說，文法會非常困難，他們可能會感到困惑，比如混淆單字、不了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，我也會盡量安排更多的額外複習和練習，直到他們能夠充分理解。課程進度在課本的其餘部分會比較緩慢，所以至少我們應該會有足夠的複習時間。

1月的進度表如下：

Textbook

Week 1: P74-77

Week 2: P78-81

Week 3: P82-85

Workbook (Homework)

P37-38

P39-40

P41-42

Spelling

聽寫測驗是一個讓孩子們因表現出色而感到自信的好方法。在測驗日，他們可以在正式的測驗環境中展示自己的技能，無法從他人那裡抄襲，因此能真實反映他們記憶單字的能力。此外，每拼對一個單字就能贏得大量積分的額外鼓勵，讓他們充滿動力。

1月的進度表如下：

Week 1: Review old vocabulary and prepare for reading contest

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Week 3: map, show, how, snack, tell, real, walk, gold, school, library, way, many

Writing

孩子們在將文字寫入小空格方面進步了許多，儘管他們會把句子寫超出到能找到的其他空格中，但我更關注的是他們是否理解自己在寫什麼，並能夠重現我們練習過的句子。

我們將在1月繼續按照類似的日常安排進行學習，每個章節都會涵蓋新主題，並在最後運用選定的詞彙進行創意寫作。

1月的進度表如下：

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Conclusion

和往常一樣，我希望這次的更新能讓家長們對所有學生的當前進展和未來潛力感到放心。不過，我和Tr. Iris始終樂於接受建議，並願意解答任何問題或疑慮，因此請隨時與我們聯繫。感謝您抽時間閱讀1月的閱讀報。

Regards,
Teacher Justin