

Elephant group news letter
Class Teacher/Supervisor Shelley Hopkins
Floater Teacher: Jaspreet Mangat
Age group: 4- 6 Years

Dear Parents,

Hurray! It's summer fun, fun, fun with the Elephant group summer school programme 2008.

I am looking forward to meeting you and your child and sharing all of the activities I have prepared for your child.

The programme that your child will be following is related to the Early Years Foundation stage and the Key Stage One:

The six areas of your child's development are:

- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Mathematics
- Creative
- Language and Literacy
- Emotional and Social
- Physical

Extra Key Stage One activities will include:

ICT (Information, communications, Technology)

R.E – Religious Education

History and Geography

Personal, social, Health and citizenship

Throughout the programme I have prepared for your child I will be implementing activities related to all of the key development stages mentioned above.

If you have any further questions about the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One programme please don't hesitate to contact me. I would be very happy to discuss the programme further with you.

My primary topic will be all about '**Under The Sea**', a science topic all about '**Colours**', language and literacy programme based around '**Creative Writing Skills**' '**Write Dance**', '**Oxford Reading Tree Programme**' and '**Commotion in the Ocean**'. Mathematic topics will be based around the '**Key Stage One Programme**' topics and activities and some spectacular special events including our traditional '**T Shirt Painting**' and an outdoor visit to '**Stanley Beach and Maritime Museum**'

Thank you for attending the Elephant group summer fun programme 2008!

Shelley and Jaspreet

Primary Topic- (covers all areas of Key Stage One)

'Under The Sea'

I am really looking forward to discovering all about sea life under the sea and all of the other unknown activities which go on under the sea, along with your child

These are the specific activities for each block:

Block 1: Sea Life

Block 2: Sea Life

Block 3: What would it be like to live under the sea?

Block 4: Boats and divers

I will be using a variety of learning tools, to introduce the primary topic to your child, based around the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One programme

These will also include lots of practical experiments and experiences too.

All of your child's work related to the topic will be filed in the 'Summer Fun activity folder' and attractively displayed around the classroom.

Language and Literacy programme

Our Language and literacy programme will be based around the Key Stage one programme used in the UK.

My approach to language and literacy skills will be quite different from those that your child has been introduced to at their local school. However I can guarantee that your child will learn, remember and most of all leave their language and literacy class with a smile!

My classes will include:

Creative Writing Skills: I will provide your child with their own individual creative writing book.

During my language and literacy class they will be encouraged to draw a picture, related to our topic for the day, and record their own creative writing under the picture.

We call these writing skills 'Emergent Writing' Instead of your child copying sentences or being told how to write the sentence they must think for themselves, sound out the letters and create their own words.

The end results are always very interesting!

Once your child has completed their work I shall first praise them for their achievements, second ask them to read out loud the writing they have produced and lastly help them to re-write any sentences correctly.

Write Dance Activities: Are you new to the Write Dance programme? If so please view all details about the programme on our web site www.letter-land.com under the 'Elephant Group Programme'.

I will be introducing your child to a variety of Write Dance topics and look forward to them creating their own actions and movements along to the music and recording all of their wonderful creative master pieces.

I love participating in the Write Dance activities and they are certainly rewarding experiences for all involved!

Oxford Reading Tree: The Oxford reading tree books will be available during Language and Literacy classes along with computer software too. Your child will be introduced to some new and interesting friends such as Floppy/Kipper/Biff/Chip and many more fun and fascinating characters

Commotion In The Ocean: The Commotion in the Ocean is a fabulous story about a curious commotion at the bottom of the ocean. The story rhymes and introduces your child to all of the animals under the ocean. The book is written by Giles Andreae and David Wojtowycz and I will be using the book throughout the summer school programme

Practical Activities: Please, please, please remember that language and literacy classes are also based around lots and lots of practical activities too!

For those of you that have already attended my classes will know that I talk to the children non stop throughout each class!!

We sing together, listen to stories and have many general discussions together. All of these skills are also the key to your child's language and literacy skills.

Songs for summer fun 2008

All of my summer fun songs will be available for your viewing in the classroom and on our web site www.letter-land.com

Have fun singing along with your child and don't hesitate to ask me if you need any help with the lyrics and tunes.

Science Activities

It is so important to understand that your child's mathematical skills are related to such a variety of practical activities as well as to the work sheets completed

Your child will have the opportunity to participate in lots of messy, gooey and fun textile experiences and experiments, Key stage one problem solving academic and practical activities, some yummy cooking and a science topic too!

I will provide your child with their own work sheets and any cooking ingredients.

The Elephant Group science topic for summer school will be:

Colours

I am positive that we will have lots fun experimenting with different colours, seeing what different colours do when mixed together and observing them when mixed with alternative textile materials.

Art and Crafts

I will provide art and craft activities throughout each week and encourage your child to participate and to produce their own creation onto paper.

All of your child's wonderful work will be displayed around the classroom and filed into their 'summer fun art folder' to take home.

If you are a newcomer to the Elephant group please do note that any work completed by your child will be their own individual work. No matter what the picture looks like, you must remember that it is the time and effort that your child has put into their work, not the end result that counts.

And always remember to praise your child for all of their creative efforts.



Physical Development

A physically active child is a healthy child, I ensure throughout each class that your child joins in daily action rhymes and games.

Write Dance activities will also provide your child with the opportunity to develop their gross motor skills.

Every Friday I will arrange a structured Music and Movement class for your child to aid their posture and large movement skills.

The classes are always lots of fun and a great learning opportunity for your child.

Special Events

Summer school always includes a couple of special events for the children, just to make it a little extra special for your child!

This year I have arranged two special events for the Elephant group. Please do ensure that you record the dates in your diary so that your child doesn't miss out on all of the extra curricular fun!

T Shirt Painting

Who needs Ralph Lauren and Zara when your child can create their very own unique personal T shirt design at Letterland!

T shirt painting is always part of our summer school programme and the children get great pleasure out of the activity and particularly wearing their unique design to the centre!

T Shirt Painting will take place on the following dates:

A.M Class: Wednesday 30th July

P.M Class: Wednesday 30th July and Thursday 31st July

Please ensure that you provide your child with a plain white T shirt for the event.

We are very excited about viewing the final creations!

Outdoor visit

For our summer fun outdoor visit I will be taking the Elephant group, with help from mummies, daddies and Aunties to 'Stanley Beach and the Maritime Museum' for the day.

I know that you and your child will have a wonderful and memorable experience.

The event will take place on: Wednesday 6th August

Your child must wear their Alison's Letterland Child Care Centre' Polo shirt and be accompanied by parents or guardians for the event.

Please also provide your child with a packed lunch, plenty of fluids, mosquito spray and sun block.

All of the Elephant group students are invited to attend the outdoor event. Please complete the form attached and return to me when you register for the summer school programme.

I will issue you another letter with times and meeting places when summer school commences.

If you have any questions about the visit and questions about weather conditions before the event please don't hesitate to contact me.

Child's Name _____

My child will/will not attend the visit to Stanley Beach and Maritime Museum on Wednesday 6th August.

Signed Parent/ Guardian _____

Date _____



Rules and Regulations For Summer School 2008

We can only secure your child's place once we have received the registration and medical form, registration fee and summer school payments.

Your child must register for two week blocks available.

There will be no refund of payment once you have registered for the summer school programme.

You must complete a registration form and medical consent form for your child. We will not accept your child to stay independently at the centre unless the forms are completed, signed and returned to your child's class teacher..

There will be no classes conducted at the centre if the following weather conditions are announced by the

Government of Hong Kong:

Typhoon signal 3 and 8

Red and Black rain storm warnings

If any of the above signals are issued during the class you will be contacted to come and collect your child from the centre.

Please note that there will be no make up classes when the centre is closed due to weather conditions.

Materials to provide for your child:

School bag with change of clothes

Nappies if necessary

Indoor Shoes

Classes and sessions available::

A.M Class: Monday to Friday

Your child must attend the centre five mornings a week

P.M Class: Monday to Friday

Option of sessions:

Tuesday/ Thursday

Monday/ Wednesday and Friday

Blocks available:

Wednesday 2nd July– Friday 18th July

Monday 21st July– Friday 1st August

Monday 4th August– Friday 15th August

Monday 18th August– Friday 29th August

Cost of two week blocks:

Monday– Friday A.M HK\$1,800

Monday– Friday P.M HK\$ 1,800

Monday/ Wednesday and Friday P.M HK\$ 1,100

Tuesday and Thursday P.M HK\$ 750

Registration fee HK\$150 (Includes Polo Shirt) All other teaching materials will be provided by the centre/Kindergarten