

Mouse group news letter
Class Teacher Jo Douglas
Floater Teacher Jaspreet Mangat
Age group: 3-4 Years

Dear Parents,

Hurray! It's summer fun, fun, fun with the Mouse 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. The six areas of your child's development are:

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

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 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 **'The Jungle'**, a science topic all about **'Shapes'**, language and literacy programme based around **'Creative Writing Skills'** **'Nursery Write Dance'**, **'Letterland syllabus'** and **'Rumble in the Jungle story'**. Mathematical topics will be based around the **'Nursery Numbers syllabus'** topics and activities and some spectacular special events including our traditional **'T Shirt Painting'** and an outdoor visit to **Botanical Gardens**

Thank you for attending the Mouse group summer fun programme

Jo and Jaspreet

Primary Topic (covers all areas of Early Years Foundation stage)

'The Jungle'

I am really looking forward to sharing my primary topic, all about 'The Jungle', with you and your child. I am truly positive that the topic will be very popular with the children and a great learning experience too!

These are the specific activities for each block:

Block 1 Wild jungle animals

Block 2: Jungle sounds

Block 3: Jungle habitat

Block 4: The Bear-necessities

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

These will also include lots of practical experiments and a sensational visit to Botanical Gardens

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 Letterland phonic syllabus and alternative language and literacy activities based around the 'Early Years Foundation Stage'

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.

We must remember that your child will probably not produce many recognizable letters at such a young age but we must praise them for anything that they do produce on paper to encourage them to practice the exercise again.

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

I will be introducing your child to a variety of Nursery 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 Nursery Write Dance activities and they are certainly rewarding experiences for all involved!

Letterland Syllabus: Have you been introduced to the Letterland syllabus before?

If you have, well I have no doubt that you have enjoyed meeting all of the friendly characters and isn't it just amazing how quickly that the children are able to recognize the letter and the correct sound too!

If you are new to the syllabus please ask me for a list of all of the friendly characters from Letterland to help you to introduce them to your child.

I will provide your child with their own individual activity book related to the syllabus and they will also have the opportunity to participate in practical activities such as: JIGSAW PUZZLES/ COMPUTER PROGRAMME/ STORY BOOKS AND VISUAL AIDS.

Rumble In The Jungle: The Rumble in the Jungle story is a rhyming book written by Giles Anrae and David Wojtowycz.. The story goes through from morning until night all about a Rumble in the Jungle.

I will be using the Rumble in the Jungle story 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!

Simple activities such as daily conversations and recalling past experiences, singing and story telling times 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 the work sheets completed

Your child will have the opportunity to participate in lots of messy, gooey and fun textile experiences and experiments, Nursery Numbers 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 Mouse Group science topic for summer school will be related to our primary topic:

'Shapes'

We will be looking at lots of different shapes, different shapes we see in the day to day environment, blending two shapes together and shape patterns.

I am sure that your child will have a wonderful understanding of shapes after they have completed the summer school programme with the Mouse Group!

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 Mouse 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.

Music and Movement

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

Nursery Write Dance activities will also provide your child 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 Mouse 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 13th August
P.M Class: Wednesday 13th August and Thursday 14th August

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 Mouse group, with help from mummies, daddies and Aunties to 'Botanical Gardens' for the day.
I know that you and your child will have a wonderful and memorable experience.
The event will take place on Friday 15th August
Your child must wear their Alison's Letterland Child Care Centre' Polo shirt and be accompanied by the 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 Mouse group students are invited to attend the outdoor event. Please complete the form attached and return it to me when you register for the summer school.
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 the Botanical Gardens on Friday 15th 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