

Newsletter
April 2009

Term 3 : Apr 6 - Jul 3, 2009



Dear Parents

Hope you all had a Great Easter break and ready for the fun activities lined up at Little Mandarins! Read on.....



We are on the NEWS!!

We are really proud to be featured in the local Straits Times on 31/3/09 on our success in teaching Mandarin to our students. Some of our parents were also quoted and we thank them sincerely for their time and support. If you missed it, you can now read the report online on our website under "Media".



Mums & Tots - Another New Class!

Is your child 20 mths and ready to learn Mandarin in a fun, non-intimidating way? Every Tuesday at 9.45am, we take our tots (and their mums) through 1 hr of fun and games, music and movement, speech and drama to familiarise them with the magic of Mandarin. Do join us soon and take part in the journey of Mandarin with your little one! You may even learn a few words/phrases yourself!



"Mad & Wild Mandarin is Fun" June/July/Aug Camp

More than 40 children joined us in Dec'08 for a wonderful time learning Mandarin the fun and practical way! From making pasta, enjoying chocolate fondue, Ben & Jerry's, tennis clinic, bargaining at the marketplace, watching Beijing "bian lian" and magic performance, they had non stop fun with Mandarin. Do check out our website for some of the candid shots taken.

Our next Summer camp starts June 1st, right till Aug'09! Do watch out for our emails for more details or logon to our website. We take a maximum of 17 children per week so do sign up early to avoid disappointment!



Adult Conversation Class

It's a brand new term and we have classes for groups or individuals from Basic, Intermediate, Advanced to Business Mandarin, all conducted by our very experienced bilingual teachers from China and Taiwan. Do gather your friends to sign up or we can form a group for you! We specialise in customising our classes to suit your needs and timings – even at your office! Do give us a call for details. Each term comprises 15 classes and each class lasts 1.5 hours.



New Books/Worksheets

We will be teaching 3 new books this term – namely "My Teacher", "The Weather", and "Guess What-Animals". In addition, ALL children have been given new green folders to store all the worksheets/homework/artwork that they will be doing in class. Please ensure that all assignments are completed and returned to class for checking by our teachers (for F2 and above). We will also send out emails 1 week in advance to notify parents each time there is a change of book.

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Homework – Writing



As you are aware, we started intensifying the written work for Levels F2, F3 and Stepping Stones last term. Response to this initiative has been very positive and we thank all parents who have helped us encourage them to finish the assigned work at home. **Please remind your child to bring back their homework to class so that our teachers can check.** Depending on the level, there will be 6-20 new characters introduced for each book. All **written homework will only take about 5 minutes each week.** Our philosophy of game/activity based teaching to encourage **spoken Mandarin will still be our main priority** and will not be compromised. Please feel free to call us if you have any queries on this.

Progress Reports



We hope you agree that this very important report really helps you understand your child's progress with us and is an important communication tool. We have streamlined it to make it easier to read. Hope you like the changes.

All Term 2 progress reports will be given out in class during the week of April 20th. We apologise for being a little late this term as we were unable to test some children due to absence during the Easter Break. **Do remember to Sign and Return all the reports to us.** If there are any issues about your child's progress, please feel free to come in to chat with the respective teachers. We'll love to hear from you.

How can you help us test your child?

3 weeks prior to end of term, our teachers will intensify the revision of all relevant topics, and start testing the key words/phrases for the books. Additional topics and conversational Mandarin are also revised. For higher level F1, F2, F3 and Stepping Stones students, sentences are expanded to help increase their vocabulary accordingly. You can help us greatly by making sure that **your child comes to class well rested and on time, during the test period.** In the event he/she is unable to come to class, kindly inform us so that we can make alternative plans. If we are really unable to test your child for the relevant topic, we will indicate "NA" in the report.

Sick Children



Although the recent Hand, Foot and Mouth scare is over, we are nevertheless still very much concerned about the hygiene in our school and health of our students. We seek your understanding in NOT bringing your child to class if he is unwell. We retain the right to ask children to go home if they turn up with fever or with signs of flu/cough.

Website Changes

We made a couple of changes to our website after feedback from you! New quotes, pictures, FAQs, links Please logon and let us know if you like it!