NTWJWA Leung Sing Tak Primary School (Tseung Kwan O)

Report on the NET Scheme for 2006-2007

Principal: Mr Antonio Cheng
English Panel Chair: Ms Tong Wing Shan
Native English Teacher: Miss Sally Kaye Hanley

NET Duties

This year was the fifth year that NTWJWA Leung Sing Tak Primary School (Tseung Kwan O) has had a Native English teacher. This is a report on her duties this year. Her duties for the year included co-planning and team-teaching new reading schemes for P1 and P3, oral English with P6, English Corner, weekly assemblies and development workshops for the teachers.

P1 and the P3 Reading Scheme

Reading workshops

We have launched a series of reading workshops for P.1 – P.4 classes. This year Miss Sally Kaye Hanley was responsible for co-planning and co-teaching with the P.1 and P.3 teachers in the reading workshops. We have chosen readers that were related to the textbook contents so that pupils could learn the language patterns and vocabulary items more easily. The reading workshops were planned and launched to come in line with the new curriculum (2004) and the same policy of recycling language was used.

During the reading workshops, pupils learnt through different kinds of games, activities, and role-plays. These activities help our pupils to prepare for the TSA. Most of the readers for both years came from the Longman Bright Readers Project and teachers generally found these books more suitable for their pupils than books written for native speakers or books written by other publishers for foreign language learners. 100% of the P.1 parents think that reading is a good way for their children to learn English. 72% of the P.3 parents also share the same feelings that reading helps their children to learn English.
**Assessment**

The assessments were formative and were usually a piece of short quiz. Pupils were given marks for their quiz. Five marks were set as the full marks and sometimes pupils were allowed to have open-book assessment. In which, pupils could finish the assessments without fear and pressure. The marks they obtained were counted as 5% of their overall English Examination results.

**Number of books used**

For both P1 and P2 the reading workshops or reading lessons were one double lesson each week. Four books were taught each term. For P3 and P4 classes, only six books were selected for the whole academic year.

100% of the P1 pupils enjoyed the reading workshops with Miss Sally. 94% of the P3 pupils enjoyed the reading workshops with Miss Sally too. 96% of the P1 pupils think that they can learn English during the reading workshops. 94% of the P3 pupils also share the same feelings towards the reading workshops.

**Motivation**

Except for the P1 – P4 reading workshops, the school did provide some more supports for pupils to learn through reading, such as, asking Miss Sally to tell stories during recess time and assemblies, encouraging pupils to join the Extensive Reading Scheme.

**Extensive Reading Scheme**

In spite of the fact that parents seem to recognize the importance of reading and believe that their children enjoy reading, the results of the pupils who have read six English books in the whole academic year was only 30%. In the whole school, only 220 pupils had read at least six English storybooks in this year. The results could be improved if the English teachers can do more to encourage pupils to read.

**Motivation and Confidence**

Pupils generally enjoyed the reading lessons. 88% of the P1 pupils and 94% of the P3 pupils enjoyed reading with Miss Sally. Therefore in the coming academic year, some more story-telling activities should be set to arouse pupils’ interest in reading English storybooks.
**Oral English with P6**

One single lesson was allocated for the Native English Teacher to teach Speaking with the P6 pupils. Pupils could learn how to prepare the TSA with their English teachers as well as the Native English Teacher, Miss Sally.

The more able students completed the activities well, although they regularly needed to be reminded to use English. The weaker students were given more revision of the vocabulary and structures needed. Even then, they lacked confidence and were often slow and very quiet.

**English Ambassadors**

We had recruited 20 pupils as the English Ambassadors this year. They helped Miss Tong, Miss Sally and Mr Roach to conduct different kinds of English activities, such as Halloween activities, Christmas activities, Lunar New Year activities and the Dragon Boat activities.

**English Corner**

Pupils were welcomed to enter the English Room during recess time. Miss Sally, Miss Tong and an assistant, Miss Pamela worked together to run the activities in the English Room. Pupils enjoyed the English activities very much and the rate that pupils come to the English Room was very high.

**Telling stories in the Assemblies**

The NET has told stories to the lower primary and the upper primary in the assemblies. The lower primary children were particularly expressive during the stories and joined in reading and called out answers.

**Workshops for the Teachers**

The NET held one workshop for the English teachers. Miss Sally worked with Mr Martin, the Advisory Teacher to conduct a workshop for our teachers. It was related to how to enhance students’ learning by encouraging Critical Thinking during shared, supported and independent reading.

**THE END**