

幼稚园新闻

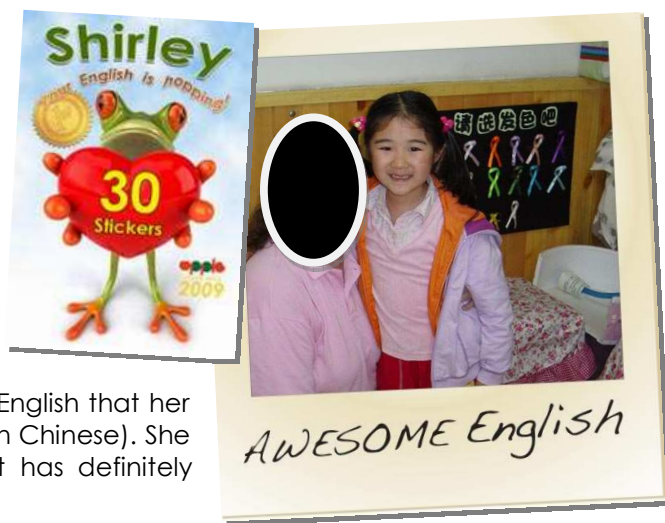
kindergarten news

二〇〇九年四月

Dear family and friends:

Ahhhh! What a beautiful day!

Today was a very successful, penny pinching shopping day for my students. They've been working hard the past six weeks to earn 30 stickers each for their English skills and good behavior. I found all kinds of goodies for them to choose from when the time comes for their "honors." Shirley, pictured at right, was the first one to reach the goal. Her laminated keepsake reward made her beam like I'd given her a million dollars. I told her in English that her English is AWESOME (then whispered a similar expression in Chinese). She grinned from ear to ear. Shirley was a latecomer, but has definitely made up for any lost time.



SUNDAY CLASS A SUCCESS

My two months of teaching the first and second grade class at the "CIF" here has come to a close. I really enjoyed my stint there. Hopefully, I'll have the opportunity to help later this summer and again in the fall. The kids took to kids pr training like ducks to water. I've included pictures that may remind some of you of a visit I may have paid your group at one time or another. The captions under the photos will give you the "rest of the story." It was a joy for me to see the same information working here as in other countries I've visited!

FLY AWAY APRIL!

I don't know about you, but I am happy to see April on its way out. It's been a bit of a bumpy ride, hasn't it? To me it has seemed like a zillion **little things** have dropped from out of nowhere to be handled immediately. Life is like that on occasion, but this time I was prepared! However, now that April has cleared out, May is looking quite promising especially since I am anticipating a wonderful visit with a friend who is planning to "stop by."

MESSAGES HIT HOME

Thanks to all who have sent me notes via email, Facebook and/or Skype. I know I say something like this every month, but believe me, it's important! I hope you don't mind when I express my gratitude for your efforts to stay in touch. When I lived in the Philippines during the late 1980's, it was torture to wait for a response to a written air mailed letter. I had friends who made the effort back then and some of them are still in touch. Twenty years from now, I hope we're still "hanging out"...one way or another. ☺

FAMILY STUFF

My nephew proudly announced that at 11 years and 10 months he is 5'5", a mere 1" shorter than his 13-year-old sister, who incidentally has just purchased her dress for her 8th grade prom. They're growing up soooo fast!

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Enjoy the pictures this month. As promised there are more kids photos this time. -a

A little thing CALLED A "BRIDGE"

While eating lunch early in the month, one of my crowned back teeth snapped off at the gum line. As the Boss would orchestrate the details, my language teacher tutors the son of a dentistry mogul. Long story short, I went to their newest facility and after much deliberation and pricing various degrees of quality materials, I was fitted with a "four crown bridge." Yes, you read that right. FOUR. The blessing is, it ended up costing less without dental insurance than it would have cost with insurance at home.



Seen from the outside...notice the big picture windows? It is common here to see patients getting their teeth worked on right in a window facing the street. Is this place "swanky," or what?! They showed me to the VIP room, so I didn't have a picture window dentistry experience.



SOME OF THE BEST little things.



Hudson, in the brown T-shirt, has really taken the idea of wrshp seriously. This particular Sunday he stood up during the entire wrshp service (about 45 minutes). His mom tried to keep up with him! When it comes to this "job", he reminds me of a very energetic version of Zach Tracy. He LOVES hand motions!



Here the kids are cutting out the things they drew to help us focus during our talking time around the map. The boy in the red shirt (right) was psyched because it was his first time to get clear unmistakable information!



Emma (left) was a joy to work with! She reminds me a little of Larissa Hunt. She really enjoyed the introduction I gave about how to use the Word as a guide for pry. I have a feeling she will be one to watch in the coming months. The boy in the red shirt and long pants drew a couple of little kids crying. He felt to put them in the "pink country" (Mexico). He had no idea about the flu epidemic breaking out until I explained. That morning, their prys impacted the world!

LOOOOOK AT ME! CUTE little things...



This little girl likes to touch her fake curly hair and say, "Angie! Looook at meee!" This group of kids is showing of their "GREEN" clothing line made from recycled things. Very funny outfits...



Don't you love the new salon? The first time I saw it in use, one of the boys was using the blue hose (with a paper cup on the end) to "wash" a little girl's hair in the white Styrofoam "cake box." The colored samples on the wall are hair color choices! ☺ The pict at right is one of my favs! They actually teach the kids to do this...make a line and each one rub the other person's shoulders. After all, "it's good for health."



Each class comes up with their own age-appropriate morning exercises. The oldest class on the left, and a younger class (using wooden swords) on the right. The aim is to teach balance, dexterity and teamwork.

little ODDS AND ENDS things



This store posts their "specials paper" on the wall outside the building. Usually people gather around it to see what's on sale before going inside. Notice the delivery bikes for KFC? When I can speak enough Mandarin, I will give it a try.



An interesting way to serve biscuits and gravy (with chives for garnish). By the way, the biscuits were more like scones. At right is an artist's (drug-induced) rendition of what the area near my house looks like. Dream on! I laughed out loud on the sidewalk when I saw it...but then again, maybe someday, it...might.



What seemed like a hundred exercise and dance groups gathered on the square of the mall near my house to show off their talent. Lots of *INTERESTING* performances to see!! Especially these belly-dancing drum thumping men.

little LUNCH things



While out shopping today a friend and I decided to grab a bite to eat. This lady's stuff looked pretty good so we gave it a go. We chose boiled potatoes, mushrooms, and lotus root in red chili oil and fried bread (the loofa looking things resting on the bowl). Oh yeah...and check out the chopsticks – gotta be livin' right!

