## 启发儿童智慧的奥秘04

The neighbor boy inspires

Su Wan Ting's motto:

Laziness is the root of all evil.

Learning is like rowing a boat against the current. If you don't advance yourself, you will be washed away."

One morning, Mrs. Su went to the market with her neighbor Mrs. Chen. The two mothers chatted about their children along the way. When Mrs. Su mentioned how little Wan Ting was falling behind in counting compared to her classmates, Mrs. Chen said, "Then send her to study mental arithmetic. My K3 son has been going for ten months, and he just passed level four. No one in our family is faster than him. He's like a computer. If you don't believe me, come and see for yourself after school."

In the afternoon, Mrs. Su half doubtingly rang the Chen's doorbell. Even before Mrs. Su sat down properly, Mrs. Chen was calling out anxiously to her son to come and present himself.

"Wei Wei, come and show Mrs. Su some mental arithmetic. You can do it!" Mrs. Chen picked up a pile of test papers on the desk, taking one from the pile. "Okay. This one is all two-digit. Wei Wei, let's try this. Ready, calculate. 26+31+44+19+33+58+72+39. Okay. What's the answer?"

"Three hundred and twenty-two!" Mrs. Chen had just finished reading the problem when Wei Wei announced the answer. Mrs. Su took the test paper from Mrs. Chen's hands and looked at the answer. 322 indeed! A K3 child with such strong calculating ability is truly an amazing thing. Mrs. Su was still a little doubtful. "Okay, Wei Wei. Mrs. Su will test you again." She took a piece of paper and wrote down eight sets of two-digit numbers, used a calculator twice to confirm the answer, and started reading the problem.

"55+22+44+39+57+62+77+28, is how much?"

"Three hundred and eighty-four," Wei Wei immediately announced the answer hiding in Mrs. Su's hand. "Too amazing!" Right then, the "special power" of "mental calculation" completely opened Mrs. Su's eyes. Thus, she made up her mind to have Wan Ting and her sister learn mental arithmetic.

When Wan Ting was in K3, Mrs. Su asked around about mental arithmetic classes, and visited almost all the mental arithmetic classes in Tainan City, even sitting in on classes. After two weeks and a bunch of brochures and application forms, Mrs. Su finally picked CMA, one that wasn't exactly close to home or school.

The founder of CMA Mental Arithmetic was Master Tai Chiang Ching. After listening in on a class and a long talk, Master Tai became the "chosen one," the most suitable mental arithmetic teacher for Wan Ting. However, for the sake of learning effectiveness and to ensure the safety of the little children, Master Tai had requested that Mrs. Su and parents of other K3 students accompany their kids to class.

At that point, Wan Ting and her mother embarked on the difficult but interesting "abacus and mental arithmetic journey." It was September 1991. Wan Ting Was in K3, and her sister Hsiang Wen wasn't even in K1 yet!

First teacher's "genius experimental class"

Su Wan Ting's motto:

Think only of success, not failure.

On any given Sunday, any team can beat any other team.

Like little Wan Ting, every kid who goes to abacus and mental arithmetic class is usually one who loves learning.

Little Wan Ting's classmates included those who did not start learning abacus and mental arithmetic until the first or second grade. Others transferred from other abacus and mental arithmetic classes. Of course, Wan Ting was the youngest in her class--K3.

With a class filled with children who are different in age, level and personality, "CMA Mental Arithmetic" founder Master Tai Chiang Ching has his own delicate and traditional teaching mission, which is to "instruct all and reject none and to teach each student according to his or her aptitude," providing each child with the appropriate training methods and materials based on his or her ability. To Wan Ting who was just in the K3, starting from the most basic, simple and fun children's abacus and mental arithmetic teaching materials were, of course, the best way to start.