

Chinese New Year Workshops!



February 2015

| Early Years | Key Stage 1-2 | Key Stage 3 |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| ✓ communication & language | foreign language study | foreign language study |
| physical development | cultural awareness geography | ✓ cultural & global awareness |
| personal, social & emotional development expressive arts & design understanding the world | Anistory Art and design Communication | geography history and traditions mythology art and design |

Aims of the session:

- Teach the children about where China is and what their New Year traditions are.
- Teach basic greetings and saying 'Happy New Year' in Chinese.
- Show the children some traditional gifts exchanged at New Year which all pupils can take away.
- Tell the children about the legends behind the New Year traditions, i.e. the zodiac story; why launch fireworks etc.

Provided by Dragons in Europe:

- DBS-checked experienced workshop leader.
- Chopsticks for all pupils.
- Red Envelopes for all pupils.
- Zodiac and Vocabulary sheets for all pupils.
- Character posters for all pupils.
- Fortune cookies for all pupils.
- Mini lanterns for all pupils.

School to ideally provide:

- An open seating area for 30 children in the classroom, ideally with a smart-board or projector.
- Tables and chairs for the writing exercises.
- Coloured pens etc. for the Chinese character activities.
- Squared paper (if doing calligraphy).

Pricing:

Workshops are priced on an hourly basis, at £95+vat per hour. This is based on one class having the workshop in the hour (maximum 35 pupils per class.)

Programme of activities:

(Activities may vary slightly depending on the ages of the pupils. Older students may be given more information, whilst younger children would move onto hands-on activities more quickly.)

- 1. The workshop will begin by teaching the basic Chinese greetings. Pupils will learn 'hello', 'goodbye', 'teacher' and 'thank you'.
- The workshop leader will then make sure the pupils know where China is. He/she will talk briefly about China's size, population and some famous places there - for example, The Great Wall of China, The Himalayas and Shanghai.
- 3. Now we will talk about New Year in China. Comparisons may be drawn between Christmas in the West and New Year in Asia. There are also differences to be discussed! Students will learn when New Year happens and some of the superstitions and traditions celebrated at that time. For example, the giving of money in Red Envelopes, cleaning the house before New Year's Day (but never afterwards) and the significance of fireworks. We will also teach 'Happy New Year' in Chinese.
- 4. Food at New Year. We will discuss Chinese food and then give out chopsticks to the children. They can then practise using chopsticks. There may even be time for a chopsticks competition.
- 5. Red Envelopes at New Year. We will talk about how people give money to each other at New Year, especially the adults to the children. The colour red is significant, so the money is given in Red Envelopes, called 'hóngbāo'. The children will receive a Red Envelope each.
- 6. The Chinese Zodiac. The children will learn about the 12 animals of the Chinese Zodiac. They will receive a zodiac sheet where they can find their own zodiac animal. The story of the zodiac will be told. What year is this year? The year of the sheep!
- 7. Writing Chinese characters. We will teach the children about some significant Chinese characters at New Year. Then they will have a chance to colour in some character sheets, which they can take home to show their parents afterwards. Older children may try calligraphy if appropriate.
- 8. Fortune cookies. The children will receive fortune cookies and this is a good opportunity to talk about how Chinese culture is spreading around the world fortune cookies actually come from San Fransisco!
- 9. Goodbye and wrapping up. The children will review what they have learned and experienced during the workshop. Then they will be say 'goodbye' in Chinese. At the end, mini lanterns will be given along with an explanation of their use at New Year in China.