



# Chinese and Lunar New Year

## Learning Challenges Week Beginning 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021

The date of Chinese New Year changes each year because it follows a very old calendar which is linked to the phases of the Moon. It is always in January or February. Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February marks the start of the celebrations this year. Red is considered to be a lucky colour in China. Wear something **red** on Friday, send us a picture on Tapestry and we will make a photo gallery for the school website.

<p>The Spring Festival or Lunar New Year is celebrated in many cultures at this time. Perhaps the most famous celebrations take place in China. Watch Let's Celebrate Chinese and Lunar New Year (link below) to find out about them.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Click on the link to the CBeebies quiz below to see how much information you can remember from Let's Celebrate!</p>	<p>Watch the CBeebies shadow puppet show of the story of The Great Race. It tells the story of how the animals gave their names to the 12 years of the Chinese Zodiac. Find out which animal matches the year you were born and make a puppet of that animal. There is a zodiac wheel on the website to help you. Miss Lloyd was born in the Year of the Pig and Mr Meek was born in the Year of the Tiger.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Ask an adult to print or copy the sentences below for you, then fill in the blanks.</p>	<p>A traditional gift to children at Chinese and Lunar New Year is a lucky red envelope with money inside. They are called hongbao in Mandarin and lai see in Cantonese. Fold paper to make an envelope, decorate it with red patterns and put a coin inside as a gift for someone.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Make your coins super shiny before putting them in the envelope! Put vinegar in a small pot or bowl, add your coins and leave for about an hour. Observe how they change.</p>
<p>To prepare for the New Year celebrations, Chinese people spring clean their houses and gardens to sweep away any bad luck. Help your family to clean the house ready for Friday! Special foods are also prepared, you could find out about them and maybe try a dish with rice or noodles.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Think about a special occasion you celebrate with your family. How do you prepare for it? What do you eat? Talk with someone at home to share your ideas.</p>	<p>Chinese and Lunar New Year celebrations last 2 weeks. The 15<sup>th</sup> day of the celebrations is the Lantern Festival. Look at the PowerPoint on the school website to find out more then make a paper lantern to hang in your house.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Last term, we discovered that lights, candles and fireworks are important in many different celebrations and festivals. Talk with someone at home about times that you have seen them.</p>	<p>The dragon dance is a famous part of Chinese New Year celebrations. Watch the PowerPoint on the website or look at the videos below. Talk to someone at home about what you saw.</p> <p>Extra challenge: Create your own dragon dance. You could make a mask or hold some fabric above your head to be the dragon's body. Make a video of your dragon dance to share on Tapestry.</p>

## Useful links to look at with an adult

Please be mindful of e-safety, particularly with Youtube links.

Let's Celebrate! Chinese and Lunar New Year

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/chinese-new-year>

Cbeebies Chinese and Lunar New Year Quiz

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/puzzles/lets-celebrate-chinese-new-year-quiz?collection=chinese-lunar-new-year>

Cbeebies The Great Race Shadow Puppet Show

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVClAj8q\\_lY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVClAj8q_lY)

Panda Express TV: The Story of Lunar New Year

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVPdFX9iHY>

Let's Go Club: Chinese Lion Dance

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-go-club-chinese-lion-dance>

Dragon Dance

<https://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/the-chinese-dragon-dance-for-shanghais-spring-festival>

Extra Challenge Sentences:

I am \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

I was born in the Year  
of the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_