



### WEEKLY PARENT NEWSLETTER – Reception Cubs 27 January 2014

#### Dates for your diary

- **Saturday 25 January** - Our postponed Christmas fair with a Chinese New Year twist!
- **Wednesday 29 January** - Children please wear red or a Chinese outfit today.
- **Thursday 30** Chinese New Year holiday begins.
- **Teacher/parent conferences** -19 & 20 February

#### Learning Theme of the week

This week the children received a voice mail from the dragon! He thanked us for our letters and asked us to make him a dance ready for Chinese New Year. The children have listened to a range of music and have thought about ways the dragon might move. They have had great fun moving and dancing like a dragon and have started to choose the most appropriate moves to match the music. Next week they will finalize their dragon dances and record them for the dragon to watch!



This week the majority of our learning will be on the theme of Chinese New Year. The dragon will leave another message for the children wishing them double happiness and asking them to think about doubles. The children will explore making doubles using mirrors. They will see how to record doubles as number sentences and notice the pattern doubles make on the 100 square. They will also begin to use their knowledge of doubles to help them solve problems. E.G the dragon wants all his hong baos (red envelopes) to contain double numbers. This hong bao has 3 coins in it, it needs to have double 3, how many coins will we put in?

The children will also write their own double happiness wishes and attached them to our wishing tree. They'll be able to decorate their wishes with Chinese symbols and characters. The children will have the opportunity to try out various Chinese art and crafts such as calligraphy, paper folding and paper cutting. We will also listen to some traditional Chinese music and make our own drums, cymbals and stringed instruments to accompany the music.

Most importantly the children will learn that Chinese New Year is a festival that has many similarities to other festivals celebrated around the world and at different times of the year. It is a time when families get together, eat special food, give and receive gifts and enjoy having fun together. It would be good if the children could bring a photograph of their family celebrating together-at Christmas, Diwali, Halloween, birthdays or weddings. Thanks.

Some of the main learning intentions taught and explored will be:



### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

- Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.
- Children speak using past and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.

### **Mathematics**

- Children will continue practising their counting; reading and writing numbers.
- Children will add two digit numbers using the + and = signs
- Children will use quantities and objects as well as counting on to find answers to addition and doubling problems

### **Expressive arts and design**

- Children initiate new combinations of movement and gestures in order to express feelings, ideas and experiences.
- Children explore a variety of media, experimenting with colour design, texture ,function and form

### **Physical development**

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements

### **Phonics**

Puffer fish-will review digraphs and trigraphs and use these to write sentences

Sharks-will learn *er* and review *sh, ch, th*

Octopus-will learn *th, ng*

Jelly Fish-will learn *r,h,g*

All groups will continue to review and learn tricky words.

### **Mandarin**

This week the children will continue the topic of Chinese New Year. We will have a fun week of making our own Beijing Opera masks and our Chinese New year decorations. We are going to tell the stories and to sing songs all about Chinese New Year.

**Vocabulary:** nian (年) year, bian pao (鞭炮) fire crackes, lian pu (脸谱) mask, sheng xiao (生肖)Chinese Zodiac

### **Dutch**

#### **Can you help?**

Please send in a photo of your family celebrating. Any festival or special time is welcome and any that are specific to your child or country would be great!

Thank you for the junk modeling materials we have been receiving, keep it coming! We are always grateful for extras!

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

THE BRITISH  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL

Puxi, Shanghai

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NORD  
ANGLIA  
EDUCATION

HELPING OTHERS  
TO BE THE BEST  
THEY CAN BE

Many thanks again.

**The Reception Team.**