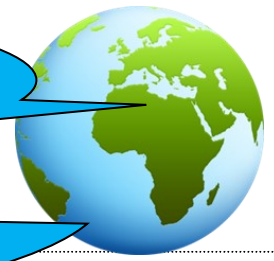




# Very International People



February 2019



Last week, we celebrated Chinese New Year in school. Each class participated in some activities to learn about the traditions and cultural celebrations. Chinese New Year began on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February and 2019 marks the Year of the Pig, the twelfth animal in the zodiac.

People born in the Year of the Pig are said to be honest, good-tempered, kind-hearted, positive and loyal. They have a calm appearance and a strong heart.

We have been working closely with the University of Durham and three Chinese students have spent time with Year 5, Year 2 and Reception Class to teach children about life and festivals in China.

Some of our Year 5 children also performed and took part in the Durham festivities in the Town Hall on Saturday and artwork from all year groups is displayed in our school hall and Clayport Library.

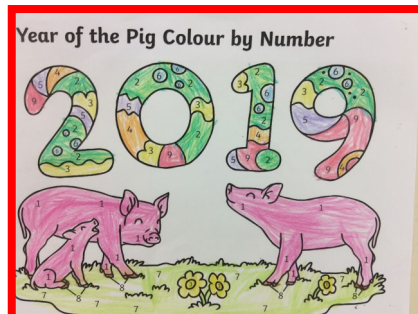


Reception class made some delicious pig biscuits! They also made pig plates that looked amazing. Children made lion masks on the computer in real festival style! They also made New Year Cards, tried eating with chopsticks, decorated plates with willow pattern style

artwork and listened to the story about the twelve animals' race cross the river.



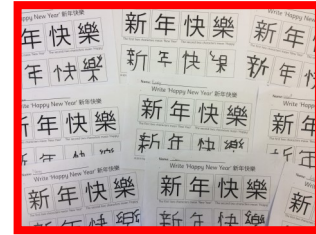
Year 1 enjoyed a whole afternoon of Chinese activities. They made a lovely red lantern decorated with glitter, a bookmark showing the Year of the Pig and a colouring by numbers picture. They also watched a video clip to learn more about Chinese New Year traditions.



In Year 2, they coloured in Chinese zodiacs and created a long dragon with googly eyes. They also made book marks. In Geography, they learned about the location of China, its bordering countries and oceans and labelled a map with rivers and cities.



Year 3 made some fabulous painted fans using paper plates and lolly sticks. They also made an animal sudoku and learned how to write Happy New Year in Chinese! They researched about China and made an awesome country fact file.



Year 4 celebrated by inviting Mrs Geng to cook traditional Chinese dumplings that tasted delicious! They also made some beautiful pencil coloured pigs using different shapes on their page.

Not only did Year 5 learn some fantastic facts but they put on an amazing class assembly. In the assembly, they told us the story of a terrifying beast called Nian. The beast ate crops the village needed but one day an old man told the village to make a loud noise, wear the colour red and carry fire crackers. So they did and the Nian left the village forever. Year 5 also they told about how the Zodiac calendar was created and acted out the animal race story. This year celebrates the year of the pig, the 12<sup>th</sup> animal in the race.

Year 5 also made some fabulous crafts with some Chinese students such as: paper lanterns, origami pandas and wrote happy New Year. They also told us about receiving red envelopes and tangerines for good luck. Year 5 told us the traditional Lantern Festival and sung us a New Year song which sounded beautiful. They put a lot of effort into their assembly and also performed in Durham Town Hall as part of the Durham County Chinese Celebrations.



In Year 6, we made intricate paintings of pigs using the lucky colours red and gold. Also, we looked at examples of Chinese artwork and tried to make our own. As well as this, watched a video introducing how people celebrate Chinese New Year.



Year one celebrated Australia Day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February when Mrs Young, an Australian citizen, came in to tell them about the country.

Year 1 were told about some of the animals that live in Australia such as: koala bears, kangaroos, dingoes, emus, possum and wombats. They also learnt that it takes a minimum of 25 hours to reach Australia by plane (2 planes actually). Mrs Young gave the children veggie mite and fairy bread that is made out of butter and sprinkles. Then, Year 1 learned that some vegetables have different names, such as: pepper is capsicum, aubergine is an eggplant and courgette is zucchini. After that, the class were told that 'dunny' means 'toilet' and 'chock a block' means 'full'. At the end of the morning Mrs Young sang 'We are Australia' and 'Waltzing Matilda.' Year 1 certainly learned a lot about the other side of the world!

