



Date: 13/2/26

Theme: A week of fun and celebration!

Chinese New Year

We began the week by exploring Chinese New Year. To start, we listened to the story of the Chinese zodiac, discovering how each animal earned its place in the cycle and that this year is the Year of the Horse. We learnt how to draw our own horses and had lots of fun acting out the story together.

As we explored the tale, we realised that crossing the river would have been much easier with a bridge, so we set to work designing and building our own. We enjoyed experimenting with different ways to make our bridges strong and stable.

Having lived in Hong Kong, one of our classmates was able to tell us more about China and share lots of wonderful resources with us, which really helped to deepen our understanding.

We also tried traditional Chinese calligraphy, using quills to practise forming characters. Throughout the week we created colourful Chinese dragons, wrote lists of the zodiac animals and worked on our fine motor skills by picking up pompoms with chopsticks.

The highlight of the week was definitely tasting Chinese noodles, a delicious treat said to bring a long life.

Pancakes

As we won't be in school next week, we decided to bring the fun forward and celebrate Pancake Day a little early. We discovered that Pancake Day is also called *Shrove Tuesday* and learnt all about why it is celebrated. The children were fascinated to hear how people around the world mark the day, from pancake races to delicious family traditions. After all our learning, it was finally time for the best part, trying our own pancakes!

Gymnastics

Our final gymnastics session with Coach Robbie was by far the most exciting yet! We challenged ourselves on the highest benches with balance beams and even had a go on the climbing bars. Everyone showed amazing bravery and confidence, climbing up really high and trying new skills. We were so proud of ourselves for being determined and adventurous.

Forest School Fire

After weeks of rain, we had been so patient waiting for the chance to light a fire at Forest School (and yes... it still rained!). The children were buzzing with excitement as they watched the fire being lit at last.

We learnt all about the fire triangle (how a fire needs oxygen, heat and fuel in order to burn) and talked carefully through all the safety rules. Everyone practised kneeling in the respect position to make sure we stayed safe around the flames.

And of course, we ended the session with another delicious treat to celebrate the end of term... toasted marshmallows!

Phonics: This week, we have continued to re-view all our Phase 3 sounds and harder to read and spell words. There will be no new sounds going home this week. I have attached the Harder to Read and Spell words.

Maths

This week we have been comparing quantities. We have also been counting on and back to find 1 more and 1 fewer.

Key vocab: More than, fewer than, greater, smaller, fewer, same as, groups, sets

Learning Journal Task

Practice the sounds and harder to read and spell words that you don't know (see the attached sheet—anything with a green line they already know).

Please note that PE will be back to Mondays after half term.

Reminder:

- Please remember to wash and return PE bags on the first day back.
- World Book Day is soon approaching—get those costumes ready!