



Kung Hei Fat Choi

With the Lunar New Year approaching we would like to wish you a Happy New Year. When students are asked about the traditions of Chinese New Year, many immediately talk about 'red packets'. With Chinese New Year being a popular topic of conversation among teachers and Trinity Examiners, we thought we would explore more of the traditions related to the Lunar New Year holiday.



Plants and Flowers

Live blooming plants symbolize rebirth and new growth. Flowers are believed to be symbolic of wealth and high positions in one's career. Lucky is the home with a plant that blooms on New Year's Day, for that foretells a year of prosperity. Plum blossoms signify reliability and perseverance; bamboo is known for its compatibility, utility and flexibility, and evergreen pine evokes longevity and steadiness.

Oranges and Tangerines

Etiquette dictates that you must bring a bag of oranges and tangerines and enclose a lai see packet when visiting family or friends during Chinese New Year celebration. Tangerines with leaves intact assure that one's relationship with the other remains secure. For newlyweds, this represents the branching of the couple into a family with many children. Oranges and tangerines are symbols for abundant happiness.

Sweets Tray

The sweets tray, arranged in either a circle or octagon is called "The Tray of Togetherness". Each item represents some kind of good fortune; Candied melon - growth and good health; Dyed red melon seed - to symbolize joy, happiness, truth and sincerity; Lychee nut - strong family relationships; Cumquat - prosperity (gold); Coconut - togetherness; Peanuts - long life; Longnan - many good sons; Lotus seed - many children.

Newspaper Headlines

Newspaper headlines often make the difference between someone buying the edition or not. That's why the headlines are short, interesting or sensational, to draw the reader into the story. This means though, that newspaper headlines are often difficult to understand because they are often written in incomplete sentences.

Headlines often contain a noun phrase with no verb. To try and make sense of the headline and to prepare yourself for the article it is useful to ask yourself questions such as: From what? About what? From whom? To whom? etc.

e.g. Unexpected Visit

Questions to ask yourself about the above headline:

From whom?

Why was the visit unexpected?

Who was visited?

By asking yourself these sort of questions, you can learn to predict what the story will be about, and if you really want to read the article at all!

Events Calendar

February 2008

7-9/2 Closed for Chinese New Year

25-27/2 Trinity Preparation classes

March 2008

6/3 Trinity Preparation classes

9/3 Trinity Exam Wing Sing Lane

21/3 Open Good Friday

22/3 Open

24/3 Closed for Easter Monday

Poetry Board

Haiku Poems

A haiku is a Japanese poem composed of three unrhymed lines. The first line has five syllables, the second has seven syllables and the third line has five syllables.

The ants run around
Carrying food about
Tickling me all over

The wind is blowing
You can see it
But not hear it

Playful kittens
Fast asleep
Cuddling up to their mother

Penguins walking
Down to the sea
Saying, Let's go for a swim

The leaves
Are all green
And flowing with colour

Spotlight on the classes of Miss Julia & Mr Giles



Miss Julia's
Favourite food:
Steak
Favourite TV
Programme: The
Apprentice



Mr Giles'
Favourite food:
Chicken Wings
Favourite TV
Programme: Doctor
Who



Natalie Chow's
Favourite food:
Sweets
Favourite TV
Programme:
Cartoons



Ernice Kung's
Favourite food:
Vegetables
Favourite TV
Programme: Hi 5



Ho Cheuk Ting's
Favourite food:
Apples
Favourite TV
Programme:
Doraemon