

Home Learning Activities

Nursery

Monday 8th February- Friday 12th February

Hello Nursery,

I hope you've had a good weekend?

Well done for all the amazing work you have done so far! Miss Price and all the Nursery team are very proud of you all!

I have written some ideas down for your parents to do with you at home. This week, I have put all the learning ideas on one sheet, so you pick and choose what you would like to do each day. Remember these are just ideas! I don't expect you to do them all. If grown-ups would like to send any work/photos or have any queries this week, please send them to nursery@westacreinfantschool.co.uk and someone from the Nursery team will reply.

There are lots of exciting things coming up next week, which we would normally cover in Nursery.

These are

Chinese New Year Friday 12th February (Year of the OX)

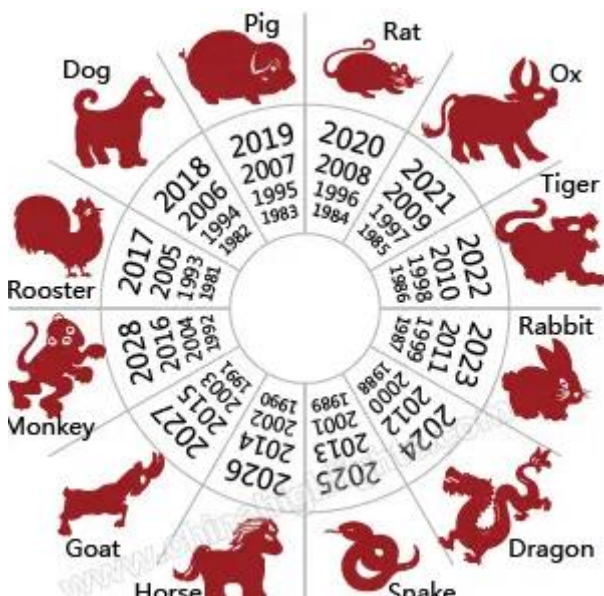
Valentine's Day Sunday 14th February

Pancake Day Tuesday 16th February

I have included some ideas that you can do at home, that are related to these topics.

Literacy

One of the colours often seen during Chinese New Year is red. With the help of your grown-up can you make a list of words that rhyme with the word red, e.g. bed.



You were born in the Chinese year of the _____ Can you draw a picture of this animal?

Watch the following stories:

Chinese New Year Zodiac Story https://youtu.be/eVClAj8q_lY

Preparing For Chinese New Year https://youtu.be/c8ssHXZ9_qU

My First Chinese New Year <https://youtu.be/iGghkuEMZI8>

What do the children get in envelopes?

Who had a race?

What does the Dragon mean?

What do people eat their food with?

What do people eat?

What else can you find out about Chinese New Year?

The Littlest Valentine <https://youtu.be/Keqqo9ty7JI>

What happens in the story?

What shop did the Valentines own?

What did Emma make with her grandparents?

What did Emma find outside?

The Runaway Pancake

<https://youtu.be/fnEj6xOnFDI>

What happens in the story?

Why did the pancake run away?

Can you pick a story to read with your grown-up?

Talk to your grown-up, what happens in the story?

Can you learn this new song?

5 Crispy Pancakes

(Sing to the tune of 5 Currant Buns.)

Five crispy pancakes in a frying pan,
Flip them and toss them and catch them if you can.

Along came (Child's name) for a pancake one day.

He sprinkled it with sugar and took it away.

Four crispy pancakes in a frying pan,
Flip them and toss them and catch them if you can.

Along came (Child's name) for a pancake one day.

She sprinkled it with sugar and took it away.

Three crispy pancakes...

Two crispy pancakes...

One crispy pancake... 5

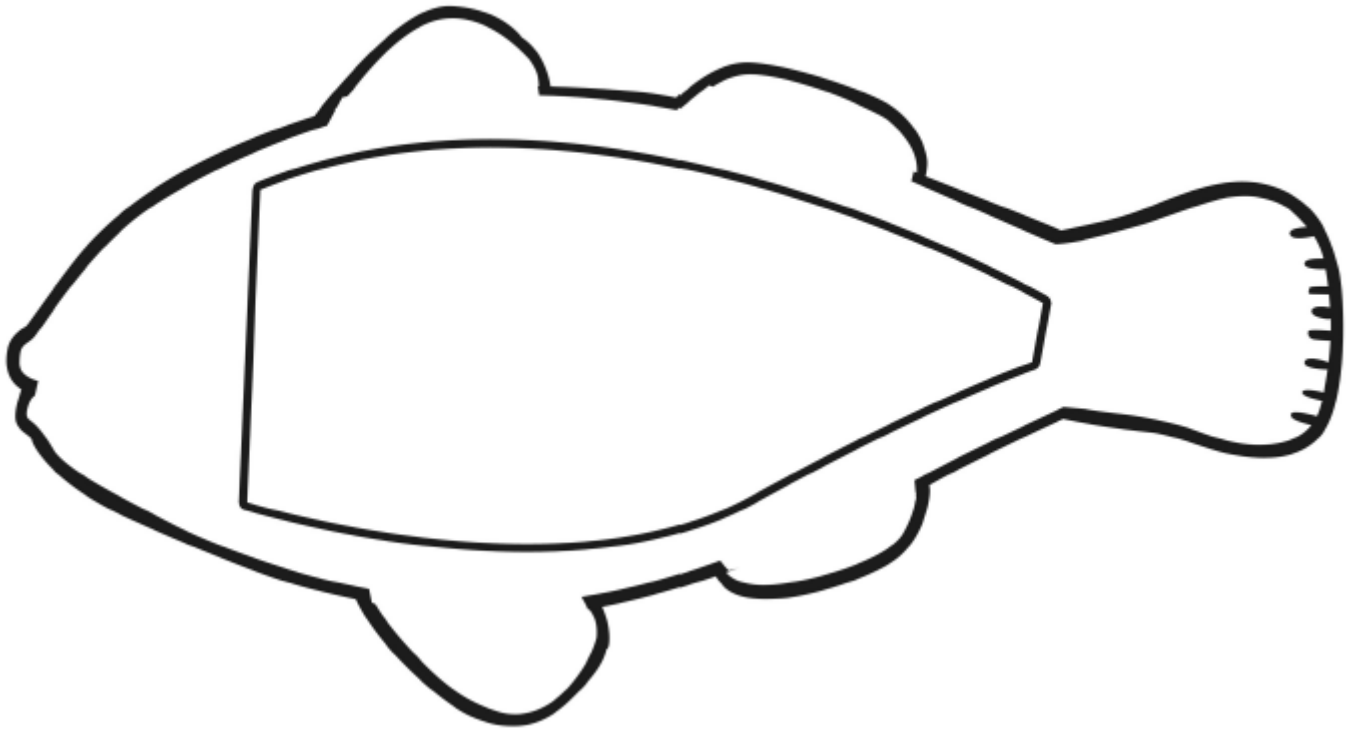
Creative

At Chinese New Year, these Chinese fish decorations are everywhere. The reason for this is that the Chinese word for 'fish' sounds exactly the same as the Chinese word for 'abundance' which means having more than you need of something. By hanging up fish decorations Chinese people are hoping that in the New Year they will have wealth and prosperity

Lucky Fish

Supplies

- Fish template
- A4 coloured card
- PVA glue
- Coloured tissue paper
- Scissors





- 1 Print the fish template out onto coloured card. Using scissors, carefully cut around the outline of the fish. Also cut the inside section of the fish out; you may need an adult to help with this.



- 2 Cut long, thin strips of tissue paper in different colours. Place them in a pile, one on top of the other, then fold the pile back and forth, making them into a concertina.



- 3 Cut a semicircle out of the top and bottom of your folded tissue paper. Now you can open the strips out again ready to decorate your fish.



- 4 Spread glue onto the outer edge of the fish template. Then place strips of the tissue paper going vertically over the cut out middle of the fish. Rub them down gently so that they attach to the template.



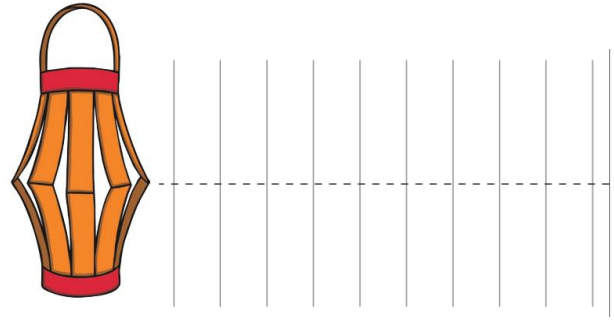
- 5 Continue to build up layers of tissue paper, ensuring that each one overlaps. Once the fish template is completely covered, leave to dry.



- 6 Once dry, carefully cut around the outer edge of the fish. This should leave you with a fish shape with some beautiful coloured scales in the middle!

To make a Chinese lantern:

1. Cut off one end of the paper. Set aside to use as the handle.
2. Decorate the sheet using coloured pens, paint or glitter.
3. Fold your paper in half lengthwise along the dashed line.
4. Cut the marked lines along the sheet. (Do not cut to the edge of the paper).
5. Unfold the paper.
6. Match the long edges together on the lantern and use tape to hold it in place.
7. Staple the handle to the top of the lantern.



Make a Model Dragon

Make a model dragon - you could use cardboard tubes and boxes, playdough, construction toys or natural materials like leaves and pebbles. Maybe you could draw a picture or take a photo of your dragon model!



Fire Works

Fireworks are often seen during Chinese New Year. Paint or draw a firework picture. You could use crayons, pens, paint or glitter and glue.

Valentine's Day Card

Can you make a Valentine's Day card for someone special? Can you write your name in it?

Maths

Money

During Chinese New Year celebrations, children are sometimes given envelopes with money inside! With an adult, look at some coins and see if you can see any numbers on them. What numbers can you see? What shape are the coins? What colours are they?



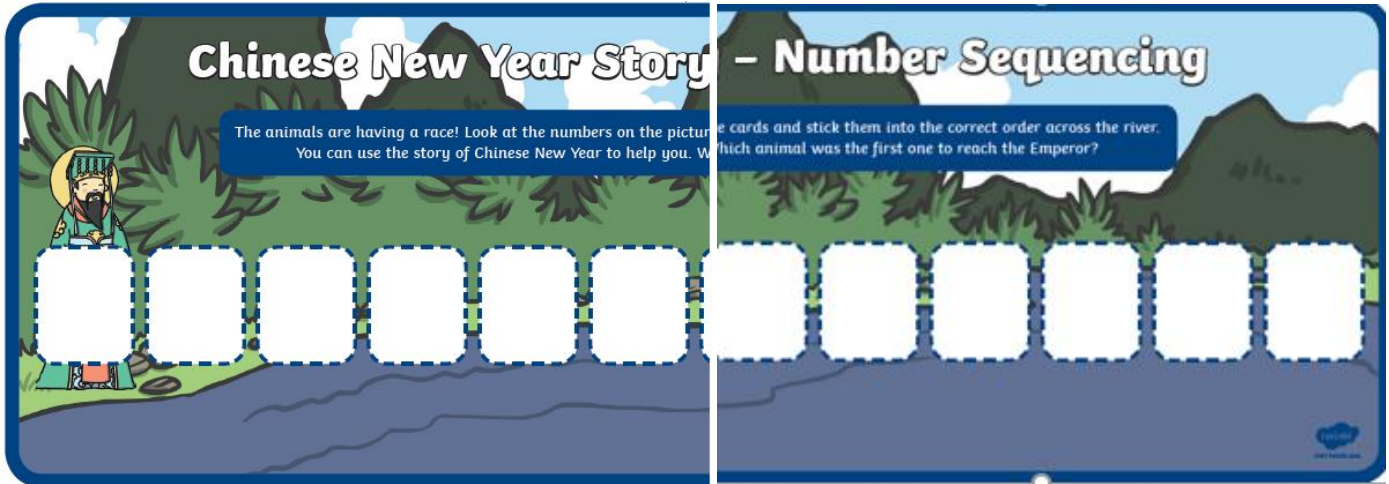
Counting

There were 6 red lanterns and 3 yellow lanterns hanging in a row. How many lanterns were there altogether?



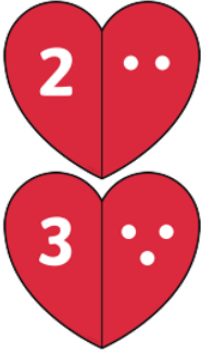
Chinese New Year Number Sequencing

The animals are having a race! Look at the numbers on the picture cards and stick them into the correct order across the river.



Valentines Number Matching

With your grown-up's help, can you draw 11 hearts? Can you cut these hearts out so you have 11 hearts altogether? You then need to write the numbers 0-10 on one side of your hearts, starting with 0. Now fold each heart in half and draw the same amount of dots on the other half. (Like below) Once you have done this for all the hearts, you then need to cut the hearts down the middle so you have broken each heart. Ask a grown-up to help mix them up, now you have to put the hearts back together and match the number with the correct amount of dots.



Making Pancakes

(Recipe and Method taken from [BBC Good food.com](https://www.bbc.com/food/recipes/pancakes))

You will need a grown-up to help you with this.

Ingredients

100g [plain flour](#)

2 [eggs](#)

300ml/½ pint semi-skimmed milk

[1 tbsp vegetable or sunflower oil](#) , plus extra for frying

Can you help to measure the ingredients?

Method

STEP 1

Put the flour in a large bowl and make a well in the centre. Crack the eggs into the well, pour in a splash of the milk and, using a balloon whisk or wooden spoon, start to stir from the centre of the bowl, drawing the flour into the eggs and milk. Beat the mix until smooth (get any lumps out now while it's thick), then stir in the rest of the milk until it's the consistency of single cream. Stir in the oil. The batter will keep covered in the fridge for up to a day at this point. Stir well before you use it.

STEP 2

Put a non-stick frying pan or crêpe pan (one with a 20-23cm base is ideal) over a medium heat. Pour 1cm oil into a heatproof jug and keep it to hand. Add a drop of oil to the pan, swirl it around, tipping any excess back into the jug. Pour in a ladleful of batter, tilting the pan and swirling the batter to give a thin, even layer. Leave the pancake alone for 30 secs, no prodding, or until it starts to colour around the edge. Don't crank up the heat if this takes longer – as you'll scorch the bottom of the pancake and it won't flip well.

STEP 3

With a fish slice or palette knife, ease the edge of the pancake away from the pan, then loosen underneath. Check that the bottom is golden, then turn it over in one quick movement or give it a flip. Cook for another 30 secs before turning out onto a plate. Eat straight away. If you're making ahead, stack the pancakes on a plate and cover with cling film. Pierce the film, then reheat in the microwave on High for 1 min or until piping hot.

Fine Motor



With the help of a grown-up have a go at trying to copy one of these symbols?

Can you sort and roll up socks so they are in pairs?

Can you make marks in different substances, such as: flour, salt, sand, rice, paint?

Can you practice using your scissors on different lines again, like you did last week?

Can you build a tower using blocks?

Can you peg washing on a line, or can you peg on the edge of a container like you did last week?

Can you complete a jigsaw?

Can you practice writing your name?

Physical

Can you practice getting dressed and undressed with only a little help from your special adult.

You could continue to practice putting your coat and shoes on and off by yourself. Maybe you could try to put on gloves, hats and scarves on your own too.

Have a go at doing these every day?

Can you throw and catch a ball.

Can you move your body in different ways?

Can you ride your bike or scooter?

Can you wash your hands?

Can you jump up and down on the spot ten times?

Pancake Treasure Hunt

Cut out some paper pancakes and hide them round the house and garden (like an Easter egg hunt).

Pancake Stepping Stones

Ask your grown-up to cut out some large paper pancakes for you to put on the floor as stepping stones. Great for balancing and counting skills.

Pancake Stepping Stone Races

Children love races where they have just 2 pancake stepping stones each and they have to use them to cross the floor, standing on one and putting the second in front of them. Moving onto the second and reaching behind to pick up the first and putting that in front and so on, and so on. Who can get to the other side first?

Team Pancake Stepping Stone Races

As above but done as competing teams where each team has enough stepping stone pancakes for one each plus one extra. In a line they all stand on their pancake and the leader has the spare pancake. On the word 'Go' the leader puts the spare pancake on the floor in front and steps on to it. All the team steps forward to fill the empty pancake in front. The last team member then picks up the pancake left empty that's behind him and passes it to the team member in front. The team members pass it down the line to the front person who puts it on the floor, steps on to it and the whole process starts again. This is repeated until they reach the finishing line. This is a great game for building team co-operation and encouragement.

Pancake Balancing

Balance a paper pancake on your head, knee, toes etc. a great opportunity for little ones to listen to body part names and find them. Can you walk across the room while balancing a paper pancake?

Blow the Pancake

Young children will enjoy simply resting a paper pancake on their hand and blowing it off, super for working those lip muscles and extending the breath. (If you find blowing difficult, sometimes blowing through a straw can be easier as you can pucker their lips around the straw.)

Flap the Pancake

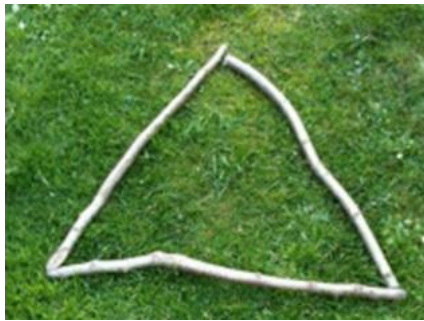
A fun activity to do with paper pancakes and a book or newspaper for flapping to create a wind.

Outdoor Learning

Making Shapes

Can you collect sticks in the garden (Grown-ups encourage them to find straight ones that are about the same length).

Grown-ups ask children to create a 2-D shape on the floor using their sticks. When they have finished creating their shapes, ask them to count up the number of sides of their shape, and write that number next to it in the mud using a stick.



Recycled Planters

Equipment

- Old plastic containers or cartons
- Paints, wool and other craft materials for decoration
- Glue and scissors
- A mixture of top soil and compost
- Suitable crocks such as rocks, gravel or broken pots
- Seeds or seedlings

Activity: Grown-ups, ask the children to consider the features needed for a plant pot: - Waterproof and weatherproof material
- Deep enough for the roots –

1. Select a plastic container.
2. Cut a wide enough space out to enable the filling of the planter with soil.
3. Pierce the base several times to allow water to drain through.
4. Decorate the planter.
5. Fill the base with some suitable crocks.
6. Top up the planter with a mixture of soil and compost.
7. Plant a seedling into the soil and water it in thoroughly.

Mud Pie

Can you make a mud pie, using nothing but mud and some nature items, you will need nothing more than some water and a stick, Maybe you can easily make it more exciting by adding flowers, shells, grass, sticks, leaves or small pebbles – whatever you have handy.

Jump in muddy puddles

This is my favourite messy activity and a great messy play idea! Pick the biggest puddle you can find in your garden or on a walk and splash!

Make a sensory bottle

Sensory bottles are super fun and easy to make. Simply fill a jar or a bottle with water, add some food colouring, and a few small nature treasures (leaves, stones etc.) Give the bottle a shake and watch the colours infuse for a delightful nature decoration.

I hope you have lots of fun doing these activities, I look forward to seeing how you have got on.

There is no home learning next week as it is half term!

Have a lovely week off!!

Stay safe and take care!

Miss Price