

Celebrating Chinese New Year with Nova and Pip

Step into the light of the Lunar New Year and discover a world of colour, history, and celebration!

- The festival marks the start of the New Year in the lunar calendar, a time for families to gather together for a special reunion dinner to honour their ancestors.
- Every year is represented by one of twelve animals from the Chinese zodiac, such as the dragon, the rabbit, or the tiger, which are believed to influence the year's personality.
- Red is the most important colour during the celebrations because it is believed to symbolise good luck, joy, and prosperity, helping to ward off bad fortune.
- Children often receive red envelopes, known as 'hongbao', which contain money as a gift to bring them good luck and blessings for the year ahead.
- The celebrations conclude with the spectacular Lantern Festival, where people release glowing lanterns into the night sky or display them in the streets to light the way for the future.

Did you know? Did you know? Chinese New Year is not celebrated on the same date every year! Because it follows the lunar calendar, which is based on the cycles of the moon, the date changes annually, usually falling between 21 January and 20 February.

Key vocabulary: Lunar Calendar · Zodiac · Red Envelopes · Prosperity · Lantern Festival · Tradition