Year 5 RE: Chinese New Year Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the traditions, symbols, and significance of the Lunar New Year celebration within Chinese culture.

Read the front of each card to test your knowledge about the customs and traditions of Chinese New Year. Flip the card to check if you know the answer!

What is another name for Chinese New Year, reflecting the season it welcomes?	**What type of calendar is used to determine the date of the Chinese New Year?**
The Spring Festival.	The lunar calendar (which follows the phases of the moon).
How many animals are there in the Chinese Zodiac cycle?	**What is the name of the legendary beast said to be scared of the colour red and loud noises?**
Twelve.	Nian.
What are 'Hongbao' or red envelopes usually used for during the festival?	**Why do families gather for a 'Reunion Dinner' on New Year's Eve?**
They are given to children and unmarried adults, containing money for good luck.	To honour ancestors and strengthen family bonds.
What colour is considered the luckiest colour in Chinese culture and is worn during the festival?	**Which traditional dance is performed during celebrations to bring good fortune and scare away evil spirits?**
Red.	The Lion Dance or the Dragon Dance.
What is often cleaned in the home before the New Year begins, and why?	**What is the significance of the Lantern Festival, which marks the end of the Chinese New Year period?**
The house is cleaned to 'sweep away' bad luck and make room for good luck.	It symbolises the hope for a bright future and marks the first full moon of the year.
Why are fish often eaten during the New Year feast?	**How does Nova the owl describe the moon's role in this festival?**
The word for 'fish' sounds like the word for 'surplus' or 'abundance', symbolising prosperity.	Nova explains that because the festival follows the lunar cycle, the date changes every year compared to the Gregorian calendar.