Celebrating Chinese New Year with Ellie

Learning objective: To write an informative recount about the traditions and significance of Chinese New Year.

Use this writing frame to help you structure your report. Remember to include facts about the customs, the zodiac animals, and the festive celebrations.

As the winter moon reaches its peak, families across the world gather to celebrate the vibrant and hopeful festival of Chinese New Year.

Word bank: traditionally · symbolises · furthermore · subsequently · lunar calendar · prosperity · festivities · in addition · customary

1. Introduction: What is Chinese New Year and when does it usually take place? Start by writing: 'Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, marks the beginning of...' (2 marks)

2. The Zodiac Animals: Explain the legend of the twelve zodiac animals. Start by writing: 'One of the most fascinating parts of the celebration is the zodiac, which consists of...' (3 marks)

3. Traditions and Customs: Describe how families prepare for the new year. Start by writing: 'To prepare for the arrival of good luck, many families participate in traditions such as...' (3 marks)

4. The Festive Feast: Describe the types of food eaten and why they are important. Start by writing: 'Food plays a central role in the celebrations, with specific dishes chosen because they represent...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise why this festival is important to people today. Start by writing: 'Ultimately, Chinese New Year is a significant time for reflection and...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research one of the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac. Write a short paragraph explaining which year you were born in, which animal represents that year, and the personality traits associated with it.