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## RENREN CHINESE 人人中文







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#### A MONTHLY FEBRUARY FOR CHINESE LEARNERS

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扫生 Sweeping the Dust: . This custom shows a good wish of putting away old things to welcome a new life.

**贴春联 Pasting Spring Couplets:** Spring Festival every household will paste on doors a spring couplet written on red paper to give a happy and prosperous atmosphere of the Festival

**贴窗**花和"福"字 Pasting Paper-cuts and "Up-sided Fu(福)": Give a happy and prosperous atmosphere of the Festival and express the good wishes of Chinese people looking forward to a good life.

、守岁 Staying Up Late on New Year's Eve: The tradition of staying up late to see New Year in originated from an interesting folk tale。

**贴年画 Pasting New Year Prints:** The custom of pasting New Year Prints originated from the tradition of placing Door Gods on the external doors of houses.

**吃饺子 Having Jiaozi (Dumplings):** On New Year's Eve, the whole family will sit together to make jiaozi and celebrate the Spring Festival. The shape of jiaozi is like gold ingot from ancient China.

看春节联欢晚会 The CCTV New Year's Gala: The New Year's Gala is a variety show held by China Central Television (CCTV) since 1983. Many Chinese would like to watch the gala while having the dinner on New Year's Eve.

**放鞭炮 Setting off Firecrackers:** In ancient China, the sound of burning bamboo tubes was used to scare away " $\mp$ "。

**拜年和压岁钱 New Year's Visit and Gift Money:** On new year's day Juniors will greet seniors, wishing them health and longevity, while seniors will give juniors red envelope with money as a wish for their safety in the coming year.

進庙会 Temple Fair: Temple fair, usually held outside temples.

#### editor's Desk

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**Traditional Festival Greetings:** 

Gong hè xīn xǐ

恭 贺 新 禧 | Happy New Year jí xiáng rú yì

吉 祥 如 意 | Everything Goes Well gōng xǐ fā cái

恭 喜发 财 | Wishing You Prosperity

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# hat's in a Chinese Character What's in a Chinese Character



nián

年 year, age

Written character: 6 strokes

nián líng

年 龄: age

xīn nián

年: New Year 新

Long ago, the Emperor of Heaven sent a monster, the Nian, to destroy the world on New Year because he was angry that people weren't taking care of their animals properly. Everyone was very frightened. Each family had a farewell feast on New Year's Eve and waited through the night for the world to end.

Finally, day came and there was still no sign of the monster. The people realized the Emperor of Heaven had forgiven them and rushed outside to say congratulations to all their friends and neighbors. On New Year's Day, people still greet one another in this way, congratulating them on surviving into the New Year.



Word of the

Month

#### .Practice Chinese Characters here:

	1	
	1	

### RCS Calendar and Holidays

February 2013

March 2013

日	_	<u>_</u>	Ξ	四	五	六	日	_	<u>_</u>	三	四	五	六
					1	2						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Spring festival	11	12	13	14	15	16	10 Daylight saving	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17 St.Patric k's day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							3 I Easter		3/23.248	23/30.31—	-Spring Br	eak.	



## Culture Express



The 15th day of the 1st lunar month is the Chinese Lantern Festival because the first lunar month is called Yuan-month and in the ancient times people called night Xiao. The 15th day is the first night to see a full moon. So the day is also called Yuan Xiao Festival in China.

According to the Chinese tradition, at the very beginning of a new year, when there is a bright full moon hanging in the sky, there should be thousands of colorful lanterns hung out for people to appreciate. At this time, people will try to solve the puzzles on the lanterns and eat Yuanxiao (glutinous rice ball) and get all their families united in the joyful atmosphere.





It has a head, but no neck. It has a body, but no worth, it has no feet, but can travel. (Animal) Riddle What room has no walls, no doors, no windows, and no floors? (Food) To be found on next page.



#### **Chinese School 2013 Chinese New Year Party Schedule**

Address: Kennedy Junior High School (2929 Green Trail Lisle IL 60532)

Host: Bu, Ruizhi / Sun, Millie/ Liu, Ailin **Time:** 02/09/2013 / 4:00PM - 6:00PM

#### Performers

Liang Qingyao Adult music class:

Xu Mei Children's dance class:

HuiYing Wang Children's dance class:

Liang Qingyao Children music class:

Latin dance class: Latin dance:

Fan Qing, Liang Qingyao: Song:

Lin-Jin, Children dance class: Dance:

Ray Martial Arts class:

Cui Mingyan dance class: Mongolian Dance: "Chopsticks dance"

Xu Mei Children dance class: Dance:

Han Shicheng:

Lin-Jin, Children dance class: Dance:

Chen Xiwen:

Chinese Classical dance:

Liu Ping Chinese paper cutting class:

Lin Jin Adult dance class: Dance:

#### **Program**

"Years Oasis" " We're back"

"Early Spring" "Red Hair Band"

" Eagle"

"So happy to fly"

"Dream Latin"

"Barred Plymouth Rock," "Mother," "Cheers! Friends"

"Happy Summer", "Growing up", "I became you."

"Chinese Martial Art"

"Song of a Wanderer," "Play doll"

"Juggling"

"Mulan", "Music hut"

"Castel on a Cloud"

"Heaven and earth"

"Chinese paper-cutting"

"Send you a Jasmine"



Riddle answer: snake and mushroom.