

Newsletter
January 2009

Term 2 : Jan 5- April 3, 2009

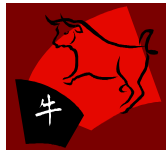


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Dear Parents

Welcome back to a brand New year at Little Mandarins! Hope you are all well rested over the holidays and are set for the new term. We have lined up a whole series of new activities for the new year. Read on.....

Chinese New Year – Year of the Ox



The highlight of all the celebrations at Little Mandarins!! We have prepared so many fun activities to welcome and celebrate the Spring season with the children – firecrackers, window decorations, 8 Treasures... the list goes on. The children will learn all about the culture and songs of the season and learn the proper way to greet one another during visits. Do drop by the school – it's bursting with activities and festive decorations everywhere.

To coincide with the season, our 1st new book for the year is "Chinese New Year". Please do remind your child to bring the book to school. It is the book with the lion's head on the cover.

New Books/Worksheets

We will cover a total of 3 books this term – Chinese New Year, Different Shapes, Meals of the day. In addition to these books, the children will also be bringing home **worksheets** which they have done in school. Do find time to go through these 'work of art' with them – you will be surprised how much Mandarin is spoken as they talk about their work.



Homework – Writing



In order to help in word recognition and to encourage better understanding of the material taught, we will be intensifying the written work for Levels F2, F3 and Stepping Stones. Starting this term, we will slowly introduce a little homework to familiarise them with the Chinese characters. Depending on the level, there will

be 6-20 new characters introduced for each book. However, we assure you that the **written homework will only take about 5 minutes each week**. Our philosophy of game/activity based teaching to encourage **spoken Mandarin will still be our main priority** and will not be compromised. Please feel free to call us if you have any queries on this.

New Teacher

We will like to welcome our new teacher **Rebecca Zhen Laoshi**. Zhen Laoshi hails from Taiwan and has been living in Singapore for more than 20 years. She has worked in various Mandarin language centres in Singapore, and comes with years of background in Dance, Drama, and teaching Mandarin to both expatriate and local children from non Mandarin speaking families. Do drop by to say hi to her.

Progress Reports



All Term 1 progress reports are now ready for collection. We are pleased to inform you that 10 children were promoted to the next level. Congratulations! Our teachers will hand these reports out to your children. Do remember to **Sign and Return** all the

reports to us. If there are any issues about your child's progress, please feel free to call us if you would like to come in to chat with the respective teachers. We'll love to hear from you.

Mums & Tots



We have started yet another class for our little ones to learn Mandarin together with mummy! Combining music, movement, drama and art, this fun-filled class is full of energy and fun to allow both mum & tot to learn together! Conducted by Jin Laoshi, our tot specialist from Beijing, you will be charmed by her high energy and passion. For tots from 20mths onwards, please call us now to join in!

"Mad & Wild Mandarin is Fun" December Camp

More than 40 children joined us in Dec for a wonderful time learning Mandarin the fun and practical way! From making pasta, enjoying chocolate fondue, Ben & Jerry's, tennis clinic, bargaining at the marketplace, watching Beijing 'bian lian' and magic performance, they had non stop fun with Mandarin. Do check out our website for some of the candid shots taken.

The next camp is scheduled for the Easter and Summer holidays. Do watch out for our emails for more details.



Adult Conversation Class



It's a brand new year! Would you like to learn a new language? We have classes for groups or individuals from Basic, Intermediate, Advanced to Business Mandarin, all conducted by our very experienced bilingual teachers from China and Taiwan. Do gather your friends to sign up or we can form a group for you! We specialise in customising our classes

to suit your needs and timings. Do give us a call for details.



Here's wishing each and everyone a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous Lunar New Year!!
新年快了，万事如意!!