

# **Mandarin Program at EPSD**

(Immersion in Mandarin Achieves Gains in Education)

## January & February 2017 Edition

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### Quarles

Students learned about Chinese New Year culture, including dragon and lion dances. New Year 's Eve family reunions as well as money gift giving to children from adults. The picture below shows how Chinese people use hand gesture to greet each other in the New Year. They also learned about Chinese Lantern Festivals, which includes people eating rice dumplings and enjoying observing the moon. They learned a song named "Happy New Year."



## **EPSD NEWS**

Asia Society visited Grieco during their annual conference on Feb 3. Teachers were impressed on how well students interacted in Ms. Chao's class. They also received a very warm welcome from Michael Brown, Dorian Milteer, and our World Languages department Supervisor- Mercedes Gil.



### **JEDMS**

On Feb.3, Mrs. Coleman and Mr. Cardona as a collaborative teaching team, conducted a "Year of the Rooster" Chinese New Year celebration at JDMS. Over 70 Chinese and Spanish program students came together and immersed themselves in the Chinese culture. Students learned the story of Nian, sang and danced "Gongxi Gongxi", made dumplings and enjoyed traditional Chinese food. Chinese program students created bookmarks with Chinese zodiac pencils as a gift for each of the Spanish students. Mr. Kravitz, Mr. Brown, Mr. Thomas, and Mrs. Mathieu came and enjoyed the celebration with our students too.



#### **McCloud**

One of the most widely seen Chinese characters on a Chinese New Year poster is 福 (fu), the character for good fortune or luck. 6<sup>th</sup> graders wrote "福" in Chinese calligraphy.



Fifth graders made paper cut lantern to celebrate Chinese New Year. Chinese lanterns demonstrate the importance of the festivals such as the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year to the Lantern Festival) and the Mid-Autumn Festival.



2017 is the year of Rooster according to the Chinese 12-year animal zodiac cycle.

4<sup>th</sup> graders made a paper cut Rooster.



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## **DMHS/DMAE**

A Mandarin class Level 1 students completed their project by using tissue box. It is covered with Chinese New Year's "Red Envelope" called "Hong Bao". The envelope contains money, called "Ya Sui Qian", which parents and grandparents give to secure the child's age/life.



DMAE's Level 2 Mandarin class' students made a Chinese New Year party dress, using traditional Chinese dress style and color.



The Mandarin class Level 3 students completed a project on Chinese Zodiac story telling. They put on a play that described the 12 zodiac's personality and the rank of the competition.



### **Grieco** (Ms. Chao's classes)

1<sup>st</sup> graders shared their origami hearts during the Valentine's Day.



2<sup>nd</sup> grade students celebrated the last day of Chinese New Year (The Lantern Festival). Students had to figure out the 12 Chinese Zodiac animals in oracle fonts.



1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders performed "Beat to the African Drum" during the Black History Month assembly on Feb. 17, 2017. The audience accompanied their beats. The entire room held a charismatic atmosphere.



## Grieco (Ms. Bi's classes)

In order to celebrate the Chinese New Year, students in Ms. Bi's classes learned the Chinese New Year traditions and undertook various tasks to made different crafts such as red envelopes, paper firecrackers, couplets, and so on. Here is a picture of the 1<sup>st</sup> graders with the red envelope.



Dragon and lion dancing are an important part in the Chinese New Year Celebration.

2<sup>nd</sup> graders danced their lion puppets.



3<sup>rd</sup> graders learned about block printing and below you will find a picture of the same transferred to Chinese symbols.

