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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER





Chinese New Year Celebration at Dovercourt School

February 8, 2016 was Chinese New Year, the start of the year of Monkey. Celebrations were held at the many schools and throughout the community.



Dovercourt School Celebrates Chinese New Year

On February 11, Dovercourt School held a large Chinese New Year celebration involving all students and staff, as well as some parents. The Honorable Sarah Hoffman, the vice primer and minister of Health for Alberta, Mr. Darrel Robertson, the Superintendent of EPSB, and Mr. Ron McNeil, the Assistant Superintendent, were in attendance.

The CIE made contributions to the celebrations. Four CIE teachers provided different Chinese culture sessions to the students, including Chinese dough art, Chinese knots and Chinese paper cutting. The students used the dough to make monkeys and pandas, and the papers to cut monkey patterns. The Chinese knots employed the strings to make the bracelets. All these ancient Chinese culture



Chinese New Year Celebration at Edith Rogers School

Edith Rogers had an entire school assembly to celebrate Chinese New Year on February 18. This was their 4th year to have such event.

The Confucius Institute was invited to attend and contribute to the celebration. Ms. Du Jinjin from CIE performed a Chinese folk dance at the assembly and the CIE also presented a drum performance. One of the CIE visiting teachers, Ms. Song Jia, gave a presentation about the history of Chinese Year, explaining some traditional Chinese New Year customs and also showed a video telling a story about Chinese New Year.

In addition, some performances were provided by students Meyonohk School including the little lion dance and a Tibetan Folk Dance. activities greatly interested the students.

The CIE teachers will continue to provide such cultures sessions to many schools throughout the month of March.

Edith Rogers School started a Chinese language program about 4 years ago and now has about 100 students learning Chinese language and culture.



Consul Yu & CIE Visiting Teachers Celebrate Chinese New Year Together

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton has 17 visiting teachers from China. They work at the CIE and support many schools, with their language and culture programs.

Consul Yu Changxue from the Chinese
Consulate in Vancouver came to Edmonton on
the New Year's Eve to have a Chinese New Year
celebration with all CIE teachers and staff. He
expressed his thanks to all the teachers for being
willing to leave their family behind and to work
very hard to help Canadians develop a better
understanding and appreciation of Chinese
culture, and for working to build friendship
between Canada and China. All the teachers felt
moved and encouraged with the Consul's visit.

Consul Yu hosted a lunch for all the teachers and



Chinese New Year Celebration at Londonderry Mall

Londonderry Mall held its first Chinese New Year celebration on February 18. This event was organized by North Edmonton Business
Association and this was the first time for them to host such an event. The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited to provide support and help for this celebration. The CIE was honoured to organize several performances, including Chinese dances, a lion dance, Guzheng Solo, Chinese peacock dance to mention a few. All the performances were well received by the audience. One of the CIE teachers also provided a solo dance performance. Many students from the Confucius Classrooms in proximity to the mall came to perform as well.

This event was attended by many dignitaries, such as Federal Members of Parliament,

after lunch, all the teachers and Consul Yu had a KTV party to show their singing talents. During the party, there was a draw for a door prize. Everyone had a great Chinese New Year Eve celebration.

members of the Alberta Legislature Assembly, City Councillors, School Board Trustees and the Mayor of Edmonton. The representatives of the 3 different levels of governments brought the greetings to the event at the opening ceremony.





Chinese New Year Presentation at Thorncliff School

February 8 was Chinese New Year. On this day, the CIE was invited to give a presentation on Chinese New Year at the Thorncliff School assembly, recognizing Chinese New Year for the very first time.

All the students and teachers were very excited to view the presentation from the CIE. It began with a presentation from teacher, Ms. Liu Zhiyu, about Chinese customs and traditions related to Chinese New Year. At the assembly, a short video was also played to telling a story about Chinese New Year.

CIE teacher, Ms. Du Jinjin, performed a traditional peacock dance and Tai Chi at the assembly. Many of the students were impressed by the beautiful dance, costume and Tai Chi movements.

Parkallen School Hosted its First Chinese New Year Celebration

Parkallen School is the newest Chinese bilingual school in the Edmonton Public School District. It commenced offering the Chinese bilingual school last year due to the increasing demand of the students to learn Mandarin.

On February 17th, Parkallen School hosted its first Chinese New Year celebration.

At the assembly, Trustee Nathan Ip and CIE director Dr. Wei Li as well as ECBEA president Stephen Tsang were invited to bring greetings. The students from Meadowlark School were also invited to perform dances and play Chinese music instruments. Parkallen students also provided some singing and instrumental performances. Their little lion dance was very special given the students had made their own little lions.

After assembly, the students were able to

At the end of the assembly, a number of student won prizes provided by CIE. And finally, one student won a special prize consisting of a huge monkey which had been provided by the school (see photo above).

After the presentation, students were able to participate in the chopstick competition. The students were trying very hard to use the chopsticks to pick up as many beans as possible in a minute, it was a lot of fun.

experience some Chinese culture sessions, including Chinese dough art, Chinese knots, paper cutting and Tai Chi. All the students showed the great interests in all these culture activities.

A Chinese lunch was provided to all in attendance including students, staff and parents. The lunch was sponsored by the CIE.



Chinese New Year Potluck Lunch at Woodcroft

Every year, the CIE staff provides a Chinese New Year lunch for all the people working at the Woodcroft Centre for Languages, including the staff of IISLE, to celebrate the most important holiday of China. This has become an annual tradition.

On February 5th, the CIE staff again put a very delicious Chinese New Year buffet. Most of the food was home made including many Chinese New Year traditional dishes such as Jiao Zi, fish, Nian Gao, Wontun Soup, Spring Rolls, etc.



Chinese New Year Marketplace at Northlands

Northlands of Edmonton hosted the Chinese New Year Marketplace on February 6th to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Hundreds of people attended.

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited to be part of this celebration through provision of Chinese culture sessions such as Chinese dough art, Chinese knots and Chinese calligraphy. All three sessions were well received by the audience, with long line ups to the displays and especially to get a piece of calligraphy written with lucky words. The Chinese dough art was the same with long lines of people waiting to get a figure they liked.



Close to 30 people attended this lunch and enjoyed the Chinese fare to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Mrs. Valerie Leclair, supervisor of IISLE, expressed the appreciation for all the effort and hard work the CIE staff put toward this event and wished everyone a Happy Chinese New Year.

Dragons and Monkeys were very popular. The CIE Yang Qin team also performed at this event.



The night before on the 5th of February, the CIE also participated in the mixer event held at Northlands, organized by Edmonton Chinese Young Leaders Council.

These two events were sponsored by the Denton Law Firm and TD Bank.



The CIE attends the East Asia Immigrant Society of Edmonton's New Year Celebration

The CIE was invited to attend the Chinese New Year celebration organized by the East Asia Immigrant Society of Edmonton. More than 300 people participated in the event. Dr. Wei Li, the director of CIE, was invited to be an adviser for



YCT/HSK Planning Meeting

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted the first planning meeting of the year for Chinese language proficiency tests (YCT/HSK) on February 24th, 2016.

About 20 teachers from different schools offering

this organization.



the evening included a variety of performances, such as dance, singing and rhythmic gymnastics. Mr. Wu Peng, the Chinese teacher from Edith Rogers School's Confucius Classroom was also invited to perform in song. At last a hot lunch dinner as also served.

Chinese language programs and the Confucius Institute attended the meeting.

The agenda reviewed and reflected on last year's results and test administration, and involved a discussion on improvements that are needed for this year's tests.

Afterwards, the meeting addressed the details for the 2016 spring tests that will be hosted on May 3 and 4, including improvements to registration and test administration procedures.

The number of students writing the YCT/HSK has been increasing every year. In 2015, about 1300 students sat for the exam. his being the second largest number among all the test centers in North America.



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION AT BONNIE DOON MALL

On February 6th, 2016, the CIE was invited by the Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Education Association to participate in its annual Chinese New Year celebration at the Bonnie Doon Mall. All the Confucius Classrooms offering Chinese bilingual program also participated in this event and sent their students to perform cultural acts such as the lion dance, Chinese folk dance, drum shows and Chinese traditional music instruments were also involved in performances. Many of the CIE visiting teachers

assisted students and teachers in the organization of the performances. The CIE also displayed Chinese cultural arts including Chinese knots and Chinese dough art, which were very popular with many people at the event. Many students and adults showed their great interest in the wonderful skills and beautiful design of these Chinese cultural arts.



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