Lunar New Year Celebrations at the ELC

During Week Two the Lavender children enthusiastically participated in a range of experiences to celebrate the Lunar New Year. Some of the children shared their experiences of celebrating this festival with their families and friends during conversations with their Educators and peers.


Mrs Mortimer explained to us how she celebrated the Lunar New Year when she lived in Singapore. She told us that people decorate their houses to bring them good luck and prosperity. Mrs Mortimer brought us some special decorations to put on our door, both to welcome the new year and bring us harmony. She showed us pictures of families and asked the children to comment on what they thought the people were doing.


Mrs Mortimer asked what is a special colour during the New Year celebrations. “Red,” answered Jade. “Yes, people believe that it brings you good luck,” said Mrs Mortimer.

She held up the special red envelopes that people give to family members for good luck called Hong Bao. “(They’re) money bags,” said Tristan.

Then Mrs Mortimer held up her son’s beautiful lion mask and the special red envelopes that children are given during Lunar New Year. The Lavenders eagerly waited for a turn to make and decorate an envelope and to try on the colourful lion mask. Later that day, many children enjoyed representing the lion mask through observational drawing.
The children also enjoyed viewing video clips of lion and dragon dances, painting with red paint, making collages with red and gold coloured paper, listening to poems and stories and practising writing Chinese numeral symbols in coloured salt.

The Lavender children embraced our Lunar New Year experiences with great interest and enthusiasm. It was wonderful to hear some children share aspects of their culture with their peers and the educators.

Learning about the festival gave the Lavender children the opportunity to broaden their understanding of the world in which they live and to explore the diversity of culture, heritage, background and tradition within our community.

This has enabled the children to feel respected and valued for who they are and to develop greater awareness of the connections, similarities and differences between people in our group.

新年快乐 (Xīn Nián kuàilè) (Happy New Year!)

EYLF Outcomes:
1 Children feel safe, secure and supported
2 Children are connected with and contribute to their world.