

# Capstone Project

**Xiao Fang**

# The updated abstract

I created a Chinese Club at the beginning of the school year. The students of Chinese Club engage in activities every Thursday during lunch at school. In addition to the Chinese Club, I hosted a couple of events both at North Warren Regional School and the local library to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. There were two events held during Unit Lunch on February 14th and 15th at NWR. The two events were The Legend of Chinese New Year and tutorial for the U.S. students to learn about Chinese traditions/festivals. Outside of school events, I held lessons on how to create your own Tea Ceremony, how to make dumplings, and how to cut paper and create lanterns. These events were held on February 16th, 19th and 20th at the local library attracted a lot of kids and adults in the community. The attendees were immersed and enriched in the Mandarin language and culture.

# What the project accomplished

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The students in the Chinese club had a better understanding of Chinese culture. They learned how to do Chinese Calligraphy and brush painting and how to make Chinese food. From the two Chinese New Year Celebration events at school, the students and teachers have a better understanding of why and how Chinese people celebrate the new year. They learned how to do the paper cutting “春” and make red envelopes as well as Chinese calligraphy and red couplets. In apart of that, they learned the fun facts of dumplings and tried them. They also learned how to use chopsticks and did a chopstick competition All attendees had a very great time. At the local library, the attendees learned basic knowledge about Chinese tea and how to do Chinese tea ceremony on February 16th; how to make dumplings and pan-fried dumplings themselves on February 19 and how to make a lantern with the Chinese character Spring (春) and paper cutting on February 20. After the celebration, they learned more about the people and cultures of China, which improved the mutual understanding of the people from the two countries.



# CHINESE NEW YEAR: TEA CEREMONY

PARTAKE IN THE ELEGANT AND ANCIENT ART OF CHINESE TEA CEREMONIES! IN HONOR OF CHINESE NEW YEAR, YOU'LL LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF TEA CEREMONIES. FOR ADULTS AND TEENAGERS.  
PRESENTED BY MS. FANG XIAO, A LANGUAGE TEACHER FROM CHINA WHO IS HERE THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE US STATE DEPARTMENT.

*February 16th @ 11am*

Catherine Dickson Hofman Branch  
4 Lambert Rd Blairstown NJ 07825  
908-362-8335  
[www.warrenlib.org](http://www.warrenlib.org)

# CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL!

Feb. 20th @ 4:30 PM

We'll make beautiful paper lanterns, lucky red envelopes, and try our hand at paper cutting. Refreshments will be provided. For all ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Please register.

Presented by Ms. Fang Xiao, a language teacher from China who is here through a grant from the US State Department.

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# CHINESE NEW YEAR DUMPLINGS



**Feb. 19th @ 4:30-8PM**

PLEASE NOTE - THIS IS A THREE HOUR  
CLASS. WE'RE SERIOUS ABOUT  
DUMPLINGS HERE AT CDH. COME IN  
COMFY CLOTHES. FOR ADULTS, TEENS,  
AND KIDS AGED 8 AND UP.

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**Lantern Festival**

- The Lantern Festival occurs on the 15th day of the first lunar month.
- This year, it will be celebrated on March 2, 2018. On the Chinese Lunar calendar it will be January 19th.



- As early as the Western Han Dynasty (206 BCE), it had already become a festival with great significance.

- Families appreciate the bright full moon while enjoying their family reunion.



- Families decorate their homes with lanterns and papercuts.

**Legends Story about Lantern Festival**

It is said that in ancient times, a beautiful girl flew down from the heavens to earth. It was killed by a village by accident. At the will, she became angry and ordered to burn the village and all the people on the fifteenth day of the first lunar month. The village people couldn't bear this punishment and begged the

- Other customs and traditions are to watch dragon lantern dances, lion dances, fireworks, and guessing lantern riddles.



- It marks the final day of the traditional Chinese New Year celebrations and the first full moon of the New Year.



Yuanxian (or tang yuan) is a glutinous rice balls with different fillings such as sweet, red bean, peanut butter paste.

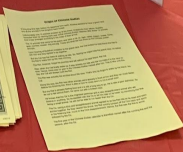
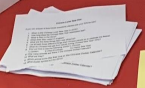
will give. Fortunately, an old man had a suggestion. He asked every family to hang 1448, 195 and 1400, to this way, the emperor was fooled because the village had burned to death.

On the evening of 15th day, the Jade Emperor saw the village and thought he had been lied to. He had not

on his way to the village, he thought that these people had not got together and they were not so obedient. He said that he would give them a chance to remember how fortunate



- During the Lantern Festival, children go out at night to gamble carrying their lanterns. They were hidden in the



7 facts you should know about the Chinese red envelope.

The custom of giving red envelopes originates a series of the oldest stories of Chinese New Year. As the legend goes, the common known as 'Sui' monster appeared when they still were a couple of light to protect them. One New Year, a child kept his eyes open and eventually killed the monster. To avoid the plague, the Sui appeared, but he went to the north, the coins, actually the Eight Immortals in legend, obtained the powerful light that drove the monster away. This became a symbol of the coins, a sometimes even as far as an adult or 'blessing Su money'.

While the tradition continues to evolve, red envelopes are given to friends, family, colleagues and many other relations and different amounts of money according to the relationship. It is especially common and widespread for the most. It is especially common and widespread for the most. It is especially common and widespread for the most.



There are rules and customs in the envelope. It is important to know how to give and receive a red envelope. It is important to know how to give and receive a red envelope. It is important to know how to give and receive a red envelope.

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**Why Chinese Give hong bao 红包**

Chinese people love the color red, and regard it as the symbol of energy, happiness and good luck. Giving and receiving is a way to send good wishes and luck (as well as money).

Actually, the significance of red envelopes is the red paper, not the money inside. Receiving Chinese red envelopes is regarded to bring more happiness and blessings on the receiver. Hence, it is popular to give a red envelope to the person you give it to.

In China, the red envelope is called 红包, which means 'suppressing ghosts money'. Those who receive a red envelope can reduce the evil with good wishes.

红包  
hóng bāo

Want a red envelope?  
Say 恭喜发财  
gōng xǐ fā cái  
hóng bāo ná lái  
红包拿来





### Lantern Festival

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Families appreciate the bright full moon while enjoying their family reunion.

Yuanxiao (or tang yuan 汤圆) glutinous rice balls with different fillings such as sesame, red-bean or peanut butter paste