



# BeiBei Amigos Language School

## 新年快樂!!!

We hope that everyone had a very happy and safe Holiday with family and friends. This month we will be celebrating the 2012 Chinese New Year. According to the Chinese Zodiac, the year of 2012 is the YEAR OF THE DRAGON (Jan. 23, 2012). The Dragon is a creature of myth and legend. In Chinese culture, the Dragon represents an emperor and power, it is the ultimate auspicious symbol signifying success and happiness.

At Chinese New Year celebrations, people wear red clothes, decorate with poems on red paper, and give children "lucky money" in red envelopes. Red symbolizes fire, which according to legend can drive away bad luck.

BeiBei Amigos staff wish you a very Happy New Year filled with blessing.



## School Curriculum

Kids for Character: Caring  
 Theme: Nutrition  
 WK 1: Fruits and Vegetables  
 WK 2: Dairy Products  
 WK 3: Meat/Poultry/Fish  
 WK 4: Food Groups

## Parent Reminders

1. It is cold outside, please make sure to send a jacket/sweater with full name inside.
2. Please take your child's bedding items home at the end of the week and return the following week.
3. If your child is sick, please call the office and give details about his/her illness.

## Genuine Encounter Moments (GEMs)

With all the responsibilities parents have, it is easy to forget that preschoolers not only want our attention, but they need it. Think about how you feel when you bring up an important issue, only to have your spouse occasionally nod in agreement while reading the newspaper. On the other hand, how does it feel to have someone hang on your every word? Genuine Encounter Moments (GEMs) are one way to share focused attention with your preschooler. The goal of a Genuine Encounter Moment is for the parent and preschooler to fully engage with each other, from the heart. Kneel down to your preschooler's level, look him in the eye, gently touch him and listen to what he says. GEMs can be used to take a break from a hectic routine, calm a worried child or diffuse a potentially frustrated child. The conversation should not become a lecture or lesson but serve as a loving affirmation. This is an effective communication tool for preschoolers because it not only conveys love and acceptance, but also reassures the child that what is important to him is important to the parent. GEMs also teach preschoolers how to identify what they want, how to ask for it and how to negotiate.



## January 2012 Happy Birthday

- ☺ Julia —January 2
- ☺ Amelia —January 26



## Important Upcoming Dates & News

- ☺ NO SCHOOL Jan 2, 2012 New Years Holiday
- ☺ Chinese New Year Celebration—Jan 23, 2012
- ☺ NO SCHOOL Jan 16, 2012—MLK Day

## Highlighted Student

Aiden loves story time and he tries to translate Spanish to English for his friends whenever he can. He loves to be the classroom helper and to assist teachers and friends whenever he can. He enjoys building structures with blocks and pipes.

