



VOLUME 72, ISSUE 6

THE NEWSPAPER OF ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE PREPARATORY

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

Happy Lunar New Year!

HEY SI! IT'S FINALLY TIME TO BID FAREWELL TO THE PAST YEAR AND MOVE ONTO THE NEXT. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHARE WITH YOU ALL THE WAYS WE CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR, AND A BIT ABOUT WHAT MAKES THIS HOLIDAY SO SPECIAL! WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS SPECIAL EDITION ISSUE. HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR AND BEST OF LUCK FROM EVERYBODY AT INSIDE SI!

-KATE QUACH '25, STELLA HONG '24, ANDREW WONG '24
ASSOCIATE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

RINGING IN THE YEAR OF THE WOOD DRAGON

Kate Quach '25

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Jagged sets of teeth bare amidst frenzied whiskers splaying in every direction. A full mane roars down a coiling figure of scales and spikes. Families honoring the Lunar New Year do not fear this creature; instead, they gather together to celebrate it in the Year of the Dragon.

Across the nation on February 10, 2024, dragon dancers will parade through the streets while family members exchange red envelopes and wishes of fortune. Lucky foods in Chinese tradition believed to bring wealth and prosperity, such as fish and spring rolls, will meet the dinner tables of relatives uniting for the Year of the Dragon.

According to Chinese culture, the fierce fifth animal in the 12-year zodiac cycle symbolizes strength,

success, and progress. The dragon also holds significance in Tết, the Vietnamese New Year.

Tết traditions regard dragons as noble and powerful.

Chinese customs attribute characteristics such as innovation and curiosity to individuals born in the Year of the Dragon. Vietnamese beliefs associate talent and nobility with those born in the Dragon seasons.

The Year of the Wood Dragon stands as a rare occurrence. Before 2024, the Year of the Wood

Dragon's most recent appearance was in 1964. East Asian horoscopes foresee this Lunar New Year to hold an abundance of creativity, humility, and knowledge. As families celebrate throughout the month, they anticipate the rest of the year to possess unity and growth for their household.



Decorations honor dragons throughout the Lunar New Year.



TEACHER LUNAR NEW YEAR TRADITIONS

Andrew Wong '24

Associate Editor-in-Chief

The Lunar New Year is a massive celebration that spans the entire globe. As a result, the holiday is celebrated in a plethora of different ways with different traditions, practices, foods, and more. Here are a few ways SI teachers celebrate the new year!

Ms. Pappas (Language): “My family’s Chinese New Year tradition is to have a Chinese dinner together, such as dumplings, hotpot, and other traditional Chinese food. This holiday is for a family reunion. Since my family is faraway, we video cam with my parents in China to give New Year’s greetings to each other. Also we visit friends, make dumplings together, give red envelopes to our friends’ young children, and give New Year gifts. In the most of time, Chinese New Year days are during the school days, so my students and I celebrate together at school. Besides learning the culture and traditions, we make paper cutting with Chinese zodiac signs, blessing words, and other traditional New Year crafts, write spring couplets (blessing words and best wishes for hanging around the door frame), have potluck, sing Chinese Karaoke, watch Chinese New Year Gala, and get students’ family involved to make dumplings at home. For the whole school, we started and have been decorated the Student Center and organized the dumpling making party with students and their parents for ten years.”



Ms. Pappas with SI students

Ms. Gee (English): “A few weeks before Tết my family makes bánh chưng, glutinous rice cakes wrapped in banana leaves. We always decorate the house with red decorations with the year’s zodiac animal and cherry blossoms. The week leading up to the new year consists of cleaning and stocking our pantry with foods such as sweet coconut, dried watermelon seeds, oranges and pomelos to signify wealth and prosperity, and sweet glutinous rice called xôi.

When the clock strikes midnight on the eve of the new year, we light up fireworks to chase away the spirits that may malign the new year. On the day of the new year, we wear traditional outfits called áo dài and we visit our families to gift them foods for the new year.”



Ms. Gee celebrates Tết with her family.

Mr. Evans (Religious Studies): Our family loves to go to the parade, and cheer on SI’s ASC members as they make their way down Market Street!” -

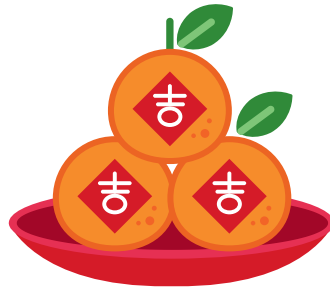
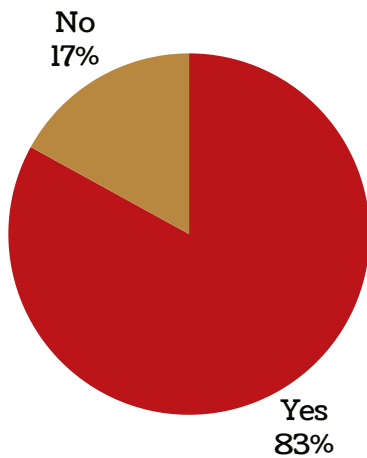
Ms. Wong (Counseling): “We eat certain types of traditional food to represent good luck and prosperity for the upcoming year. Some of those food are longevity noodles for long-life, fish for abundance year after year, dumplings for prosperity and fortune as they look like little money pouches. It’s also tradition that red envelopes are given out to children or younger unmarried relatives during Lunar New Year by those who are already married as tokens of good fortune and blessing for the year ahead.”

SI Lunar New Year Survey

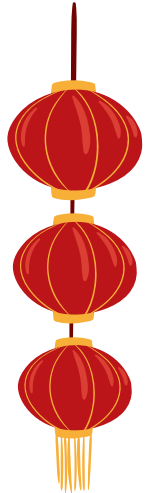
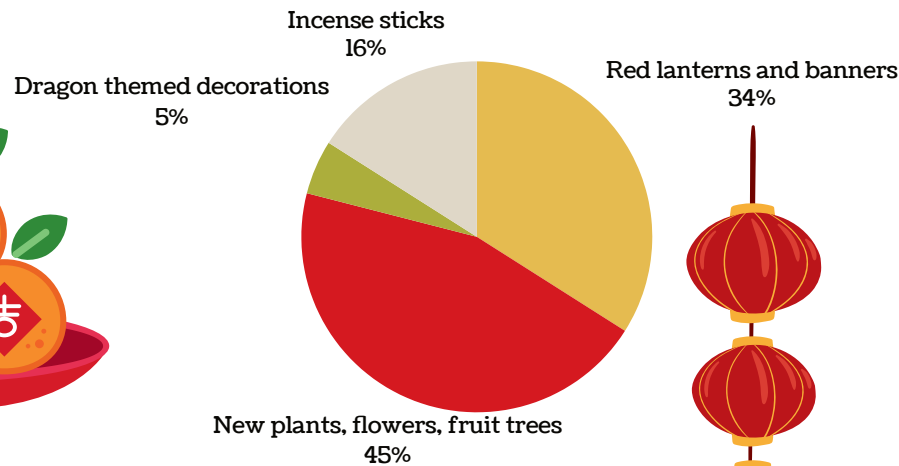
3

*based on 76 responses

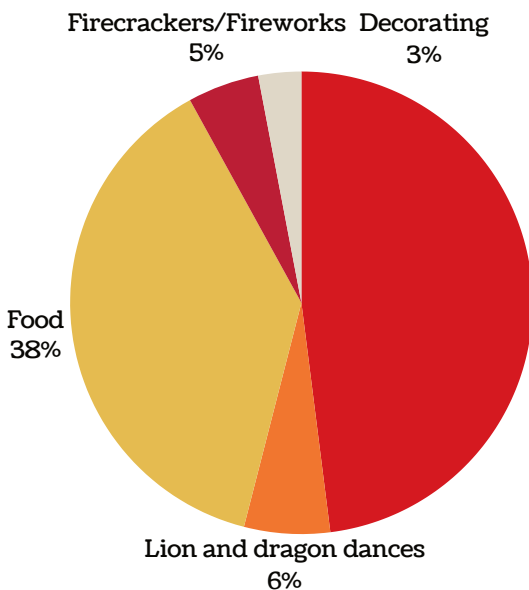
Do you celebrate Lunar New Year?



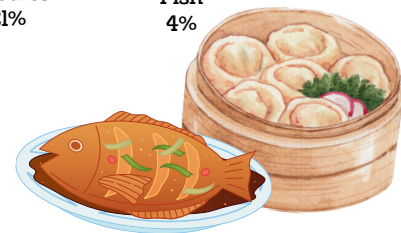
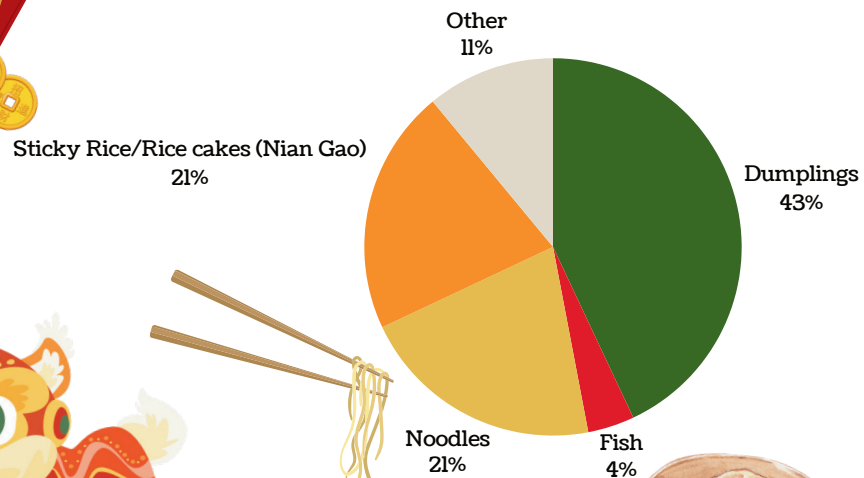
Favorite decorations?



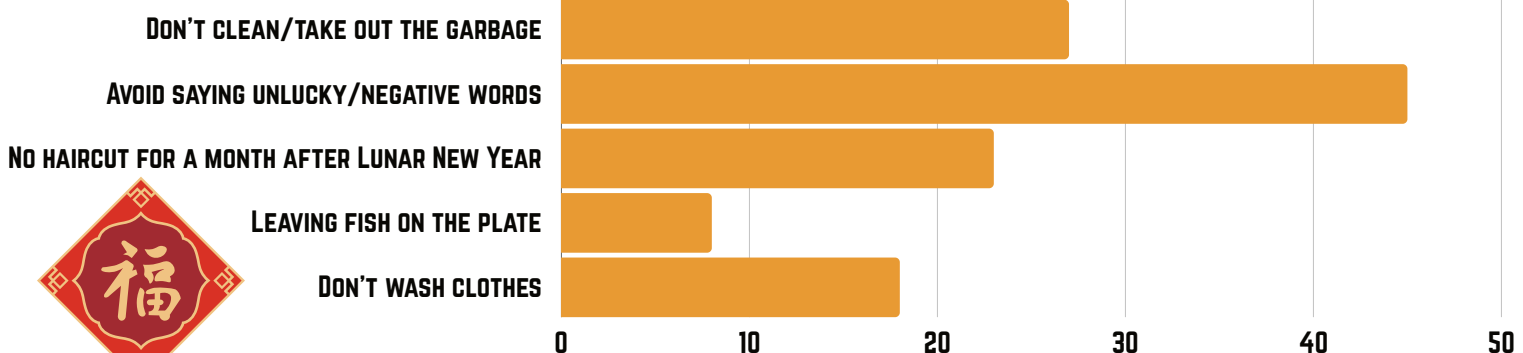
Favorite Activities?



Favorite Dishes?



Lunar New Year Superstitions You Follow?



LUNAR NEW YEAR RECIPE

Tang Yuan (湯圓) are sweet rice ball desserts that symbolize togetherness and unity in Chinese culture. Celebrate Lunar New Year and bring the comforting warmth of Tang Yuan to your kitchen! To find more Lunar New Year recipes, visit eatwkriss.com

Instructions:

Ingredients:

Sweet ginger soup

- 4 cups water
- 3 stalks pandan
- 40 g young ginger
- 45 g granulated sugar more or less to taste

Black sesame paste

- 40 g black sesame powder
- 10 g granulated sugar
- 30 ml coconut oil

Tang yuan

- 120 g glutinous rice flour
- 120 ml warm water

Cook sweet ginger soup

1. Knot each pandan leaf to get three knots. In a small pot, add in all the ingredients for the soup. Bring to a boil and let simmer for 20-30 minutes.

Make tang yuan

1. In a small bowl, mix together black sesame powder, sugar and coconut oil until you get a thick paste. Freeze for 10 minutes.
2. Divide the black sesame paste into 1 tsp balls and refrigerate until ready to assemble.
3. In a small bowl, mix together glutinous rice flour and water until a soft malleable dough forms. Divide the dough into 20g each. Cover with a damp cloth to prevent the dough from drying out.
4. Using your thumb, create a hole in the middle and place a ball of black sesame paste in.
5. Pinch the dough around the sides to seal.

Cook tang yuan

1. Bring a small pot of water to a rolling boil. Place the black sesame tang yuan in and cook for 5 minutes or until the ball starts to float.
2. Place the tang yuan in a small serving bowl and immediately pour the sweet ginger soup over to prevent them from sticking to one another. Serve warm.



CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE

Annika Watkins '26

Contributing Editor

Lunar New Year, also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year, signifies the beginning of the lunar calendar in many Asian countries. Families come together for family meals, honor traditions, and exchange gifts. They decorate, give out red envelopes, get haircuts, make red lanterns, and the list goes on. This year, the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco (CCC) is holding its annual Chinese New Year parade on February 24. This marks the beginning of the Year of the Dragon—which traditionally symbolizes bravery, creativity, and innovation.



Dragon dancers and other performers bring celebrations during San Francisco's Chinese New Year parade.

This event embodies a celebration of the Asian community in San Francisco and is sure to be festive.

During the parade, the city comes alive with color and energy as dragons and lions make their way through Chinatown, along with festive music and elaborate floats showcasing the rich heritage of the Chinese community.

That's only the beginning – martial arts performances, dancing, sparkling costumes, and dazzling fireworks will accompany them.

It's amazing how the Chinese New Year parade brings the San Francisco community together!

LUNAR NEW YEAR WORD SEARCH

Stella Hong '24

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Lunar New Year Edition Word Search



W	Z	L	A	C	N	F	E	S	T	I	V	A	L
E	D	R	A	E	Y	W	E	N	A	A	N	A	E
P	E	D	V	T	N	A	E	T	W	T	P	E	A
T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	A	P	S	R	T
O	S	O	E	E	O	S	E	P	L	O	F	W	N
C	E	P	S	P	R	O	S	P	E	R	I	T	Y
A	A	I	I	T	T	S	A	S	I	S	S	O	P
I	I	R	S	R	I	R	T	R	T	E	N	R	L
D	O	A	C	I	I	E	V	V	Y	E	R	R	I
O	P	A	A	I	A	T	R	V	W	R	E	I	E
Z	S	D	R	A	G	O	N	D	T	E	T	A	E
T	R	R	Y	L	G	S	R	R	O	D	N	N	T
S	I	P	P	N	S	N	E	G	E	L	A	E	W
E	N	V	E	L	O	P	E	R	A	E	L	P	S

LANTERNS
 DRAGON
 TRADITION
 PROSPERITY
 SPIRIT
 FESTIVAL
 RED
 NEWYEAR
 ENVELOPE
 ZODIAC



HISTORY OF RED ENVELOPES

Stella Hong '24

Associate Editor-in-Chief

Every year, families worldwide engage in the tradition of exchanging red envelopes containing money and coins, symbolizing well-wishes, prosperity, and long life. It is often gifted to people during holidays, representing a sense of greeting and love for one another.

The roots of this custom can be traced back to the Chinese New Year Legend, which tells the story of a demon named 'Sui.' According to the myth, Sui would visit sleeping children, causing them fear and illness.

To safeguard their children, parents would try to keep them awake throughout New Year's Eve.



In one particular year, a child was given eight coins to play with, to keep him awake. Despite falling asleep with the coins on his pillow, when Sui approached and attempted to touch the child's head, the coins emitted a brilliant light, scaring the monster away.

This ancient legend story translates to the ongoing tradition of red envelopes being passed to loved ones, especially throughout the New Year. Happy Lunar New Year SI!

INSIDE THE EDITORS' RED ENVELOPES: HOPES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Kate Quach '25

Associate Editor-in-Chief



NEW YEAR WISHES AROUND THE WORLD

Stella Hong '24

Associate Editor-In-Chief

Wishing you luck!

财源广进!

Xin chúc mừng Tết!

새해 복 많이 받으세요!

Selamat Tahun Baru!

Manigong Bagong Taon!

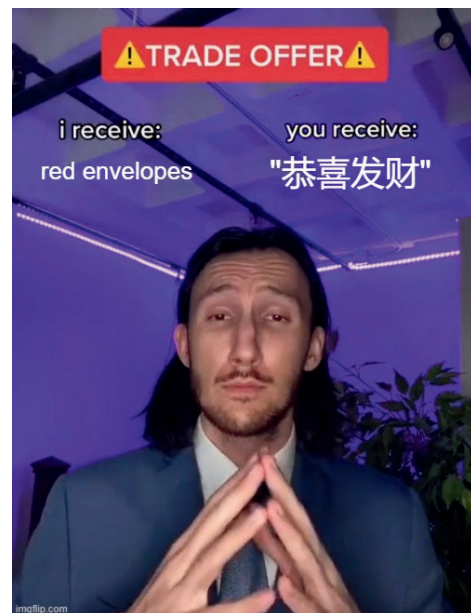
ขอให้มีความสุขมากๆ

ご多幸をお祈りします!

MEMES

Andrew Wong '24

Associate Editor-In-Chief



CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR WITH LITURGY

Anthony Jin '24

Managing Editor

On Monday, February 5th, ASC and Campus Ministry invited the SI community for a special Monday Morning Ministry—a prayer service in celebration of the Lunar New Year, the start of the Year of the Dragon!

Students within the ASC Community led prayer in Korean, Cantonese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Mandarin, with Jonathan Hsueh '24 sharing a reflection on his growing relationship with his cultural identity, particularly around the Lunar New Year. In keeping with the tradition of expressing gratitude, students and faculty alike gave out red envelopes, with a feast of Asian pastries to start the morning!



*Photo courtesy of SI's LifeatSI Instagram account
@lifeatsi*

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE NEXT
EDITION OF **INSIDE SI** COMING OUT
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14!

VOLUME 72 ISSUE 6
FEBRUARY 9, 2024

ASSOCIATE EDITORS IN CHIEF: Kate Quach '25, Andrew Wong '24, Stella Hong '24

CONTRIBUTORS: Anthony Jin '24, Annika Watkins '26

BENEVOLENT CENSORS: Ms. Jaqueline Boland & Ms. Carole Nickolai