

Religion of China

Pupils for this session learned about the different types of religion that people may have in China, this ranges from Buddhism to ancestor worship.

As a Communist country, China has no official religion. The government formally recognizes five religions:

- Buddhism,
- Taoism,
- Catholicism,
- Protestantism,
- Islam (though the Chinese catholic church is independent of the catholic church in Rome).



Chinese Cultural Day- Anglia Way



Today all the children's learning was based around the culture of China. They learnt all about its history, religion of the country, the Zodiac signs and their characteristics, the Great wall of China and the Silk road, as well as experiencing some of the foods that are eaten in China.

Chinese Zodiac

During this session pupils learnt about the 'Chinese Zodiac' and its links with Chinese New Year. Pupils recapped the Chinese New Year story of how different animals took part in a great race which included crossing a river. The first 12 animals that finished the race had a year named after them – this was the beginning of the Chinese Zodiac. Pupils were able to work out from the year they were born what animal sign they were. They learnt that some people believe the year you were born means that you will have a certain personality type or certain characteristics. We had some fantastic discussions about whether pupils felt this was accurate or not!



Quotes:

I loved learning about the Zodiac signs!

The Silk Road escape room was SO hard!

Designing the actual great wall of China must have been a mammoth task!

The Great Wall of China

In this session pupils learnt about the many landmarks of China. One of the Great Landmarks they learned about was the Great Wall of China. Key facts from the Great Wall of China was that the total length of the wall was just a little over 13,000 miles long. Pupils then attempted to recreate their own wall using the materials provided. The catch though they were only allowed to use 5 items, many pupils picked the cardboard and chairs to help them but some fancied a challenge and went for paper and bottles. Either way it was great fun designing them.



The Silk Road

Do you know the journey of the Silk Road? Well before this session the pupils had not heard of this. The Silk Road derives its name from the lucrative trade in silk carried out along its length, beginning in the Han dynasty in China (207 BCE–220 CE). It was also believed that the Black Death also travelled along this route, spreading through all the villages. After the pupils watched the story they had a mission to complete. They had to read 4 extracts each related to a different aspect of the Silk Road, then find the hidden message to help crack the final code. It took a lot of working out but they managed to do it in the end.



Chinese Art

The pupils in this session enjoyed creating their own dragon masks. They researched the colours that are influential in Chinese culture and used these to design their masks. Chinese New Year celebrations are filled with bright colours, predominantly red. Red is a popular colour in Chinese culture, symbolizing luck, joy, and happiness. Red is the traditional colour worn by Chinese brides, as it is believed to ward off evil. Red also represents the summer season and the element of fire that comes with it.

