

P3 club

China: where is it?.....where is Scotland?

Language: Ni hao! Xiexie! Zaijian!

Fans-making: folded and flat one

Theme of Dragons – dragons are very important in Chinese culture. They are considered to be kind and lucky. Dragons chase flaming pearls in the sky, and this causes thunder storms. Possible activities - making dragons, dragon masks: to make masks ,Meryl has templates, in Black Folders in CC Hub ; link to a story about a dragon and design own dragons. What national flag has a dragon on it? (Wales) What colour is it? (Red.)

The Dragon and Phoenix (see below)

The dragon and the phoenix were the main motifs (designs) on the buildings, clothing and articles of daily use in the imperial palace known as the Forbidden City. The names in Chinese for almost all things connected with the emperor were preceded by “dragon”:

Dragon seat= throne

Dragon robe=emperor’s dress for ceremony

Dragon bed=his bed

For the empress, things were preceded by the word “phoenix.”

(Who knows what a phoenix is? (Bird of legend))

Phoenix carriage= to carry the empress

Phoenix canopy==to carry above the empress

The national flag of China once had a big dragon on it under the Qing Dynasty. The first postage stamps in China were called “dragon heads” because they showed a dragon in their designs.

The phoenix and dragon only exist in legends and fairy tales. It has the head of a golden pheasant, the beak of a parrot, the body of the **mandarin** duck, the feathers of a peacock and the legs of the crane.

The dragon and the phoenix are still important in folk art e. g. dragon lanterns, dragon boats, phoenix dance, etc.

Create dragon poems together

(Yan to teach some dances.)

Willow pattern— read the Willow Pattern story + do pattern, painting on paper plates (see PPT called “Rainbow bridge” for examples in dept share , under Chinese folder under Meryl P3 – P7/Remove folder.)

Panda bags— using paper bags, make pandas and find out a little about pandas’ habitat, where they live, what they eat; use /show laminated pictures of panda(in CC hub) and video clips. How small is a baby panda/how big is his mummy? (Zoo info!) Where might we find a panda outside China?(In zoos in the world- which ones? Berlin, Vienna, Adelaide....which others?)

Forbidden City-where is it? Why is it called that?

Emperor – who were they? Who was the first one?

Empress – which one was very famous? Why?

Headwear: make a Qing Dynasty -style headdress (ask Megan if we can borrow hers and photograph it so that we have it in future.)

Pupils to imagine they are an Empress and to design own their own headwear.

(Compare to Kings and Queens of England and Scotland.)

Chinese New Year—see “Discovering China “, p31”

Dragon Boat Festival – see “ Discovering China”, p35

Palace:

The Chinese word for palace is “gong”. The Forbidden City of Beijing was the imperial palace for both the Ming and Qing emperors (1368--1911) and has

many halls, towers, pavilions and studies. (It is approximately 2 kms, but covers in total 720, 00 square metres.)

The Potala Palace in Lhasa (capital of the area known as the Tibet Autonomous Region) is a “gong”. The lama temple in Beijing is also a gong: Yonghegong. (See Meryl’s CDs for pictures.)

In the Forbidden City, there is the most famous of “grand halls” (dadian) in China: “the hall of Supreme Harmony.” (Taihedian). It is an example of the most luxurious traditional art of Chinese architecture.

The number 9:

In ancient China, odd numbers were thought to be “masculine”, even numbers “feminine”. (Check to see if P3 understand odd +even numbers.)

9 is the largest single digit odd number and was seen as representing the ultimate in masculinity. It was thus seen as showing the supreme sovereignty (power) of the emperor. For this reason, the number 9 (or its multiples) is often employed in palace structures and designs e. g. the studs on the palace gates. There are nine rows, with 9 studs in each row: $9 \times 9 = 81$.

Traditional Chinese Games

Lame Chicken

Fist-matching

Mother Chicken and the Hungry Eagle

Five Stones