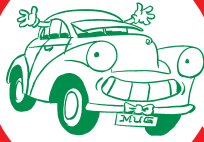


MUGS MATTERS



HELLO folks!

Chopsticks at the ready and away we go. Meg and I are getting ready to celebrate Chinese New Year.

This year it is the turn of the rat and to mark this great occasion, **Meg** and I have been learning some very traditional and fun Chinese songs.

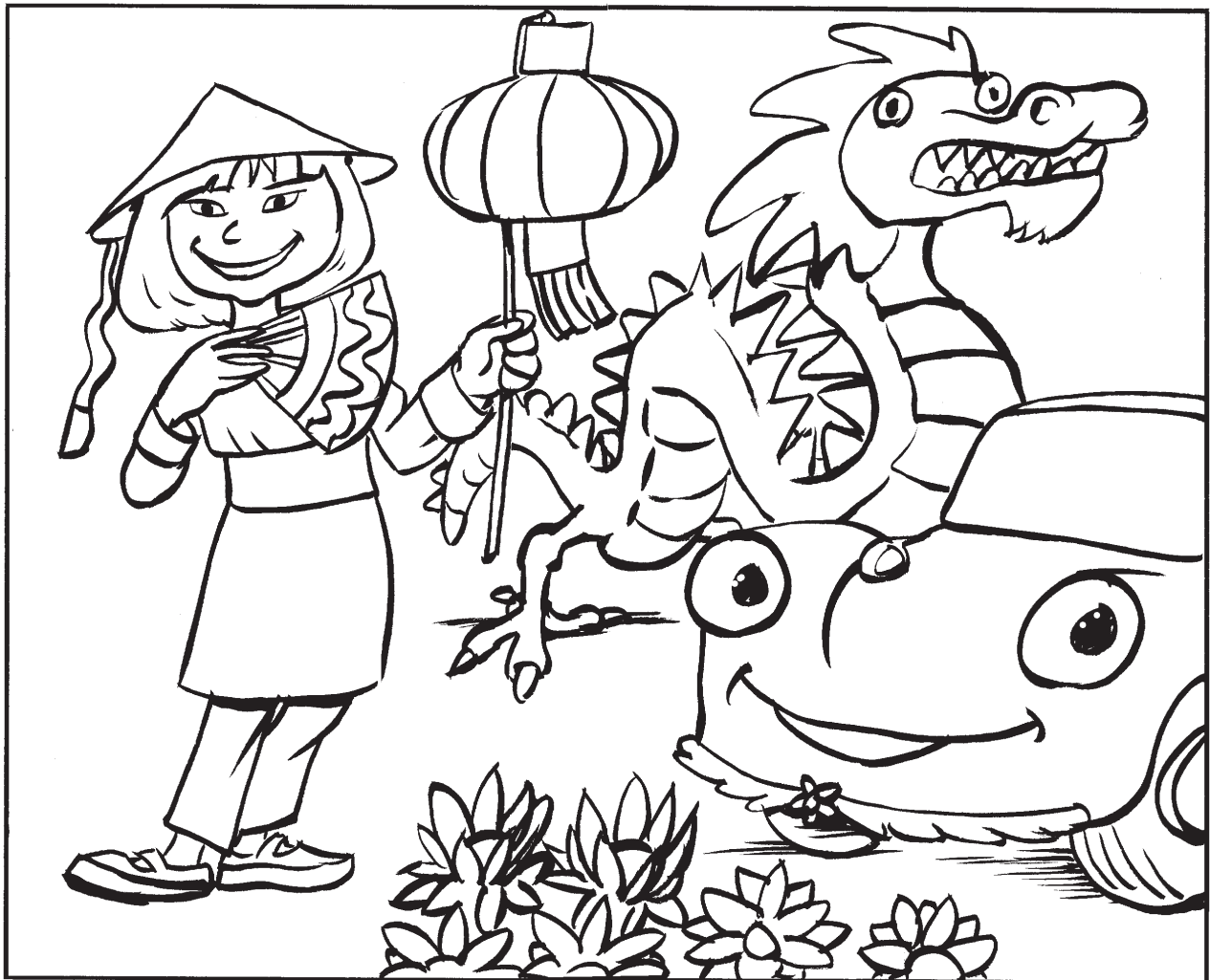
And we even dressed up as a Chinese rat to get into the spirit of the occasion. **Chinese New Year** in 2020 will be celebrated on Saturday, January 25th and it is a great excuse to get your favourite instruments and play a great tune.

One of the best is the **Dragon Dance**, when you guessed it, a great big colourful dragon is paraded around the streets with plenty of music.

Meg and I have had great fun attending special lessons so we know how to dance in the right way. We hope to show off our skills with our new pals soon, so watch this space.

Hope you are all having fun for Chinese New Year, why not drop us a line and tell Meg and I what you are planning. Email via Rebecca.hay@mmoc.org.uk and who knows you may win a wee prize.

MUG



COMPETITION CORNER

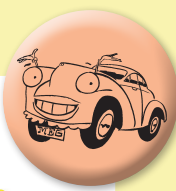
The best thing about Chinese New Year celebrations, apart from the food, is all that colour which it brings.

The Chinese love their reds and yellows and it's wonderful to watch everyone having such great fun with their amazing home made dragons and tigers and lanterns of all shapes and sizes.

We sent our pal **Peter Rigg** down to watch rehearsals for the local Chinese New Year celebrations and as well as coming back with a tummy full of noodles and stir fry, he came back with inspiration for today's competition.

It is all about digging out your best colours and glitter and doing your best to make Peter's fantastic picture, even better than it is.

It is all a bit of fun, but should get you in the mood for the big day and **Meg** and I would love to look at it, so why not send in your clever and colourful entries via Rebecca.hay@mmoc.org.uk



COMPETITION CORNER

To make sure we really get the best out of Chinese New Year, Meg and I have been learning a few words.

We have had great fun trying to learn how to write the words and pronounce them too. Here are our favourite 10 below.

1 你好 = Hello.

Let's naturally start with "你好" which means "Hello" in Chinese. This is one of the most known words in Chinese and a great way to start a conversation with someone from China.

2 爱 = love

Love is a universal feeling and we definitely had to talk about it here. Chinese people have a lovely way of saying they love someone or something through the word "爱".

3 幸福 = happiness

When there's love, there's definitely happiness. We are all chasing "幸福" as Chinese speaking people would say.

4 猫 = cat

Let's talk pets. There are two types of people in the world: cat people and dog people. We are going to talk about cats first or how people in Hong Kong would say: "猫".

5 狗 = dog

But let's not forget our lovely and loyal companions, dogs. A dog in Chinese is "狗", a really useful word for dog lovers worldwide.

6 微笑 = smile

Now it is time to smile or how someone from China would say "微笑". Smiling makes us happy and helps us stay healthy, so that's why we all need to smile everyday.



7 中国人 = chinese

Next, let's see how people in China call Chinese people. The correct answer is "中国人".

8 是的 = Yes.

Yes, we have arrived at number 8 where "yes" is the subject to be discussed. Chinese speakers say "yes" by simply saying "是".

9 谢谢你 = Thank you.

Thank you for reading this far or should I say "谢谢你" as they say in Chinese.

10 再见 = Goodbye.

No polite conversation can end without a good old goodbye or "再见" how Chinese people usually say.



And today's challenge for you is to come up with an even cooler word, as fancy as ever. As usual it is just for fun, just send your entries in via Rebecca.hay@mmoc.org.uk

MUG MIRTH

Meg and I have some Chinese crackers for you to laugh at while you are tucking into your favourite dish. We think they are great, but if you can do better, then why not send in some of your own in, via Rebecca.hay@mmoc.org.uk

I DON'T LIKE THESE CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS
THEY TEND TO DRAG ON

WHAT DO YOU CALL A CHINESE BILLIONAIRE?
CHA CHING!

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE PARTY AT THE CHINESE ZOO?
IT WAS PANDA-MONIUM

WHAT DO YOU CALL A CHINESE RAPPER?
VANILLA RICE

WHAT IS PURPLE AND LONG?
THE GRAPE WALL OF CHINA

WHAT HAS 2 WINGS AND A HALO?
A CHINESE TELEPHONE, WING-WING, HALO?



JOIN US

I am sure there are plenty of Morris Minors out there. If you are under 16 then why not fill in the Join Us coupon so I can keep in touch.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

OK folks, you have filled in the **Join Us** coupon and sent it in. But before Meg and I get in touch we need you to do some work and send in your competition entries, jokes or letters to the address at the top of the page.
THANKS