



## TEIS ANNUAL PROJECT 2012



# "Joyous Steps on the Silk Road"

## Celebrating Chinese Culture Year 2012 in Turkey

Every year at TEIS we give our children the opportunity to take part in a project aimed at increasing their knowledge of diversity, and different cultures, as well as increasing their knowledge of aesthetics and the arts. A central part of our vision at TEIS is to raise global citizens with an understanding and appreciation of different cultures around the world with an awareness of and response to events happening in our society. The annual project is one means to accomplish this.

Turkey has designated 2012 as; **The Year of Chinese Culture in Turkey**. There will be a range of events and exhibitions aimed at raising awareness of China and of Chinese links with Turkey, such as the historical trading route, the "Silk Road". At TEIS we will join and support these celebrations in the following ways:

- Children will be learning about China and Chinese New Year from January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Children will celebrate Chinese New Year in school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Parents will be invited to school to celebrate their children's learning at on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January, so please make a note in your diary.
- Following this we are hoping to join in a range of experiences for **Chinese Culture Year 2012**.

Our key learning goals for children from the project are as follows:

- To learn about another culture.
- To learn about diversity and respect for difference.
- To learn about different art forms (music, art, drama, dance) from another culture.
- To learn about different ways of celebrating Chinese New Year.
- To learn about the ancient connection between the two counties: **The Silk Road**

## Interesting Facts about China

- China is the most populated country on earth with more than 1.2 billion people – one-fifth of the world's population.
- The first known historical mention of the Turkish Empire is in Chinese accounts in the 6th century AD. Stretching from north of the Great Wall in the east to the Black Sea in the west, the empire was known to the Chinese as T'u Küe
- Both Turkish and Mandarin can make a question out of sentences by putting 'mu' at the end!
- China is the fourth largest country in the world.
- The Chinese calendar dates back to 2600 B.C. Each year is represented by an animal. There are twelve animals which represent the twelve months.
- The Great Wall of China is also known as the “Ten Thousand Li Wall”, one Li is equal to 500 meters. The wall is over 1500 miles long and is one of the seven wonders of the world. For the last 4,000 years China has been the oldest continuous civilization on Earth.
- The longest river in China is the Yangtze.
- China is among the world's largest producers of cotton and Silk production has been an important part of the Chinese economy for thousands of years.
- Paper was invented in China around 105 A.D.
- Ice cream was invented in China around 2000BC when the Chinese packed a soft milk and rice mixture in the snow.
- The story of Cinderella first appears in a Chinese book written between 850 and 860 A.D.

## Some Chinese Proverbs

欢乐

ONE JOY SHATTERS A HUNDRED GRIEFS.

*Joy*

友谊

MAKE HAPPY THOSE WHO ARE NEAR,  
AND THOSE WHO ARE FAR WILL COME.

*Friendship*

旅行

THE JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES  
STARTS WITH A SINGLE STEP.

*Journey*

慷慨

IF YOU ALWAYS GIVE, YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE.

*Generosity*

融洽

IF YOU WALK ON SNOW YOU CANNOT HIDE YOUR FOOTPRINTS.

*Harmony*