

Chinese Mid- Autumn Festival

The Mid-Autumn Festival takes its name from the fact that it is always celebrated in the middle of the autumn season. It is held on the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar which this year will be September 24th according to our calendar. The day is also known as the Moon Festival, as at this time of the year the moon is at its roundest and brightest.

The festival is a time to enjoy the successful reaping of rice and wheat with food offerings made in honor of the moon. It is an occasion for outdoor reunions among friends and relatives to eat mooncakes and watch the moon, a symbol of harmony and unity. The festival is celebrated with many cultural or regional customs such as, burning incense, performance of dragon and lion dances and carrying of brightly lit lanterns.

There are several stories/legends related to the moon festival which are shared and told by families during the festival days.

As several of our children and families celebrate this cultural event we have planned some activities for the last 2 weeks of term – Moon cake moulds with playdough, lanterns, count in Chinese, perhaps sing a song in Chinese, use tea lights in the room.

If any families would like to share something with us please let me know – you may like to come and cook something traditional, read a story in Chinese, bring in photos or decorations to show us.

