

# M International Students Office

*Your Success Is Our Greatest Achievement*



## January, Enero, 일월, 月, tháng một



## Happy Chinese New Year! Celebrate the Year of the Dragon!

Many people in Asia celebrate the Lunar New Year. In some countries it is 3 days; in others it can be as many as 14 days. This year the Lunar New Year starts on January 23rd, and it is the Year of The Dragon.

In China, the New Year is celebrated for 14 days, and ends with the Lantern Festival. Families are reunited and there is a big dinner on New Year's Eve that includes: fish, dumplings, oranges and long noodles. Each food represents luck, fortune and wealth. People clean their homes, settle debts, and end arguments. Children receive red envelopes (hong bao) with money inside. Long red strips with poetry or "lucky" characters are placed on each side of the door frame. There are also lion dances and fireworks.

In Korea, the New Year is celebrated for 3 days. It is a family holiday where the young pay respect to their elders, and receive money and words of wisdom in return. Many dress in traditional clothing called "hanbok". A special rice cake soup (tteokguk) is eaten to ensure a prosperous New Year. Traditional games and flying kites are very popular holiday activities.

In Vietnam, the New Year is celebrated for 3 days. On the first day, money is given to children and the elderly. On the second day, there are family reunions. On the third day, children visit their teachers; who are given a lot of respect in Vietnamese culture. Artificial New Year bamboo trees are decorated with good luck charms and origami. Games that demonstrate knowledge and strength are played. Special foods such as "banh chung" and "bahn day" (meat and bean filling wrapped in a banana leaf) are eaten because they represent the shape of the earth and sky.

By: Dorothea McCurdy

### Coming up On-Campus:

- > 2/2: Coffee Time
- > 2/9: Scholarship Workshop
- > 2/10: Shopping at Wal-Mart
- > 2/14: Red Wings Game!
- > 2/17: Field Trip to the African American Museum
- > 2/24: Shopping at 12 Oaks Mall

### For more information

about these events please contact International Students Office:  
734-432-5791

**Happy New Year (Chinese):  
Xin Nian Kuai Le**

**Happy New Year (Vietnamese):  
Chuc Mung Nam Moi**

**Happy New Year (Korean):  
Saehae Bok Mani Badseiyo**

