

Chinese New Year



Chinese New Year is celebrated in late January to early February (depending on the year). In 2011, Chinese New Year is celebrated on February 3. This is the year of the **Rabbit** according to the Chinese Zodiac. It is a 15-day holiday, beginning on the first day of a new moon and ending with the full moon on the day of the Lantern Festival.

Chinese families clean their homes, buy new clothing, and repay any debts they may owe in order to prepare for the New Year. On New Year's Eve, families decorate their homes and set off fireworks.

Chinese New Year is also a time for people to connect with family and honor their ancestors. On New Year's Day, people visit family members and friends to wish them luck in the New Year. They say "*Gung hay fat choy*," which means, "May you prosper." Children receive red envelopes called *lai see* with gifts of money inside.



1. Chinese New Year starts on _____ this year.
2. It is the year of the _____.
3. It ends with the _____ Festival.
4. Children receive a _____ envelope with money inside.
5. People visit _____ and _____ to wish them luck in the New Year.