



## Room 1: Ms. Gassia and Ms. Cynthia

Happy Lunar Year! The year started off with fun activities for the children. We traveled to France, Germany, Greece, and Italy where we learned about the flags and landmarks of Europe. The strawberry jam on a slice of a baguette was a hit! The children enjoyed learning about the parts of a fish and experimented with the physics of sinking and floating. We had so much fun recreating Claude Monet's "A Japanese Bridge" (The Waterlily Pond) art and it is beautifully displayed on our art wall.

This month we will be traveling to Japan! Did you know that the name Japan means "sun's origin"? It is also known as the "Land of the Rising Sun"! That is interesting! We will learn about the continent of Asia, with a focus on Japan and China. We will also be watching a short video and exploring the Great Wall of China with the children. The class will learn about Asia's culture, landmarks, animals, and plants. We will be learning about the parts of a flower as I introduce the beautiful cherry blossom tree!

For Spanish lessons, the children will learn the names of the animals represented in the Lunar Year Calendar.

For Art, we will recreate the cherry blossom painting by Katsushika Hokusai. The class will also be introduced to a variety of music from the continent of Asia. The children and I are looking forward to our Lunar New Year arts and craft day. We will also be watching a short video of children celebrating Lunar New Year in the continent of Asia.

We have two celebrations coming up this month. We will celebrate Lunar New Year on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. The children will be making masks and decorations to witness the Elementary class. Please feel free to have your children dress up in traditional attire if you would like. We will also be celebrating Valentine's Day on Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Be on the lookout for further information for Valentine's Day. You may also dress your children in red or pink for Valentine's Day. If your child would like to bring individually wrapped cards/treats to give out to their friends, please send valentines marked "To my friend" from: (your child's name). The children will pass them out on Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. You may send pencils, erasers, stickers, tattoos, etc. to share with your child's friends. All items will be sent home in a stapled bag. We look forward to a fun month ahead.

