

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

12.08.23

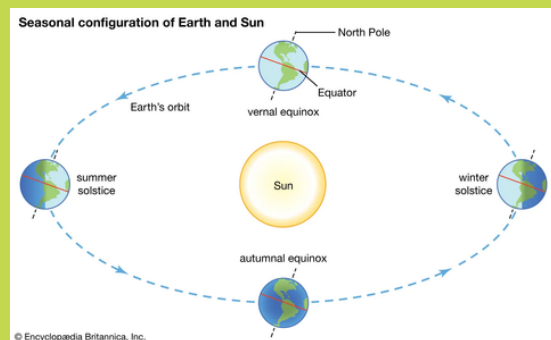
Cricket Editing Team

Cricket Sunday School Scoop!

Culture Lesson of the Month

Winter Solstice (Dongzhi) Festival

- Meaning:
“the arrival of winter”
balance of ying and yang
connection to nature
- Was once as important as Chinese New Year
- Celebrated with family
- Eat tang yuan, sweet and savory rice dumplings



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EVENT OF THE MONTH:

Betty Brinn Children's Museum: Dragon Year

This month, Cricket Academy celebrated the upcoming Dragon new year at Betty Brinn Children's Museum, and we welcomed a whole bunch of kids to celebrate Chinese culture. It was a blast as usual, and we had tons of fun showcasing our arts and crafts, teaching calligraphy, and learning all about the Dragon.

Personally, I managed the dragon puppet station, and it was a massive success. The kids loved coloring their little dragons, and it fit with the theme of the new year. We also offered a paper plate decoration craft for the new year, and kids got to decorate their plate with all sorts of colorful tissue paper. The calligraphy was a hit as usual, kids enjoyed learning Chinese characters and it was very educational.

Overall, it was another successful booth here at the Betty Brinn Children's Museum. The kids had fun while learning, the volunteers had a great time, and it can be said that we're all pretty hyped for the upcoming Dragon year now. We thank Betty Brinn Children's Museum for the opportunity, and hope to be back soon!

Article Written by : Alan Xie

December Newsletter

As we move into the new year for Cricket, let us take a moment to reflect on our June - December 2023 journey. Below is a timeline highlighting special events.

Cricket Events Year Summary



SUNDAY, JUNE 11

CRICKET CHINESE YOUTH GROUP ELECTIONS

Members of the Cricket Youth Leadership Group hosted the first-ever election for leadership roles.



TUESDAY, JUNE 27

FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW SEASON

Younger Cricket members helped out with making Independence Parade treat bags (400 total) and the older members created their own Cricket Chinese shirts through transfer print.



FRI/SAT, JUNE 16/17

BETTY BRINN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Children of all ages came to our event, happily cutting and sticking pieces of the crafts together, in time for the upcoming Dragon Boat Festival. Kids were also able to learn about Chinese calligraphy and get their names written in Chinese by a volunteer. Throughout the year, we visited Betty Brinn many times, advocating for Chinese culture.

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Cricket Events Year Summary Continued



TUESDAY, JULY 4

BROOKFIELD FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Two large dragons were hoisted up into the air and weaved through the sky in an intricate dance by many of Cricket and YLA's volunteers.



SAT, AUGUST 12

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN MKE

Cricket's biggest volunteer event! Volunteers from CCA helped in dragon boat paddling, dragon dance, and Cricket's food and craft tent. The event truly symbolizes an amazing blend of culture and collaboration, as people from all sorts of backgrounds came to participate. We thank the Milwaukee Chinese Community Center for hosting such a wonderful experience, and we hope to be back next year.



SUN, SEPTEMBER 10

FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

With the start of fall, CCA classes officially began, we were so excited to see our new and returning students again! Cricket Academy's classes are located at Marquette University, on the third floor of Lalumiere hall.

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Cricket Events Year Summary Continued



SAT, SEPTEMBER 13

CHINA LIGHTS TICKET SALES

This September, Cricket Chinese Academy has returned to Brookfield to sell tickets to the 2023 China Lights light show. A group of kids and parents stand inside a white tent. They wave, they smile, they explain. They sell tickets to China Lights, a light show in early autumn. They advocate for Cricket Chinese School and Chinese culture.



FRI/SAT, OCTOBER 6/7

CHINA LIGHTS BOOTH

The magical illuminated park grounds are truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience, with radiant colors, animation, delicious cuisine, and cultural performances. CCA had a booth there, selling custom transfer print items.



SUN, OCTOBER 15

DISCOVER YOUR INNER LEADERSHIP

The Cricket Academy youth group recently attended a leadership workshop led by Cris Beielstein of Elevation Collaboration. The workshop was designed to help young people develop their leadership skills and learn how to make a positive impact on their community.

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Cricket Events Year Summary Continued



SUN, OCTOBER 21

CRICKET MID-AUTUMN CLASS

CCA held a special class to introduce the traditional Chinese holiday, the Mid-Autumn Festival, to the students of Cricket Academy's Sunday School. In each Cricket class, the teachers introduced the holiday traditions of the festival.



SAT, AUGUST 12

HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR

Hundreds of booths were set up on this magical day, including one of our very own. Several of our volunteers introduced Chinese cultural customs and crafts, helping children making dragon paper crafts, a massive success!



NEW THIS YEAR

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Cricket has introduced 3 new supplemental programs for learning Chinese with Cricket Academy. Each are 8 week programs per semester, in two new locations, Whitefish Bay School District and the Brookfield School District.

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have an idea for January's Cricket Chatter

If you...

are interested to become a writer for the newsletter

are interested to write Chinese articles for a new section of the newsletter

have comments or suggestions for the Cricket Chinese Newsletter

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