



# How do people celebrate?

## Topic Overview

- **Chinese New Year** is a time when Chinese families get together to celebrate.
- They put up lights outside their homes.
- Every family buys presents, decorations, food, new clothes and people have their hair cut.
- Houses are cleaned from top to bottom to sweep out any bad luck from the old year and make way for good luck. It is bad luck to clean on New Year's day.
- Fireworks are also set off because it is thought that noise and lights will scare away evil.
- In Chinese tradition, each year is named after one of 12 animals.
- **Persian New Year (Nowruz)**
- There are lots of people who celebrate the start of Spring as their New Year. They call it 'Nowruz.'
- People make bonfires and jump over them, saying: "My sickly yellow paleness is yours. Your fiery red colour is mine!" It means you want the fire to take your problems and give you its warmth and energy.
- Food like nuts and pastries are served.
- Families clean their homes from top to bottom.
- Children and adults buy new clothes and shoes..
- **Holi (a festival of colour celebrating the start of Spring)**
- At the start of Holi, bonfires are lit in the hope that they will get rid of any evil. All rubbish is burnt as a way of getting rid of the old and starting again. Popcorn is sometimes cooked on the fire.
- It celebrates the arrival of Spring flowers and when the main crops are almost ready for the Spring harvest.
- It's a colourful festival, with dancing, singing and throwing of powder paint and coloured water.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Celebrate	To make special with gifts, parties, or activities.
New Year's Resolution	A decision made on New Year's Day to do or not do something over the next year.
Success	A person or thing that does or goes well.
Achieve	Succeed in doing something after trying hard.
New Year	The time or day at which a new calendar year begins
Rangoli Pattern	A colourful design made on the floor using coloured rice powder.
Tradition	The handing down of information, beliefs, or customs from one age group to another.
Festival	A ceremony or celebration that repeats, often once a year, and involves special activities.

