

# 中文



# 「德」報

## NASHVILLE CHINESE SCHOOL

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### NASHVILLE CHINESE SCHOOL (NCS)

Nashville Chinese School is a very interesting place. Here, not only can you learn Chinese but you can also come to understand the Chinese culture. Students come every week on Saturday to learn, and though it's only once a week, students are happy to be able to learn Chinese. Everyone improves really fast, and even those who had never seen or spoken Chinese before are now communicating using

Chinese. Now, I am going to introduce our schedule. Every Saturday, students gather at the school by 9:30, when language classes start. These classes range from kindergarten to adult, and include both heritage and bilingual classes. Classes go on for an hour, then there is a five minute break. Afterwards, you go back to class for an hour. After all the hard work, it's time to learn about Chi-

nese Culture through one of the many culture classes: badminton, Chinese chess, Chinese food, or martial arts.

For those parents who are waiting for their children, the school also offers a bit of fun. They can learn some martial arts from our very own teacher or they can play some badminton with other parents. Basically, anyone who comes to Nashville Chinese School, regardless of age, can have fun and learn something.

Hello, I am Wesley Sun and I would like to introduce you to our Chinese Cultural Sampler class. We do a lot of Chinese-related activities such as making food, arts and crafts, and learning about the Chinese history and festivals. During the first couple of weeks we learned some songs and the meaning behind them. Next,

### Culture Class – Chinese Cultural Sampler

we got some insight on the Chinese Moon Festival.

There are many myths and legends surrounding this festival and the food is just as interesting. Then the class learned how to make the famous Pineapple Cake. Sadly, I was not able to take part due to other matters, but from what I

hear, it was a hit! However, I got back just in time to taste some of it while the class learned how to make tea the Chinese way. It involves several steps but in the end the tea is worth the effort. For the Chinese, tea is not just meant to be drunk like any other beverage. It must be savored. You must drink it slowly.

Arts and crafts are also another interesting part of this class. We painted gourds and made beautiful ornaments out of them. They made excellent gifts and souvenirs. I immensely enjoyed taking part in this class. The children are wonderful and the teachers are very enthusiastic. I love learning about the Chinese culture and if you do too, be sure to join us soon!

## Chinese Chess Culture Class

The Chinese chess culture class lets students learn and play Chinese board games such as Chinese chess and Go. Both games have relatively simple rules, yet very complex strategies. I like this culture class because the atmosphere is relaxed.



Whenever we play chess, it is always with a relaxed attitude. Everyone is helpful and supportive, which means that new members will pick up the games very easily. I highly recommend everyone to give this class a try.

## Drawing Contest

- No age limit (All ages welcome!)
- Subject: a panda playing a game
- Paper size: 8.5 x 11
- The more creative the better; black and white or colored entries are all fine.
- Prize: Gift cards and ...lots of awards!
- Due Date: The first day of NCS Fall classes
- Hand it in to the News Report Team (Room 306 or 308).
- Please write one or two sentences telling what you drew.
- Write your name, age, and class on another sheet of paper.



## TEACHERS' CORNER



Have you ever missed a day in Chinese School? Do you find yourself falling behind in class? Well, do you know there is a way to keep up even if you've a missed day of Chinese School? It's called the Chinese School website. No matter if you have a Mac or PC, you can still connect to it. You just have to type "nashvillechineseschool.org" in your address bar and BAM! You're on your way.

On the Nashville Chinese School's website, there is a tab called "Teachers Home." This tab has many uses to it. It is pretty simple to use. Just click on your class

level or your teacher's name. This will lead you to her weekly blog. Right under each blog link is the syllabus for the semester; you can check this for upcoming events.

For example, the Heritage Pre-k class, taught by Mrs. Sara Lo, contains various items. There are things such as cute videos and homework for the week. For the CSL2 class, taught by Mrs. Jennifer Hickman, the blog has the week's homework in an exciting menu format. It lists class work and homework for the week as appetizer, main course, and dessert.

Also, back on the "Teachers Home" webpage, if you scroll down to

the bottom, you will see a list of useful links titled, "Learning Resources Links." There are many sources to choose from. After each link you can see if the webpage/website is written mainly in Chinese, English or otherwise.

The blogs are very useful for students who have missed a week of Chinese School. This is because it shows links to help review the missed lessons and the homework. Don't forget to check your classes' blog to see teacher messages, the semester schedule, homework, and fun videos.

In our Chinese School, there is a popular American. He speaks Chinese very well. He is friendly towards people, so everyone likes him. Do you know who he is? He is who I am interviewing, Darrin.

Darrin started to learn Chinese in 2003. His friend worked in a Chinese restaurant, so he often went to his friend's restaurant for dinner, hoping to meet Chinese friends. He liked to eat Chinese food, but couldn't read the Chinese menu. In order to remember his favorite dishes, and also have the opportunity to speak to Chinese friends, he began to study Chinese.

He came to Chinese School in 2006 to learn Chinese, and he had learned a total of three years. At Chinese school, he thought that learning about the tea ceremony in the culture class was the most interesting. He learned that there are many different flavors of tea; he prefers to sip tea slowly with a small cup. He says if you drink

tea in large amounts you can't really take in the real flavors of the tea. He hopes Chinese School will add a cooking class, so students can learn to cook their own favorite food and understand how food plays an important role in Chinese culture.

Darrin met his wife in 2004. His mother-in-law liked him and claimed that he was the best son-in-law candidate. When they first had dinner together, Darrin recalled, his father-in-law ordered very odd dishes, for example: Hot Intestines Stew (五更腸旺), duck tongue, and sea cucumber. Funny thing was that these dishes became some of Darrin's favorite dishes that day. When everyone saw him eating so happily, they gladly accepted him into the family.

### WHO IS THAT MAN WEARING THE BLACK SHIRT?



Darrin and his daughter

Learning Chinese is difficult, and learning Chinese grammar is even harder. Darrin's wife often helps him practice Chinese by introducing new characters and phrases to him. Darrin isn't very shy. He is not

afraid of people laughing at him if he speaks Chinese badly. Whenever there's a chance, he will take the initiative to talk to others in Chinese. No wonder he has progressed in Chinese constantly.

Darrin has a very special interest. He likes to watch Chinese movies and listen to Chinese songs. He collects a lot of Chinese DVDs and CDs. He likes to watch gangster movies, and he thinks calling his friends "兄弟" (brothers), and girlfriend "馬子" (Mǎzi) is a very interesting thing.

I am very happy to have interviewed Darrin. He is a character out of a book. During the interview, I learned how hard he had tried to learn Chinese. I was encouraged by his diligence. I wish I could be like him: funny, friendly and accessible.

## R E C I P I E S

Chinese Meatball Soup

## Ingredients:

- One packet ground chicken
- Soy sauce
- Sesame oil
- Salt
- Corn starch
- Chicken stock
- Chinese cabbage
- MSG (Accent)



## Steps:

1. Place the ground chicken in a large cooking bowl.
2. Add about four tablespoons of soy sauce and four tablespoons of sesame oil.
3. Add two tablespoons of salt and about two tablespoons of corn starch.
4. Mix the ingredients thoroughly, until the chicken is thick and very difficult to mix; if the chicken remains separated, add a little bit of sesame oil or corn starch.
5. Pour one can of chicken stock into a pot, and add two or three cans of water.
6. Heat the water. When it boils, add the chicken, in spheres about the size of a soup spoon.
7. Add one tablespoon of Accent, and mix the soup.
8. Wash the cabbage, separate the leaves, and add it to the soup. Shut off the stove immediately afterwards.
9. It is ready to serve.

# Delicious!

Beef and Watercress Soup

## Ingredients:

- One packet flank steak
- Soy sauce
- Garlic powder
- Black ground pepper
- Olive oil
- Baking soda
- Corn starch
- Chicken stock
- Watercress

## Steps:

1. Slice the flank steak into pieces about two inches long.
2. Place the beef in a cooking bowl.
3. Add about four tablespoons of soy sauce and five tablespoons of olive oil.
4. Add one or two tablespoons of garlic powder and black ground pepper, as well as one tablespoon each of baking soda and corn starch.
5. Mix the meat and ingredients together. The meat should be soft; if it is not, add more olive oil and baking soda.
6. The soup is made with the same method as the soup for the Chinese Meatball Soup (one can chicken stock, two or three cans water).
7. When the soup boils, add the meat and stir.
8. Wash the watercress and add it to the soup. Shut off the stove immediately afterwards.
9. It is ready to serve.



# YUMMYY!!!



# CHINESE HOROSCOPE

The year of your birth does not just indicate your age! According to the Chinese system of Astrology, the year of your birth also determines which of the twelve animals you are.

The exact origins of the twelve animal system remain unknown. However, legend has it that, once upon a time, the Jade King was bored, having nothing to do in Heaven. He did not see what was happening on Earth, as he had servants attending to his every wish. He decided that he wanted to see the animals that inhabited the earth, so he sent word to his advisors to bring him twelve animals (which he considered a good sampling). The advisor first sent an invitation to the Rat,













telling him to also bring the Cat. The Rat's jealousy prevented the Cat from actually receiving the invitation.



Further invitations were sent to the Ox, the Tiger, the Rabbit, the Dragon, the Snake, the Horse, the Ram, the Monkey, the Rooster and the Dog. Their presence was requested at the palace the following day. When they lined up in front of the king, he found that they numbered only eleven, instead of twelve as he had requested. The king sent

his servant down to Earth to retrieve a twelfth animal. The servant ran into a man carrying the Pig, and he hastily grabbed it and delivered it to the king. The Rat, being smaller than the rest, hopped on the Ox's back and proceeded to play the flute. The king was very impressed by this display. He gave the Rat first place. Second place was given to the Ox for its good sportsmanship, and third was given to the Tiger, who appeared so courageous. The Rabbit was given fourth place, the Dragon fifth, the Snake sixth, the Horse seventh, the Ram eighth, the Monkey ninth, the Rooster tenth and the Dog eleventh. By default, twelfth place went to Pig.

**Read through the following characteristics for each Zodiac animal and see if you can guess which animal you are.**

 鼠	gifted, intelligent, sensitive	 馬	outgoing, lively, cheerful, popular, sympathetic; sometimes do not accept the opinions of others
 牛	born leaders, authoritarians	 羊	love nature, noble, charming, artistic
 虎	have strong, independent minds	 猴	have a good memory, intelligent, informative
 兔	have a unique taste, both in design and creation, naturally docile	 雞	offer advice to others, like to groom themselves (especially men)
 龍	have great courage and confidence, enthusiastic	 狗	unlimited confidence, willing to serve others, sincere, honest
 蛇	male snakes are romantic, humorous, attractive; female snakes are beautiful, charming	 豬	chivalrous, prudent, polite, helpful

### In accordance to your birth year below, did you guess the right animal?

<b>Year of the Rat</b>	1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008
<b>Year of the Ox</b>	1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009
<b>Year of the Tiger</b>	1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010
<b>Year of the Rabbit</b>	1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011
<b>Year of the Dragon</b>	1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000
<b>Year of the Snake</b>	1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001
<b>Year of the Horse</b>	1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002
<b>Year of the Sheep</b>	1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003
<b>Year of the Monkey</b>	1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004
<b>Year of the Rooster</b>	1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005
<b>Year of the Dog</b>	1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006
<b>Year of the Pig</b>	1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007

## NEW YEARS IN TAIWAN



During the New Year in Taiwan, there are many interesting things. What type of interesting things? Well, one of them is the Legend of the New Years Beast.

"The Beast" is a terrifying monster, but it is afraid of fire, loud noises, firecrackers and red couplets. This is an ancient legend, so during the New Year, some people will make

sure to wear red clothes, use red tablecloths when they throw community potlucks, eat lobster, and sing and play loudly.

Did you know as the New Year approaches, some people will put money into red envelopes and distribute them to everyone.? And, because the festivities are about warmth and happiness for the new day, some people will also buy couplets to hang on the door to ward off the New Years Beast.

The night before the New Year is called "New Year's Eve." On this day, many people will go to the night market to shop or buy gifts. Be very careful during this time, because there are many pickpockets who will try to steal from you!

On New Year's Eve, aside from being careful, you must remember to thoroughly appreciate the food, have a wonderful time socializing with friends, and enjoy the festivities leading up to the New Year!



## CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year/ Spring Festival?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The most important Chinese holiday.</li> <li>• Spans 15 days. This year, it ran from 2/3-2/18/2011.</li> </ul>
Food in the Chinese New Year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Year Cake (Nián Gāo): Every year (nián) you reach for higher (gāo) goals.</li> <li>• Fish (Yú): You don't finish this dish. Let you have a lot (yú) to spend every year.</li> <li>• Dumplings (Jiǎozi): Shaped like old Chinese money.</li> <li>• Kumquat (Jīn jú): Symbol of “ Good Luck” (Jíli).</li> </ul>
First day of New Year	Usually on the first day, family members will go visit the oldest member of the family and wish him/her luck. Little children will also get red envelopes filled with money.
Chinese New Year monster?	The monster that terrorized the villages when this holiday first started was called “Nián”.

## NCS Teachers

### *Irene Moser*

Our Nashville Chinese School principal Mrs. Irene Moser is an excellent principal. Two years ago, she became the new principal, and ever since then, she's been changing the school. She is a very intelligent and hard-working person, and she has many ideas of how to further improve our school. She introduced the culture classes into our school that bring different activities to the students. And to encourage people to have a better understanding of the Chinese culture, she brings in items from Taiwan to share with everyone. If you are interested, the Nashville Chinese School has a store where you are welcome to browse and purchase such items. She is a good teacher, but she is also very earnest. People like her are very difficult to come by, we are very fortunate to have her guidance and vision.

### *Li-Zung Lin*

Mrs. Li-Zung Lin is our Chinese school's teacher for the most advanced class, the seventh class. She is a very good teacher for she comes to the school every week long before classes even start in order to better prepare for her lessons. Even though the students can be a bit lazy at times, she will never raise her voice at them. She always uses a very warm and calm voice to say, “Homework is very important, and you must do it.”



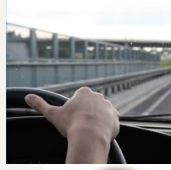
### *Charlotte Yuh Lew*

Mrs. Charlotte Yuh Lew is our teacher for the fifth class. She comes to Nashville Chinese School every week to teach the students, and she brings her daughter, who is also a student in the fifth class, with her. In the first period, she teaches reading and writing to her fifth class students, and during the second period, the seventh class merges with the fifth for the speaking portion. In the speaking class, the students watch movies, not only for entertainment, but also for discussion purposes. As the students discuss the contents of the movie and their reactions to it, they are improving their speaking skills.

## Funs Facts And Funnies

### Fun Facts

- Hong Kong is the only place in China where people drive on the left side of the road.
- There is only one time zone in China.
- Cricket fighting is a popular entertainment in China.



### TV Addict

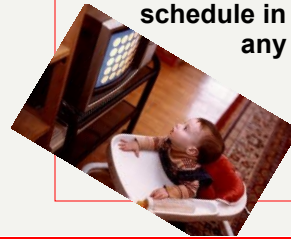
Da Mao's mother told him he can watch TV only after he finishes his homework. However, very shortly thereafter, Da Mao's mom caught him watching TV.

Mom: Da Mao, why are you watching TV again?

Da Mao: Mom, it's not that I *want* to watch TV.

Mom: ...Then explain what you are doing!

Da Mao: I'm just checking if the TV schedule in the newspaper has any misprints!

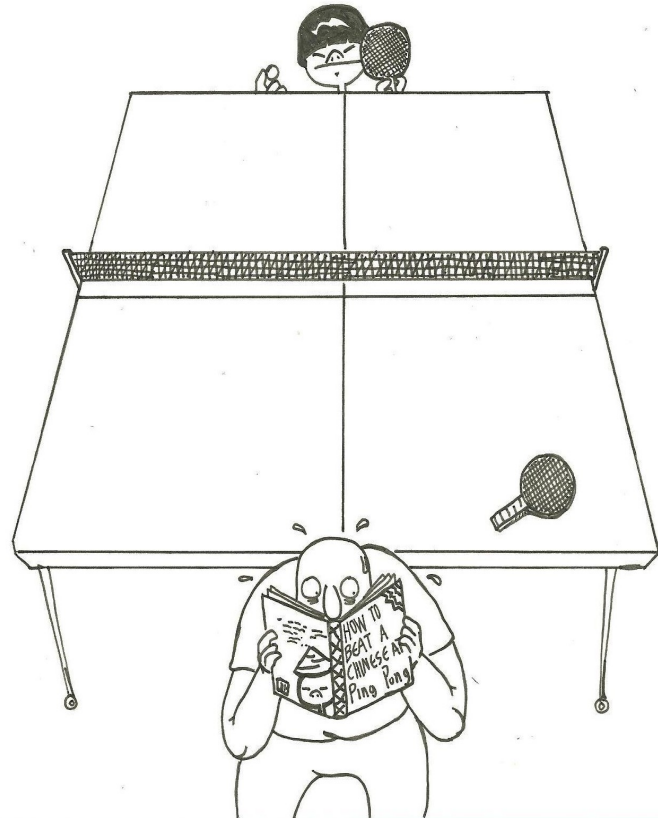


### The Teacher's Fly

There once was a teacher who was very mean. Every time someone was caught talking during class time, he would put the student in time out at the back of the classroom and tell the student to repeat what he was caught saying ten times.

One day, Timmy was caught talking to his friend. The teacher sent him to the back of the classroom and told him to tell the class ten times what he had said to his friend loudly.

Timmy had no choice but to say loudly, "The teacher's fly is open, the teacher's fly is open..."



HAHA!

## Movie Review : Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ( Part 1 )

Everyone knows who Harry Potter is. His books and movies have generated a fanbase around the world and made immense amounts of money. In November 2010 the seventh Harry Potter movie was released: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ( Part 1 ) . The movie is about the occurrences in the Harry Potter world after Dumbledore 's death. Harry Potter, Hermione Granger, and Ron Weasley must find the Deathly Hallows, but this is not an easy goal to accomplish. Voldemort has become

more powerful and Snape is more treacherous. How can Harry and his friends win?

This movie is gloomier than the typical Harry Potter fare, and is also more discouraging. The world 's beloved trio has graduated, so we do not see their friends for much of the movie. When only Harry and Hermione are sticking together, the movie becomes very bleak, but one needs not worry; the movie later recovers its hopefulness. In the end, though, the movie does not have a happy ending.

The Harry Potter movies are all very interesting because they allow us to enter a magical world. This movie is full of emotion, a solid plot, and is suitable for all ages. However, there are a few frightening scenes, so the easily scared should be cautious. Harry Potter has grown up, and is better than ever.



### School Location:

H. G. Hill Middle School  
150 Davidson Road  
Nashville, TN 37205

**Phone:** (615) 410-2284

### Email:

[info@nashvillechineseschool.org](mailto:info@nashvillechineseschool.org)

### Mailing address:

Nashville Chinese School  
P.O. Box 50372  
Nashville, TN 37205-0372

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

*It is my honor to be the principal for Nashville Chinese School. I am excited to share my knowledge and experience with all of the NCS members to make NCS better than ever.*

*Having been established for 24 years, NCS currently has about 20 dedicated teachers and 100 talented and diligent students. Behind the scenes, we have a devoted administration team, and loving and caring parents. Together, our goal is to provide a fun and challenging Chinese language education. Such learning experiences will benefit our children for the rest of their lives. With everyone's support, we are confident that we will continue to excel in our creative teaching and curriculum design. This will ensure that NCS students can always "happily attend school and joyfully return home".*

~Mrs. Irene Moser~