

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR FROM YEOVIL COLLEGE!

On Monday 23 January 2012, Yeovil College celebrated Chinese New Year with a group of eleven teachers visiting from Cao Yang Senior High School and Fengxian High School, Shanghai.

During the day, students took part in a range of cultural activities led by the teachers, who are visiting the College to learn more about teaching AS Levels. The visit is part of the new partnership between Yeovil College and the Shanghai schools.

The FEAST Mobile Training Unit, used for Hospitality courses, made a special visit to the Mudford Road campus. Foundation Learning students completing courses in Independent Living Skills spent their Monday cookery lesson with the visitors, making pork Chinese Wantons. Their delicious creations were given to visitors at the Full-time Information evening that night.

GCSE and A Level Psychology students learned about the Culture of China, including Spring Festival and Chinese New Year, in a talk by the visitors, while Level 3 Art and Design students were taught about traditional Chinese calligraphy. Amy Whitehall (18) of Martock was in one of the calligraphy classes. She said *"It's been nice to learn about different cultures and have a go at the calligraphy. It's been different, but fun. The best word for it is probably challenging! Our Chinese teacher was really good. He told us all about the culture behind the art, where the calligraphy came from and about the tools used to do it. I'm really glad that we had this opportunity and am thinking about incorporating it into my work from now on."*

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton said *"We are very grateful to our Chinese guests for sharing New Year with our students and staff. We were also delighted to have had the opportunity to share this important cultural event with the wider community at our Full-time Information Evening. The significance of Yeovil College's international partnerships cannot be underestimated – we are all part of an international economic community and it is more important than ever that our young people develop a greater understanding of the other cultures they are likely to encounter in working life. We have marked the start of the Year of the Dragon, a respected symbol of good fortune in Chinese culture. We hope that it brings the very best for all our students and the community we serve."*

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Notes to Editors

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