Food

1. Glutinous Rice balls: 汤圆/湯圓 - (tāng yuán) (tong1 jyun4)

Their circular shape represents harmony and unity.

2. Fat Choy: 发菜/髪菜 - (fà cài) (faat3 coi3)

This vegetable sounds like "gong xi fa cai" or "gong hei fat choy" (恭喜發財), which is a saying meaning ‘wishing for a prosperous year’.

3. Dumplings: 水饺/水餃 - (shuǐ jiǎo) (seoi2 gaau2)

They represent longevity and wealth, and their shape represents gold ingots from old Chinese currency.

Chinese Zodiac Animals

*In order from left to right*

CHCP wishes you a

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

年年快乐

Information by:
Vanessa Lam, Sara Yen, & Joshua Zhang
Design by: Maggie Or
- Student Docent Cultural Ambassadors Program (SDCAP)

Visit the CHCP website: CHCP.org and the Chinese American Historical Museum at History Park for more information about Chinese and Chinese American history and culture.

Sources:
https://tinyurl.com/yyhgue7f
https://tinyurl.com/y3joqve3
https://chinesenewyear.net/zodiac/ox/
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ox_(zodiac)
**Greetings**

The two common ways to say “Happy New Year” in Chinese are:

新年快乐！
(xīn nián kuài lè)
"Have a Happy New Year!"

新年好！
(xīn nián hǎo)
"Have a Good New Year!"

Other Chinese New Year greetings are also used such as:

年年有餘
(nián nián yǒu yú)
"May you have abundance every year."

和气生财
(hé qì shēng cái)
"May harmony bring wealth."

大吉大利
(dà jí dà lì)
"May you have great luck and great profit."

**Tales of the OX**

The ox represents the second of the twelve animals in the Chinese zodiac twelve-year cycle. The Chinese translation for the ox is niú (牛).

**Myth:** The Jade Emperor determined the zodiac order by hosting a race of twelve animals. The ox finished second because the rat after riding on its back to cross the river to the land, jumped off, ran, and arrived first at the finish line.

**Symbolism:** In Chinese culture, The ox is known to be hard-working, methodical, clever, and kind. They are used in agriculture and transportation.

**Personality and characteristics:** Strong-willed, responsible, honest, diligent, persistent, and trustworthy are some characteristics of people born in the year of the ox. White, yellow, and green are lucky colors, which symbolize wealth and accomplishments in Feng Shui.

Beginning February 12, 2021, year of the ox will be a harmonious year. The ox represents luck and relationships. It’s a great year to strengthen bonds with loved ones.

**Traditions**

Main Chinese New Year activities include: putting up decorations, eating a reunion dinner with family on New Year's Eve, firecrackers and fireworks, and giving red envelopes and other gifts.

Public celebrations: On Chinese New Year's Day, many places will have traditional performances like dragon dances, and lion dances.

Red is the main color for the festival, as red is believed to be an auspicious color. Red can be seen in the decorations (like lanterns), red envelopes, and firecrackers.