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Welcome for Year of the Ox

Celebrations to mark the Chinese New Year were a roaring success.

The Year of the Ox was ushered in at the city's Museum of East Asian Art with an afternoon of art and crafts, martial art demonstrations - and traditional lion dances.

The Shaolin Lion Dance Troupe provided the entertainment and there was also face-painting and an introduction to Mandarin.

Meanwhile, students at the University of Bath were introduced to the art of Chinese calligraphy to welcome in the year.

Students Yan Wang and Shan Cong used the techniques to write fellow students' names during a drop-in session at the Student Union bar.

Meanwhile, in the university library, students learned how to play mahjong, the traditional Chinese game.

Helen Sawyer, vice-president of welfare and campaigns at the union, said: "As around a quarter of students at Bath are international students, many of whom would be celebrating Chinese New Year if they were at home, we thought this would be a fantastic opportunity for the student union to celebrate the diversity on campus and introduce students to a number of aspects of Chinese culture."



FESTIVAL TIME: celebrating the Chinese Year of the Ox are seven-year-old Nia Mei Mei Ling, Declan Yunwing O'Donoghue, aged nine, and Bridget Mei Ling, five

PICTURE: Lloyd Ellington