

## **Have Fun with Chinese**

## Explore a language spoken by over a billion people worldwide

Starting the week of September 14<sup>th</sup> through the week ending December 18<sup>th</sup>, SPIRAL International is offering students and schools an exciting new program from our Center for Chinese Learning. **Have Fun with Chinese** is an online program that offers students instruction in Chinese language skills and the opportunity to explore Chinese culture. These small-group classes will be taught by Chinese native-speaking teachers via Zoom. Each student will receive learning materials that support the online instruction.

Classes in the **Have Fun with Chinese** program are offered to students with little or no Chinese language skills. These 14 introductory classes will teach common words and phrases while guiding students through this early learning stage smoothly. Topics include: Greetings and introductions, describing people and things, learning words for foods, numbers, colors, etc.

The Chinese language ranks second among the top ten most spoken languages in the world, but its learning difficulty ranks first. English-speaking students often encounter many difficulties at the beginning stage, such as pronunciation, tone, recognition of Chinese characters, rules of word formation and sentence formation. Many beginners may feel that they are struggling to make breakthroughs and are under great pressure which may lead them to become discouraged.

To help students stay motivated, the **Have Fun with Chinese** program is built on themes and concepts that combine "learning and practice" with "exploration and fun". The goal is to stimulate student interest in learning about the Chinese language and culture. The classes use multimedia teaching aids, cartoons and comics, ballad stories and situational dialogues. Such teaching methods create a learning atmosphere that we know from cognitive research is the best way to engage students. This program makes learning fun to spark student curiosity about Chinese language and culture, through an approach that goes step-by-step through the progression of learning.

The cost is \$250 for the entire course of 14 classes. Specific scheduling of classes is dependent on needs and requests of registrants. To learn more about how to sign up for the program, please contact Jia (Jason) Shi at: jason.shi@spiralinternational.org or Lauren Chapman at: admin@spiralinternational.org

Best regards,
The team at SPIRAL