

# SOUTHWEST MATTERS

## SWIC NEWS—YOUTH EDITION

### Youth Activities Week of January 26

<b>Jan. 26 Monday</b>	<b>Open Gym</b> 3-4:30 p.m. Snack in 4:40 Eagle-Bear
	<b>Chinese Paper Dragon</b> 4 p.m. Marigold
<b>Jan. 27 Tuesday</b>	<b>Denver Theatre Academy Chinese New Year's Theatre Workshop</b> 4 p.m. Marigold
<b>Jan. 28 Wed.</b>	<b>Open Gym</b> <b>3-4:40 p.m.</b> Snack in 4:40 Eagle-Bear
	<b>Chinese Zodiac</b> 4 p.m. Marigold
<b>Jan. 29 Thursday</b>	<b>Celebrate Chinese New Year</b> 4 p.m. Marigold
<b>Jan 30 Friday</b>	<b>Fun Friday Celebrate Chinese New Year!</b> 4 p.m., Marigold

### Dodge Ball is Back!

Thanks to a generous donation of new rubber balls, dodge ball is back on the gym list of sports. If soccer or football aren't your favorites, come to the gym to play dodge ball.

### Youth Program Questions?

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### Chinese New Year 2009

#### The Year of the Ox

Chinese New Year is the longest and most important celebration in the Chinese Calendar. The Chinese year 4707 begins on Jan. 26, 2009.

Chinese months are reckoned by the lunar calendar, with each month beginning on the darkest day. New Year festivities traditionally start on the first day of the month and continue until the fifteenth, when the moon is brightest. In China, people may take weeks of holiday from work to prepare for and celebrate the New Year.

#### An Obstinate Year

Legend has it that in ancient times, Buddha asked all the animals to meet him on Chinese New Year. Twelve came, and Buddha named a year after each one. He announced that the people born in each animal's year would have some of that animal's personality. Those born in ox years tend to be painters, engineers, and architects. They are stable, fearless, obstinate, hard-working and friendly.