

ATN NEWSLETTER

Anti-Racism Refresher!



DATES OF NOTE FOR JANUARY

All Month: Tamil Heritage Month

January 4th - National Ribbon
Skirt Day

January 5th - Guru Gobind
Singh Jayanti

January 7th - Mahayana New
Year

January 13th - Lohri, Maghi

January 14 - 17th - Thai Pongal

January 15th - Makar
Sankranti, World Religion Day

January 16th - Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

January 21st - [Lincoln
Alexander Day](#)

January 22nd - Lunar New
Year (Year of the Rabbit)

January 22nd to 24th - Seollal

January 24th - [World Day for
African and Afrodescendant
Culture](#)

January 26th - Vasant
Panchami

January 27th - International
Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 29th - National Day of
Remembrance of the Quebec
City Mosque Attack & Action
Against Islamophobia
(#WeRememberJan29)

BACK TO ANTIRACIST BASICS

From the desks of the Antiracist Teachers Network:

It is with great pleasure and responsibility that we are back for another calendar year of learning and growing.

January is a month that represents fresh starts and beginnings despite how in the realm of education it marks the midway point of our school year. Despite this, many educators view this as a time to refresh, set resolutions and recommit to personal goals set back in August or September: the start of our school year.

Similarly, January is a month that provides many opportunities to start or continue your learning in antiracism education. In a month that brings awareness to and celebrates a variety of cultures and faiths, the Antiracist Teachers Network newsletter has decided to provide our readers with "Ways to Discuss" guides to begin exploring these topics independently, as a staff or in the classroom.

Without further ado, here is our "Back to Basics" issue to kick off 2023 for all of our readers!

OUR MONTHLY BOOK RECCS

From the ATN
Resource Bank!

K to 4 - Be a King: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Dream and You by Carole Boston Weatherfor, **Martin's Big Words** by Doreen Rappaport
5 to 9 - Barakah Beats by Maleeha Siddiqui, **Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.?** by Bonnie Bader, **A Place to Land** by Barry Wittenstein, **Night** by Elie Weisel
10 to 12 - Hana Khan Carries On by Uzma Jalaluddin, **You Truly Assumed** by Laila Sabreen, **Zara Hossain Is Here** by Sabina Kha, **All American Muslim Girl** by Nadine Jolie Courtney
For Teachers - Un-Canadian Islamophobia in the True North by Graeme Truelove, **Go To School, You're A Little Black Boy** (Autobiography of Lincoln M. Alexander), **Funny Boy** by Shyam Selvadurai, **The Seasons of Trouble** by Rohini Mohan, **This Divided Island** by Samantha Subramanian, **The Boat People** by Sharon Bala

WAYS TO DISCUSS: HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

- The ATA provides some [Professional Development](#) and a [LibGuide of Resources](#) you can use to cover human rights, race, poverty and other intersections of identities.
- The Canadian Museum for Human Rights has [developed and collected a variety of Teaching Resources](#) to help frame your conversations for specific marginalized groups
- [Cult of Pedagogy](#) developed a [directory of resources](#) that help in covering race, human rights and poverty.

WAYS TO DISCUSS: TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH

- [TamilCulture](#) is a Tamil-Canadian online platform highlighting the impact of Tamil descendant creators in Canada and around the world.
- [KidzTalk Show](#) gives a quick rundown of [Tamil Heritage Month for younger learners](#) and [Gary Anandasangaree](#) has developed a [video timeline of Tamil-Canadian History for older learners](#)
- [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#) highlights [queer Tamil-Canadian Author Shyam Selvadurai's](#) contributions to Canada's literary canon
- [The Agenda](#) welcomes members of Ontario's Tamil community to talk about Tamil identity and cultural preservation.

WAYS TO DISCUSS: ANTI-SEMITISM

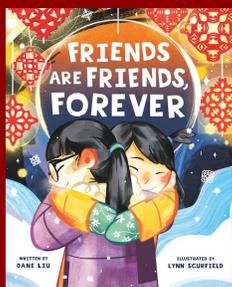
- [Here to Tell: Faces of Holocaust Survivors](#) is a project developed by the [Calgary Jewish Federation](#) to share the stories of local survivors of the Holocaust. You can see this exhibit in person at the Central Library from January 6th - 31st, 2023 or explore it online through their Instagram [@heretotell_fhs](#)
- [Fight Antisemitism \(or FightIt\)](#) provides a [quick guide on what Antisemitism](#) is and how to spot it online
- [The Holocaust Centre North](#) provides the informative article [The Problem With 'The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas'](#) detailing why this resource needs to be clearly labelled as fiction and [suggests alternative resources for teaching on the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism specifically.](#)
- [Some Were Neighbours](#) is an online interactive exhibit from the [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#) which provides survivors' stories and first hand accounts. We recommend this resource for grades 9-12.

WAYS TO DISCUSS: ISLAMOPHOBIA

- [The Green Square Campaign](#) was developed by the [Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec \(CCIQ\)](#), [National Council of Canadian Muslims \(NCCM\)](#) and [Islamic Relief Canada](#) to stand against Islamophobia and remember January 29th
- [Islamaphobia Is](#) provides lesson plans and advice on [how to tackle Islamophobia in your Grade 6-12 classroom.](#)
- [Film & Media Art Teachers:](#) Explore [Missing & Maligned: The Reality of Muslims in Popular Global Movies](#) the launching point for [The Riz Test](#) and [#MuslimsInFilm](#)
- [The National Film Board of Canada](#) has developed a [playlist of films to explore Islamophobia](#) with [#WeRememberJan29](#)

Interested in joining the ATN? Email: LDECChair@ata38.ab.ca for more information!

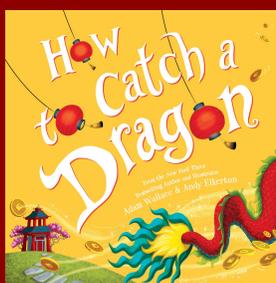
Books Celebrating Lunar New Year!



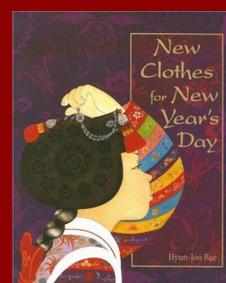
Friends are Friends Forever
- Dane Liu



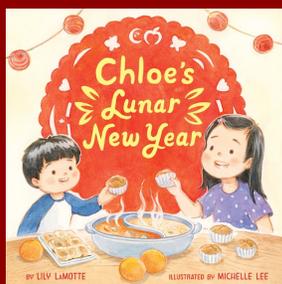
A Sweet New Year for Ren
- Michelle Sterling



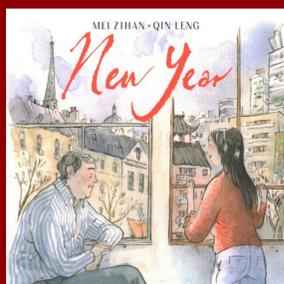
How to Catch a Dragon
- Adam Wallace



New Clothes for New Year's Day
- Hyun-Joo Bae



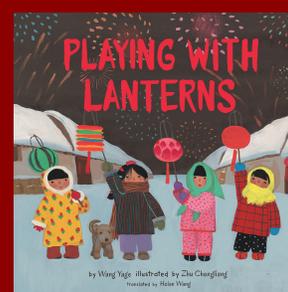
Chloe's Lunar New Year
- Lily LaMotte



New Year
- Mei Zihan



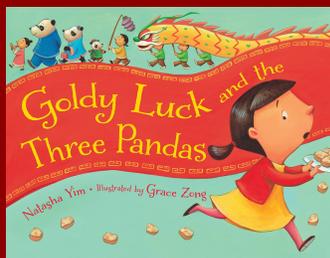
Tomorrow is New Year's Day
- Aram Kim



Playing with Lanterns
- Wang Yage



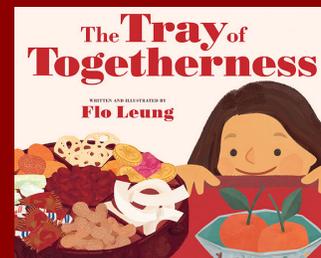
Grumpy New Year
- Katrina Moore



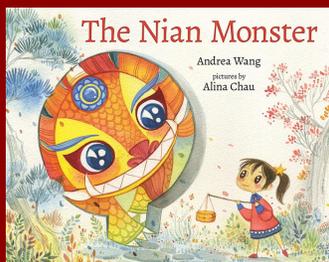
Goldy Luck and the Three Pandas
- Tasha Yum



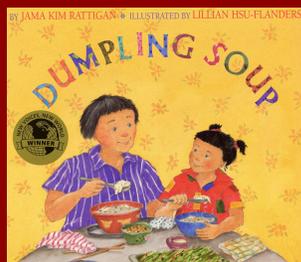
New Year - Rich Lo



The Tray of Togetherness
- Flo Leung



The Nian Monster
- Andrea Wang



Dumpling Soup
- Jama Kim Rattigan



Twelve in a Race
- Catherine Little



Dragons Roar Inside Me
- Kate Staves

