



ORIENTAL CULTURE: Liz Smedley with Teesside High School year six pupils Kirsty Hopkins, left, and Annie Chin

Chinese day proves popular with pupils

JUNIOR pupils at Teesside High School, in Eaglescliffe, enjoyed a day of Chinese activities to mark the start of the Chinese new year.

The activities were led by Liz Smedley, a graduate in Chinese studies from Durham University.

She has worked in Taiwan and now works with schools and business people teaching Mandarin and business etiquette for those with business links in China.

During the school assembly, Mrs Smedley explained a little about the country and taught some simple Mandarin phrases for the children to use.

Classes from year two to six then attended workshop sessions looking in more detail at Chinese history, everyday life and culture, and learning more about the Mandarin language, including some Chinese songs.

At lunchtime, pupils could sample Chinese food in the school dining room.

Mrs Smedley said: "The children have enjoyed handling everyday objects such as money, chopsticks and kites.

"They have been keen to learn how to introduce themselves and greet others, and have had lots of questions about life in China."