



The September 2022 Issue

What is in this issue:



Mid- Autumn MOON Festivals in Asia



Mid-Autumn Moon Festivals:



中秋节 (Zhōngqiūjié) in China & Taiwan

Who? People with Chinese **roots** around the world. Erin's aunt is from **Taiwan**, so she knows about this. Erin's aunt & uncle met in Australia because her grandparents **hosted** international students too! What a cool family!

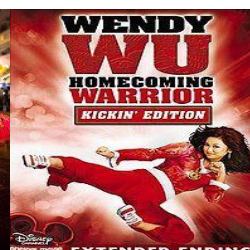
What? The Mooncake Festival! Chinese Golden Week! It is one of the most **important** holidays in Chinese culture.

Where? China, Taiwan, **Macau**, Hong Kong, **Chinatowns**, etc.

When? The date changes every year but the night of the **full moon** from the middle of September to the beginning of October. It is **based on** the Chinese sun & moon calendar. In is like the **Autumn Equinox** in our sun calendar. It is September 10th, 2022 and September 29th, 2023.

Why? It is to remember the **legend** of the Moon **Goddess**, *Chang'e* and her **unlucky** love. Check out the Netflix movie *Over the Moon* (2020) to see a new take on this old **tale**.

How? People make and eat delicious **mooncakes!** Mooncakes are **pastries** with various things inside them. For example: **red bean**, lotus seed, fruit, chocolate, or meat. People visit their friends and **exchange** mooncakes. Some people try **matchmaking!** There are parties with **dragon** dancing, **lantern** lighting, and fireworks. In the U.S.A., we have '**Homecoming Weekend**', a big formal dance and American football game at schools. So maybe **Chinese Americans** enjoy both cultures at the same time. Like in the Disney Channel Original Movie, *Wendy Wu: Homecoming Warrior* (2006).





Mid-Autumn Moon Festivals:



Tết Trung Thu in Vietnam

Who?

People with Vietnamese roots around the world. Erin and my friend in Japan is Vietnamese Australian. Her name is Kelly and she **celebrates** this festival! The woman in the Ao Dai (traditional Vietnamese dress) on the left of the page is named Kelly too! What a crazy **coincidence**! She is Kelly Marie Tran from Star Wars. She is Vietnamese American.

What?

The Vietnamese Children's Festival!

Where?

Vietnam

When?

The date changes every year but the night of the full moon from the middle of September to the beginning of October. It is September 10th, 2022 and September 29th, 2023.

Why?

Kelly says the festival is to **honor** the story of Uncle Cuội **flying** to the moon on a magic **banyan tree**. If you look at the moon, you can see a man sitting under a tree! Children use lights to show Cuoi the way back to **Earth**. They **parade** on the streets.

How?

People pick rice before the festival then give thanks to the **God** of the Earth. Adults give children beautiful and fun toys after all the hard work. Usually a star **lamp**, a **carp** lamp, and a colorful mask. Everyone eats mooncakes (*bánh trung thu*)! Then, when the full moon is high in the sky, children sing and dance together. There are even lion dances for children to watch.





Mid-Autumn Moon Festivals:



추석 (Chuseok) in Korea



Who?

People with Korean roots around the world. Our old English teacher, Miss Crystal, lived and worked in South Korea for 7 years! Many K-pop stars take cute pictures in *hanbok* (Korean traditional dress) for the holiday. The old 'Nation's Girl Group' at the bottom is Girls' Generation, 소녀시대 in Korean, or 女子時代 in Japanese. They are a little old now, but I still love them!

What?

Korean **Thanksgiving!** A **harvest** festival! **National holiday** in South Korea.

Where?

South Korea (& North Korea)

When?

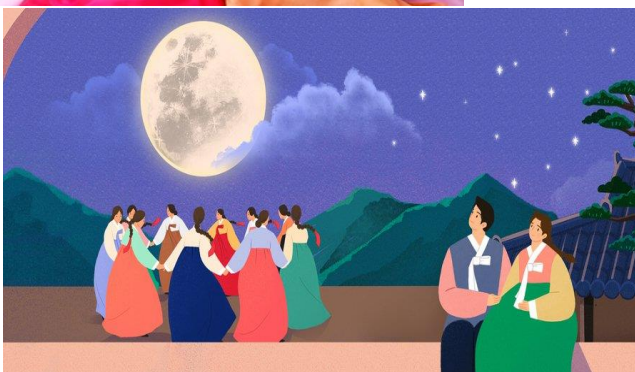
The date changes every year but the night of the full moon in September or October. Chuseok is three days in South Korea and only one day in North Korea. It is September 9th-11th, 2022 and September 28th-30th, 2023.

Why?

It is a day to be **thankful** for family, friends, and Korean culture. It is full of family **traditions**, like American Thanksgiving in November.

How?

Crystal says that everyone goes home to be with their families, so the cities are not busy. There is a lot of travel at this time. Everyone must buy 'Chuseok' gifts so there are big **care packages** full of anything and everything! Workers usually receive one from their **companies** before a few days of **vacation**. Crystal says she was always so happy to get cans of Spam!





Mid-Autumn Moon Festivals:



お月見 (O-Tsukimi) in Japan

Who?

People with Japanese roots around the world. I (Sheila) don't have any Japanese roots, but I live in Japan now, so I am happy to join this **celebration!** I love **astrology** so seeing the moon and stars is fun for me. But it is hard to see the night sky in Tokyo because the city lights are so bright.

What?

Moon-viewing, which means watching the full moon. In Japan, you say that there is a rabbit who lives on the moon, right? And sometimes he makes *mochi*, **rice cakes**? In **English-speaking** countries, we don't think that. We say that the moon is made of cheese! I like cheese more than *mochi*!

Where?

Japan

When?

In the sun calendar we use now, **Tsukimi** is at two different times. Usually, a few days in September for the full moon and then one in October for the changing moon. The main days are September the 10th-13th, 2022 and September 29th- October 2nd, 2023.

Why?

It is a night to **honor** the beauty of the autumn moon since the Heian era (794-1185).

How?

If *hanami* is cherry blossom-viewing in the spring, then *tsukimi* is moon-viewing in the fall! People **picnic** together under the full moon and sometimes drink sake, Japanese rice wine. Let's eat *mochi* and white rice dumplings called *tsukimi dango*! Then, let's have *edamame*, **chestnuts**, *taro*, and **sweet potato**. For the month, you can try a special Tsukimi Burger at McDonalds too. The egg on the sandwich looks like a full moon!



CULTURE CORNER!

Extra, extra... read all about it!

Who?

It is run by me (Sheila) and Miss Erin for English Club... and anyone interested in the world! For all Keika girls! <3

What?

A collection of fun things from around the world! Word games, board games, puzzles, card games, dolls, books, DVD's, CD's, costumes, postcards, Keika Chronicle archives, origami, art supplies, and more! And there is a **student** → **teacher letter box** too!

Where?

Sheila's desk in the 2F Teachers' Room

When?

Tuesday's – Saturday's, 8:25am - 4:25pm.

Why?

I wanted a chance to share all my fun games, international stories, and pop culture recommendations with you! And I want to hear yours about Japan too!

How?

When you are free, come see me at my desk! If I am not there, I am probably up at Miss Erin's desk in the 3F Teachers' Room. Or maybe in the 3F English Room with Miss Rachel. Don't be scared! Mr. Morikawa, Mr. Ando, and Mr. Ishibashi's desks are next to mine to help you.

If you want to borrow anything, please use the checkout card- like at the library! And please leave me a message anytime in the letter box if you want! If you promise to write in English, you can use my cute stationary. Then, I will reply with a letter & cute sticker. ;D

XOXO,
Sheila
& Erin

