

NO. 7 / ESPAÑOL/FRANÇAIS/中文

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# GLOBAL VOICES

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Summer  
EDITION



謹賀新年



# GLOBAL VOICES



A QUARTERLY FOREIGN LANGUAGE MAGAZINE



AN INITIATIVE OF DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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# ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE

Dear Readers,

It's a pleasure to introduce the latest edition of Global Voices Magazine, themed around summer—a season that means different things across languages, cultures, and geographies.

In this issue, we explore how summer is experienced and understood in different parts of the world through language, tradition, education, and everyday life. From cultural reflections to student perspectives in Spanish, French, and Chinese, this edition is a multilingual snapshot of what summer looks like beyond our borders.

Our aim, as always, is to use language as a bridge—to think globally while learning locally. The articles and submissions in this issue reflect not just linguistic skill, but curiosity, research, and imagination. I hope they encourage you to see summer not only as a season, but as a context for discovery, dialogue, and connection.

Thank you for reading.

Warmest wishes,

Namrata Raha

Editor-in-Chief of Global Voices Magazine

The BSS School

## MEET THE TEAM:

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**Content Editor – French**

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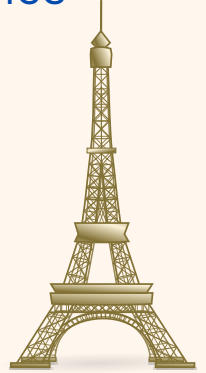


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# FRENCH/FRANÇAIS

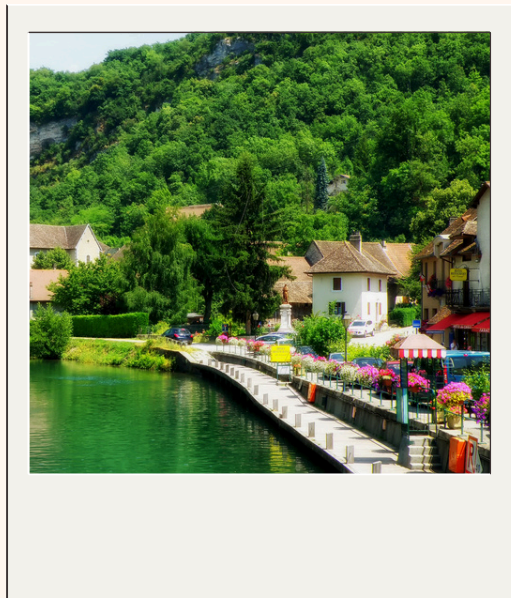


# **Vacances d'été en France**

**by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)**



En France, les vacances d'été commencent généralement en juillet et durent environ deux mois. C'est une période très attendue par les élèves et les familles. Beaucoup de Français profitent de cette période pour voyager. Certains vont à la mer, comme sur la Côte d'Azur, d'autres préfèrent la montagne ou la campagne. Les plages sont très populaires pendant l'été, tout comme les festivals culturels, les marchés locaux et les feux d'artifice du 14 juillet, la fête nationale. Les enfants peuvent aussi participer à des colonies de vacances ou à des activités sportives. Le climat est souvent chaud et ensoleillé, ce qui rend les journées parfaites pour les pique-niques, les balades ou les baignades. Les vacances d'été sont un moment idéal pour se détendre, découvrir de nouveaux endroits et passer du temps en famille ou entre amis.



## **Summer Vacation in France**

**by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)**

In France, summer vacation usually begins in July and lasts about two months. It is a much-anticipated time for students and families. Many French people use this period to travel. Some go to the seaside, like the French Riviera, while others prefer the mountains or countryside. Beaches are very popular in summer, along with cultural festivals, local markets, and fireworks on July 14th, the national holiday. Children can also attend summer camps or take part in sports activities. The weather is often warm and sunny, making it perfect for picnics, walks, or swimming. Summer vacation is an ideal time to relax, explore new places, and spend time with family or friends.



# Similarités des vacances d'été en Inde et en France

by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)

Les vacances d'été en Inde et en France ont plusieurs points communs. Dans les deux pays, elles durent environ deux mois et sont très attendues par les élèves. C'est une période de repos et de plaisir. Les familles profitent des vacances pour voyager, passer du temps ensemble et se détendre. Beaucoup de gens visitent des lieux touristiques, comme la mer, la montagne ou des sites historiques. Les enfants participent souvent à des activités comme les colonies de vacances, le sport ou les loisirs créatifs. Le climat est généralement chaud, ce qui encourage les baignades, les pique-niques et les sorties en plein air. Les marchés se remplissent de fruits d'été comme les mangues en Inde et les melons en France. Dans les deux pays, les vacances d'été sont un moment spécial pour se détendre, apprendre autrement et créer de bons souvenirs.



# Similarities of Summer Vacation in India and France

by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)

Summer vacation in India and France share many similarities. In both countries, it lasts about two months and is highly anticipated by students. It is a time for rest and enjoyment. Families take advantage of the break to travel, spend time together, and relax. Many people visit tourist spots like the sea, mountains, or historical sites. Children often participate in activities like summer camps, sports, or creative hobbies. The weather is usually warm, which encourages swimming, picnics, and outdoor outings. Markets are filled with summer fruits—like mangoes in India and melons in France. In both countries, summer vacation is a special time to relax, learn differently, and create happy memories.





# Différences des vacances d'été en Inde et en France\

by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)

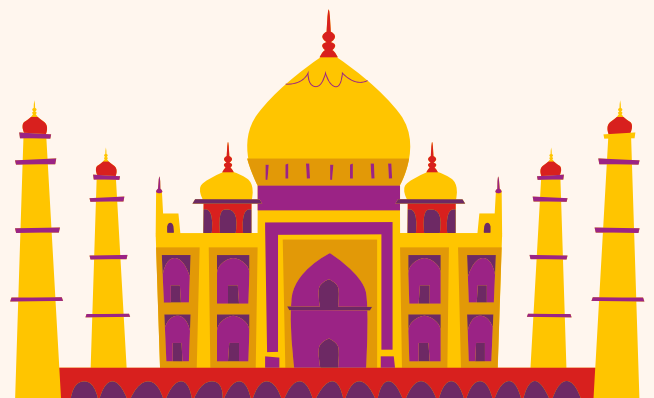
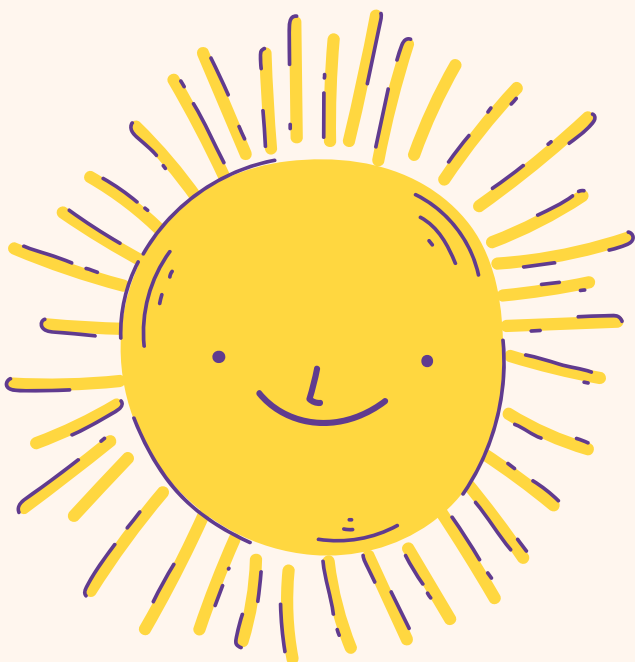
Les vacances d'été en Inde et en France présentent plusieurs différences. En Inde, elles commencent généralement en mai à cause de la forte chaleur, tandis qu'en France, elles débutent en juillet après les examens scolaires. Le climat est aussi différent : l'été indien est très chaud et parfois accompagné de la mousson, alors que l'été français est plus doux et sec. En Inde, beaucoup de familles voyagent à la montagne pour fuir la chaleur, tandis qu'en France, les plages sont une destination populaire. Les activités varient également : en France, les enfants participent souvent à des colonies de vacances organisées par l'école ou la mairie, tandis qu'en Inde, ils prennent des cours privés ou visitent leur famille. Enfin, le 14 juillet est une fête nationale importante en France, célébrée pendant l'été, ce qui n'a pas d'équivalent en Inde. Ces différences reflètent les cultures uniques de chaque pays.



## Differences in Summer Vacation in India and France

**by Nabanita B. Mukherjee (French Teacher)**

Summer vacation in India and France shows several differences. In India, it usually starts in May due to the intense heat, while in France, it begins in July after school exams. The climate also differs: Indian summers are very hot and sometimes come with monsoon rains, while French summers are milder and drier. In India, many families travel to the mountains to escape the heat, whereas in France, beaches are a popular destination. Activities also differ: in France, children often attend summer camps organized by schools or town halls, while in India, they take private classes or visit relatives. Lastly, July 14th is an important national holiday in France celebrated during summer, with no equivalent in India. These differences reflect the unique cultures of each country.





# SPANISH/ESPAÑOL





# Summer Vacation In Spain

by Namrata Raha (Spanish Teacher)



Summer vacation in Spain is a vibrant and much-anticipated time of the year. Schools typically close from late June to early or mid-September, offering nearly three months of respite from the academic routine. For many Spaniards, this is a season dedicated to relaxation, travel, and reconnecting with family and tradition.

Coastal regions such as the Costa del Sol, Costa Brava, and the Balearic and Canary Islands become major attractions, drawing visitors with their stunning beaches, crystal-clear waters, and lively seaside towns. Inland cities, especially in the south like Seville and Córdoba, experience soaring temperatures often reaching 40°C, prompting many locals to escape to cooler mountain villages or the coast.

Beyond the sun and sea, summer in Spain is deeply cultural. It's also a time for vibrant festivals. Spain comes alive with celebrations such as *La Tomatina* in Buñol, where thousands throw tomatoes at each other, and *San Fermín* in Pamplona, famous for the thrilling Running of the Bulls. Along the coast, a special festival called the *Fiesta del Carmen* takes place every July. It honors Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the patron saint of sailors and fishermen. During this festival, beautifully decorated boats carry the statue of the Virgin Carmen out to sea in colorful maritime processions, asking for her blessings and protection.

In essence, summer vacation in Spain is more than just a break from school; it's a joyful immersion into the country's natural beauty, rich traditions, and a lifestyle that celebrates community, culture, and the simple pleasures of life.





# Summer Vacation In Spain

by Aadrika Ganguly

Summer in Spain is full of life, fun, and sunshine. The beaches become crowded with people enjoying their holidays. Families, friends, and tourists go to relax and have a good time. You can see people sunbathing, swimming, or trying fun water sports like paddleboarding, jet-skiing, or even snorkeling.

There are beachside restaurants and small cafés called *chiringuitos* where people enjoy cold drinks and delicious food like tapas or seafood. Along the promenade, people jog, ride bicycles, or play beach volleyball. Children build sandcastles while musicians and street performers keep everyone entertained.

As evening comes, the beaches become even more exciting with sunset parties, music, and dancing. Some places have live shows or festivals with fireworks. A summer holiday in Spain is not just relaxing, it's full of culture, food, music, and fun.



# **Festival of San Fermín**

**by Jagriti Sinha Roy (8-B)**

Pamplona in northeastern Spain is the centre of an annual nine-day celebration known as the San Fermín Festival, held every July.

This vibrant festival honours Saint Fermín, a religious figure believed to have been martyred in the 3rd century. One of the most thrilling events is the Running of the Bulls (Encierro), where participants run through the streets ahead of charging bulls.

The city of Pamplona comes alive with music, parades, and traditional performances. The band La Pamplonesa fills the streets with melodious music. Another major attraction is the parade of giant figures and people wearing oversized heads, known as Gigantes y Cabezudos, a beloved tradition for locals and visitors alike.

As one of Spain's most famous festivals, San Fermín offers a unique cultural experience that attracts people from all over the world.



## **Fiesta de San Fermín**

**by Jagriti Sinha Roy (8-B)**

Pamplona, en el noreste de España, se convierte cada año en el centro de una celebración continua: las fiestas de San Fermín, que tienen lugar durante nueve días en el mes de julio.

Estas fiestas representan una tradición centenaria en honor a San Fermín, una figura religiosa que, según la leyenda, fue martirizada por un toro en el año 272 d. C.

Durante el festival, la gente experimenta el riesgo y la emoción del "Encierro", una carrera en la que los participantes corren delante de toros por las calles de la ciudad.

La banda "La Pamplonesa" llena las calles con música melodiosa y deslumbrante. Otra gran atracción es el tradicional desfile de gigantes y cabezudos, con enormes figuras y personas con cabezas gigantes.



# Feria de Abril

by Alisha Maity (7-B)

The *Feria de Abril*, a vibrant week-long festival in Seville, Spain, is a celebration that captures the essence of Andalusian culture. It's a time when the city transforms—streets fill with horse-drawn carriages, people dress in traditional flamenco attire, and the air is alive with the sounds of flamenco music and dance.

The fair began as a livestock market in 1847, but over time, it evolved into a grand social event centered around *casetas* (private tents), where families and friends gather to eat, drink, dance, and celebrate.

The heart of the festival is the Real de la Feria, a vast fairground lined with colorful tents, amusement rides, and lively attractions. Each day features horse parades and late-night festivities.

Attending the Feria is a wonderful opportunity to experience the city's rich hospitality, vibrant music, delicious food, and cherished traditions. It's more than a festival—it's a cultural experience that brings people together to celebrate their heritage.

The *Feria de Abril* is a joyful, immersive celebration of community, culture, and tradition that has been passed down through generations and cherished by all who attend.



# El Mango: El Rey de las Frutas del Verano

by Samriddhi Mukherjee (9-A)

El verano siempre viene con sol, vacaciones... ¡y por supuesto, mangos! Esta fruta tropical es muy popular por su sabor dulce y jugoso, y a muchos nos encanta comerla cuando hace calor.

Aunque el mango viene originalmente de Asia, hoy en día se cultiva en muchos lugares del mundo. En España, sobre todo en Andalucía —en sitios como Málaga y Granada— hay muchas plantaciones de mango gracias al clima cálido y soleado.

## Variedades de Mango en España:

España no solo cultiva mangos, sino que ofrece diferentes variedades que se adaptan a todos los gustos:

- **Osteen:** De color violeta-amarillo, es dulce y casi sin fibras. Ideal para comer fresco.
- **Keitt:** Más grande y con sabor suave. Tiene menos azúcares y es perfecto para ensaladas.
- **Kent:** Muy jugoso, con aroma intenso. Es la elección ideal para postres.



## Delicias con Mango:

¡El mango no solo se disfruta al natural! Aquí tienes algunas ideas deliciosas para saborear esta fruta al máximo:

### 🥤 Batido de Mango (Smoothie)

Mezcla mango maduro con leche, yogur y hielo.

### 🍦 Helado de Mango Casero

Tritura mango y mézclalo con leche condensada y crema.

### 🥗 Ensalada Tropical de Mango

Combina trozos de mango con piña, aguacate, hojas verdes y un aderezo cítrico.

### 🍰 Tarta de Mango

Prepara una base de galleta y cúbreala con crema de mango.





# Frutas Frescas del Verano en España

by Samriddhi Mukherjee (9-A)

Cuando llega el verano, una de las mejores formas de combatir el calor es disfrutar de frutas frescas. En España, las frutas de temporada no solo son deliciosas, sino también saludables y perfectas para picar, preparar recetas sencillas o acompañar platos típicos.

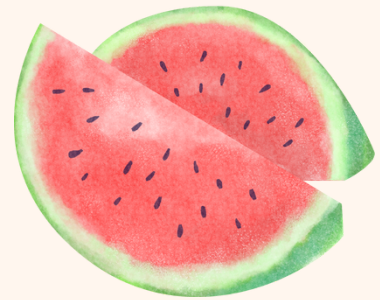
## Sandía

Muy jugosa y refrescante, la sandía se come en trozos o se convierte en un zumo natural.

### Receta rápida:

- Trozos de sandía
- Hojas de menta
- Unas gotas de limón

¡Sencilla, fresca y perfecta para los días calurosos!



## Melón

Dulce, aromático y muy popular en verano. Una receta tradicional española lo sirve con lonchas finas de jamón serrano: el contraste de sabores es sorprendente y delicioso.



## Uvas

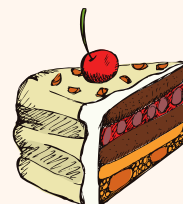
Ideales para picar entre comidas o añadir en postres. También son muy usadas para hacer vino, una tradición muy importante en la cultura española.



## Cerezas

Pequeñas, dulces y de color intenso, las cerezas se pueden comer solas o usar en tartas y pasteles.

¡Son irresistibles!

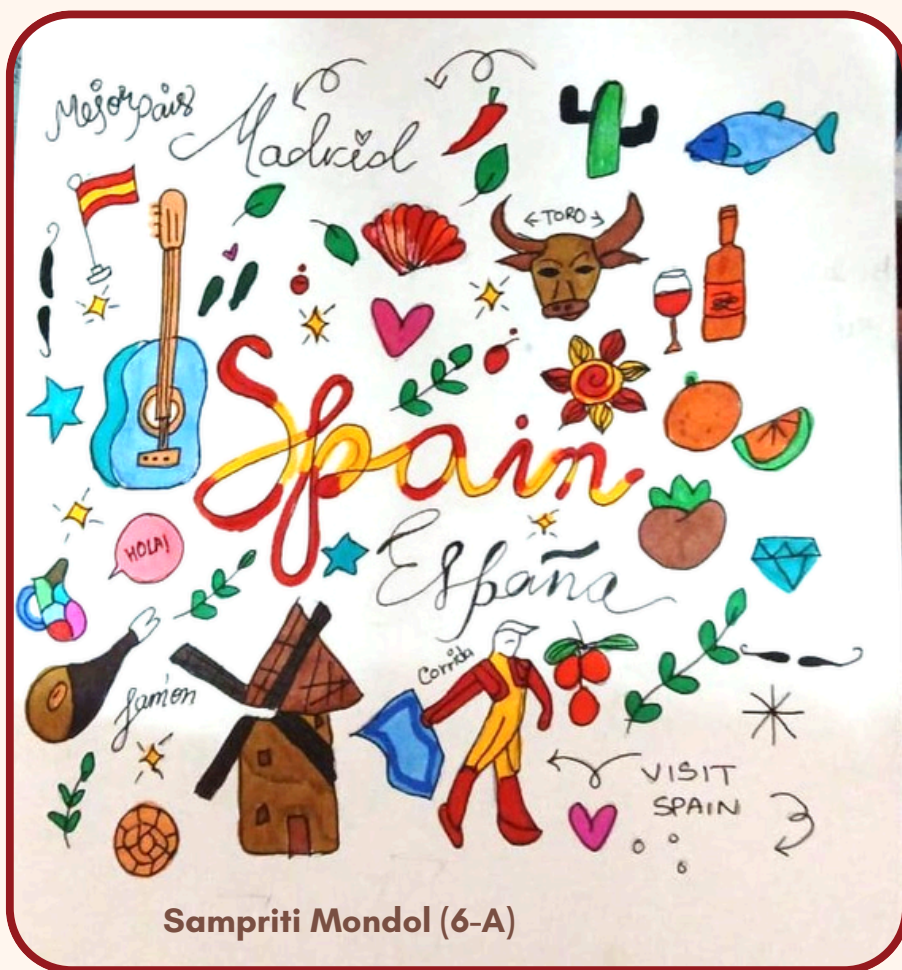


# Comidas Típicas del Verano Español

**by Samriddhi Mukherjee (9-A)**

El verano también es época de compartir platos deliciosos. Aquí van algunos de los más conocidos:

1. **Paella:** Arroz con azafrán, mariscos o pollo, guisantes y pimientos. Plato típico de Valencia.
2. **Tortilla Española:** Hecha con huevos y patatas. Se puede servir caliente o fría.
3. **Gazpacho:** Sopa fría de tomate, pepino, ajo, aceite de oliva y vinagre.
4. **Salmorejo:** Similar al gazpacho pero más espeso, se sirve con huevo duro y jamón serrano.
5. **Tapas:** Porciones pequeñas como patatas bravas, calamares, aceitunas y queso manchego.



## Sampriti Mondol (6-A)



# CHINESE/中文





# Chinese summer vacation

by Ashmita Ghosal 7-C

shǔ jià  
暑假

The Summer Vacation

Summer vacation is exciting time for children all over the globe. In China the summer vacation starts from July and ends in August which is they got a one month break from the school. They spent the time in various activities and indulge themselves into their hobbies well many think it as a time for laisure and relaxation. Many thinks it as a chance to work on their weaknesses and Academic sessions so they might be attending various Academy ,summer school or private tutions to shine over others. They might also be going for a vacation in a outside China. They also might be going to a historical place to learn about them and their ancestors it's a long break so many of them take up summer jobs like in shops to have an idea of the work environment . they also work on personal projects and hobbies. Although it is a fun time they do get to do a lot of homework and for many the pressure of doing well in studies give them so much stress that they cannot enjoy their vacation to the fullest. but still the do get free time to spend and learn new skills or developed a new hobby .Their schools reopen in August after almost a month and everyone goes back today regular schedule again.





# Chinese summer vacation

## by Rajanya Chanda 9-B

Chinese summer vacation is a highly anticipated break for students, typically lasting around two months. During this period, students can relax, recharge, and engage in various activities like traveling, learning new skills, or participating in cultural events. Many students attend summer camps, focus on personal interests, or spend quality time with family and friends. While it's a time for relaxation, some students also use this opportunity to enrich their knowledge and skills through academic summer camps or extra classes. Overall, Chinese summer vacation is a valuable break that helps students maintain a healthy balance between academics and personal growth.

The 3 best destinations, namely Kunming, Lijiang and Dali, are all highly recommended marvel at the primitive landscape of sapphire lakes, snow mountain, lush hills, clear azure sky, soft white clouds, etc. You shall not miss the Stone Forest or Erhai Lake to marvel at the amazing landform creation of nature, or the Lijiang Ancient City, Dali Ancient Town, etc. to appreciate the crossing lanes with ancient wooden houses. Besides, Lugu Lake is pleasantly cool and fabulous with various blossoms, lovely lake and gentle breeze. Also, of course you will get the chance to savor the wonderful ethnic charm of diverse ethnic minorities living there for tens of decades, including Yi, Naxi, Bai, etc., for a nice Chinese culture admiration in this wonderland of ethnic minorities in China! Torch Festival from lunar June 24th or 25th (lasting 3 days at Stone Forest, Kunming, etc.) is great to enjoy the jubilant atmosphere of Yi people if it matches your vacation schedule!



# Chinese summer vacation

by Shatakshi Saha 8-C

Summer vacation is one of the most exciting times of the year for students all over the world, and China is no exception. In China, summer vacation usually begins in early July and ends in late August. It lasts about six to eight weeks, giving students a much-needed break from their busy school schedules. This time is filled with relaxation, travel, learning, and spending time with family.

Many Chinese families use this vacation time to travel. Popular travel destinations include historical places like the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, or the Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an. Others might enjoy nature in places like Guilin, Yunnan, or Hainan Island. Some families even travel abroad to countries like Thailand, Japan, or Europe. These trips help students learn about different cultures and enjoy beautiful sights.

Summer is also a time for traditional activities. Some children go back to their hometowns in the countryside to visit grandparents. There, they can enjoy local food, play with cousins, and experience a slower way of life. Others stay in cities but enjoy visiting parks, swimming pools, or amusement parks. Many families enjoy eating seasonal fruits like watermelon, mangoes, and lychees during the hot summer days.





Even though it's a vacation, Chinese students often continue learning during the summer. Many attend summer camps or extra classes in subjects like math, English, or music. Some go to hobby classes such as painting, dancing, or martial arts. These activities help students improve their skills and prepare for the next school year.

In conclusion, Chinese summer vacation is a time of fun, family, and learning. It gives students a chance to rest, explore new places, and grow in many ways. Whether in the city or countryside, at home or abroad, Chinese children make many happy memories during their summer break.



## **Summer vacation in China**

**by Shudriti Hazra 8-C**

Summer holiday in China is an important period for students, families, and the tourism sector. Running from early July to late August, usually July 1 to August 31 on the secondary academic level, these two months off school are more than just a summer holiday, working as a mirror onto China's cultural sense of time and its educational focus, not to mention its fluctuating societal trends. From overcrowded tourist meccas to quiet countryside getaways, summer vacation is multi-dimensional phenomenon with an entrenched Chinese identity.

The summer holiday of students in China usually runs from July or August and is around 2 months long. Some schools go out as soon as the end of June, particularly with the Dragon Boat Festival in the middle of June and the holiday completed by the beginning of September<sup>12</sup>. For instance, in Beijing in 2025, the primary schools take their summer vacation from July 7 to August 31, whereas the universities start a week later on July 14 and also finish on August 31.

**July and August - Domestic tourism**

Domestic tourism in China rockets during July and August. Families go to Chinese hotspots like Beijing, Xi'an or Hangzhou or an island in Hainan. Thanks to better infrastructure and rising incomes, more families can afford domestic travel. This serves not only an opportunity to relax and have fun, which teaches children about various parts of their country and history. Away from the cities, summer vacation is usually more traditional. Kids may continue to visit their grandparents in the countryside, picking up local customs and being one with nature. The people there still engage in activities like kite flying, fishing and village festivals. In larger cities, kids can go to a summer camp for sports, music, technology, or the arts. Science museums, libraries and science centers offer special demonstrations and displays and there are workshops and activities available across the nation. These are the sorts of things children will use to discover hobbies and new interests and practice socializing outside of school. And yet, despite the academic push of the modern school year, summer vacation also represents the season when families have the most flexibility to travel and relax.

summer holiday in China is also a product of interplay of academic expectation, cultural practices and changing social trends. Though studying continues to be a mainstay of this summer experience.





# Summer vacation in China

## by Manisha Sen (Chinese Teacher)

The term summer vacation or summer break refers to a school break in the summer between school years and the break in the school academic year. Students are off anywhere between two weeks to three and a half months. Depending on the country and district, staff might be partially or fully excluded.

In China, the academic year is typically divided into two semesters. The fall semester starts on September 1 and continues until around the tenth day of the last month of the lunar year, typically ending in early January in the northeast. This is followed by the winter break, which lasts until around the fifteenth day of the first lunar month. The spring semester begins in mid-February and runs until the end of June or early July, after which the summer vacation begins. This vacation occurs during the hottest season of the year in China.

### Scheduling of Summer Vacation

The timing of summer vacation in China varies by region and educational stage. For example, in Beijing, the vacation schedules differ between primary schools and universities. In 2025, the primary schools in Beijing will have their summer vacation from July 7 (Monday) to August 31 (Sunday), lasting eight weeks, while universities will start their break a week later on July 14 (Monday), ending on the same day, August 31, totaling seven weeks.

### Historical Background of Summer Vacation

The establishment of summer vacation in China is closely linked to the traditional agrarian practice of “escaping the heat.” With the establishment of the modern educational system, summer vacation was formally implemented to provide students with a period for rest and self-improvement. This break not only allows recovery from the high temperatures but also offers families an opportunity to spend quality time together.



Tian an men(天安门) square in China

## **Educational Impact of Summer Vacation.**

During the summer vacation, students often engage in various educational activities, including summer camps, interest groups, and various tutoring classes. These activities help students develop new skills and interests while also preparing them for the upcoming academic year. The educational authorities also use this time to provide professional development and training opportunities for teachers, enhancing the quality of education.

## **Summer Vacation Travel Recommendations.**

Summer vacation is a peak travel period for Chinese families. To avoid crowded tourist spots and the extreme heat, it is advisable to visit seaside cities such as Qingdao and Dalian or high-altitude areas like Jiuzhaigou and Zhangjiajie for cooler climates. Additionally, many cities host unique cultural festivals and events during the summer, such as the Qingdao Beer Festival, providing excellent opportunities to experience local culture.





# Gallery Events



**Chinese Inter House Cultural Competition.**

# Gallery Events



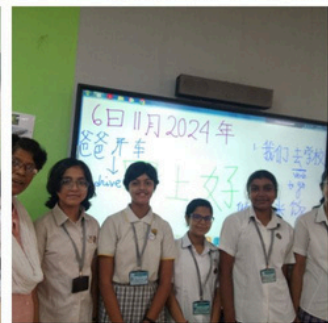
**Participants with Chinese Consul General in  
Kolkata.**



# Gallery Events



**Participation in International "Chinese Bridge" competition in 25 April, 2025, Kolkata.**



**Chinese group project in Class**



# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

## FRENCH STUDENTS



Hrittika Chatterjee  
IX-B



Bishwamitra Chatterjee  
VI-C





**FELICITACIONES**

## SPANISH STUDENTS



**Aadrika Ganguly**  
**IX-A**



**Samriddhi Mukherjee**  
**IX-A**



**Jagriti Sinha Roy**  
**VIII B**





# CHINESE STUDENTS

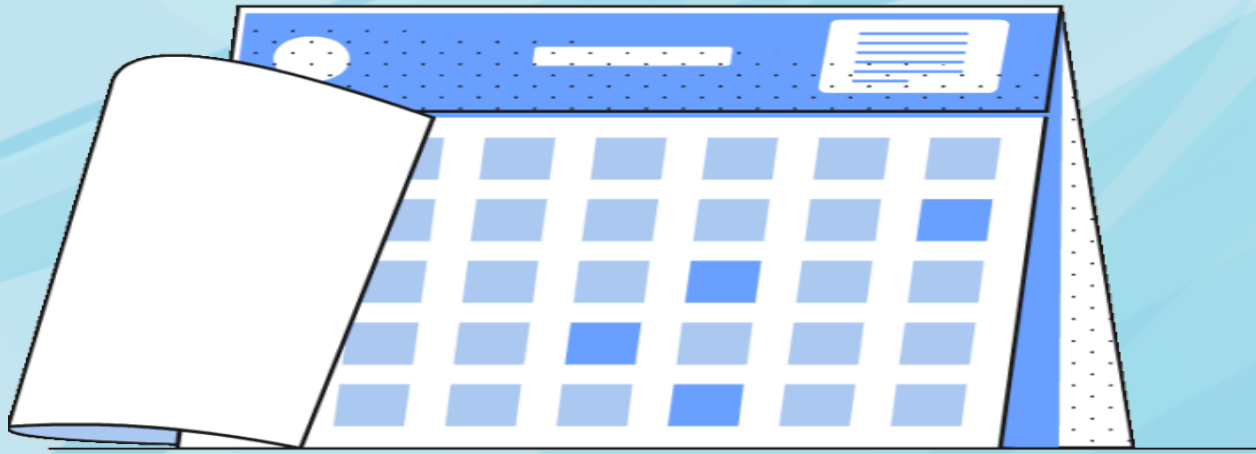
Ashmita Ghosal  
VII C



Sudhriti Hazra  
VII C







Thank you for joining us on this journey around the world.



¡Adiós! Au revoir! 再见!  
See you soon!

Published by The Global Voices Team, The BSS  
School

