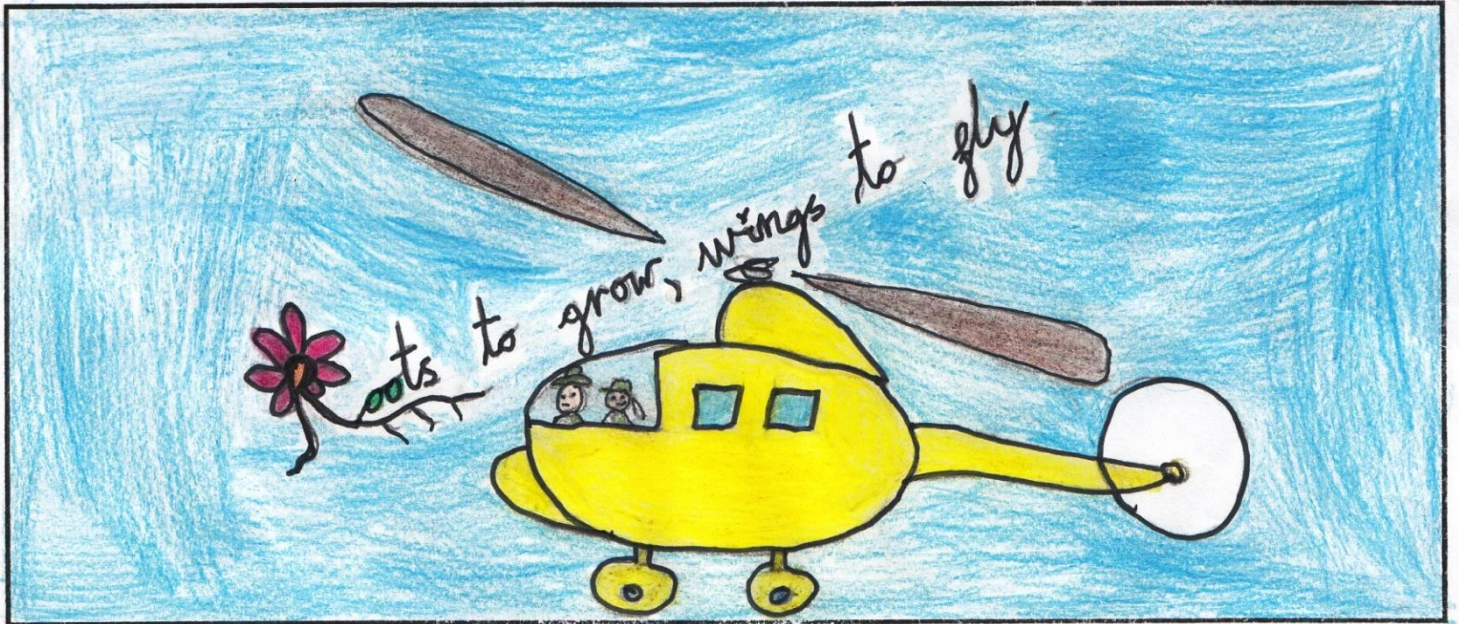


Akrotiri School Newsletter

16th September 2016



Stars and Golden Mentions of the Week

William Macdougall
Jasmyn Eddon
Chloe Edwards
Junior Lockwood
Jack Doherty
Lillie Bury
Sawan Tamling

Tyler Kinloch
Lilian Freeman
Enara Quinlan
Chloe Anders
Layla McLean
Briannah Butler
Kady Smith
Morgan Yeomans



Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back to School

I would like to say a huge welcome to all our pupils, staff and parents as we start our new year. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer break and had lots of fun and family time. I have enjoyed speaking to many of our pupils and hearing about all the adventures that have taken place.

I am pleased to report that all our children and staff settled into their new classes very quickly and I have particularly been very impressed with our Year 1 pupils who have adapted to life in the main school extremely well. We are delighted with their new outdoor space which is nearing completion. We are just waiting for the flooring to be cleared and then the children will be able to enjoy the lovely space outside.

Our new staff have settled well and are now firmly part of the Akrotiri team. We welcomed Mrs Laura Hankinson into FS1, Mr Adam Davies and Mrs Sallyann Taylor to FS2, Miss Amanda Lowe to Year 1, Mr James Bennington to Year 2, Mrs Claire Cotter to Year 4, Mrs Kristy Ashford and Martin Reader to Year 5. They have all been welcomed and supported by their phase teams who are all working together to implement our new and exciting curriculum – the Cornerstones Curriculum. You will be able to hear more about it at our open afternoon and our parent forum – please check the dates later in the newsletter.

Hornets

Unfortunately, we have discovered 5 hornet nests in the main playground during this past week. We have been working very closely with pest control who have been very diligent in checking for the nests and eliminating them when found. Because there are so many, we have been advised that all children should be eating indoors for the next 2 weeks to ensure that there isn't any food outdoors to attract them.

Communication

Our new website is currently under construction and we hope that it will be ready in the next couple of months. Until then, we plan to continue with our newsletter every 2 weeks from now on. Paper copies will continue to go home until we can go paper free with our new website. Please also keep an eye on our notice boards for any school or community announcements. We welcome all communication from parents. Please feel free to make appointments with any member of staff through the main office, telephone or drop in if you have any queries or concerns you would like to discuss.

Rebecca Robinson
Headteacher

Meet our new Teachers

Mrs Hankinson – FS1 Teacher

Mrs Hankinson joins us from Germany, where she worked for SCE for two years. Mrs Hankinson has been teaching within Foundation Stage for five years, having gained her BA Hons in Early Childhood Studies in 2007 she then completed her PGCE at Birmingham City University, specialising in Early Years in 2011. She is very excited to be joining the Akrotiri team on our journey this year and is enjoying meeting and getting to know all the FS1 children and their families. Having spent the last two years exploring Germany with her own family, she is looking forward to discovering a new country and embracing its sunny climate, and of course, the beach!



Mr Davies – FS2 Teacher

Before becoming a teacher Mr Davies worked as an intelligence analyst for both the RAF and latterly Nottinghamshire police. His wife is also a teacher at Akrotiri School and has two young daughters who also attend the school. He holds a BSc in intelligence and security from Staffordshire University and a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) from the University of Derby. Mr Davies arrived in Cyprus upon completing his teacher training in May 2016. He is excited by the opportunity to teach children at such an important time in their school lives. In his spare time he is a member of the Flamingo Theatre Club and performed in a recent production of 'Allo, Allo' he has also recently joined the Akrotiri Squash League.



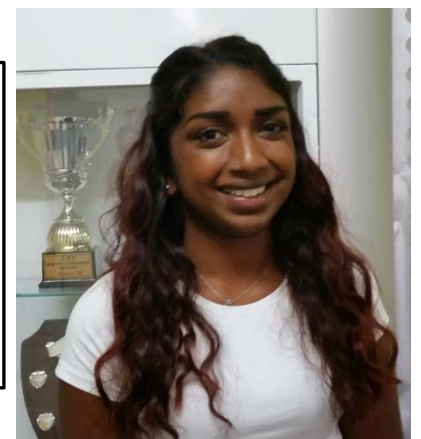
Mrs Taylor – FS2 Teacher

Mrs Taylor has worked for SCE in Germany for the last 5 years. Previous to this she worked in a large school in inner London. She holds a BSc(hons) in Psychology and Criminology and obtained her Early years PGCE in Aberystwyth. She is very excited to have the opportunity to work in Akrotiri School and is looking forward to helping her class develop and grow over the next year. When not looking after her 9 month old son her hobbies include running, cycling and horse riding.



Miss Lowe - Y1 Teacher

Miss Lowe has just moved here from Dhekelia, where she has spent the last year teaching. Before that she taught in Harrogate and enjoyed drinking afternoon tea in Betty's. Her favourite pastimes include exploring Cyprus, visiting art galleries, curling up with a good book and eating chocolate!



Mr Bennington – Y2 Teacher

Mr Bennington previously worked as Assistant Head Teacher at a school in Devon, before bringing his family, which includes his 7-year-old son and 1-year-old daughter, to live in Akrotiri. He has loved the last few weeks since arriving, particularly exploring Cyprus, playing with his children and meeting new people.

Mr Bennington has enjoyed his first week at Akrotiri School; he loves how happy and friendly the children, staff and parents are, and can't wait to teach his class all of the exciting topics over this year, as well as meeting new children at sporting clubs.

His hobbies include playing a range of sports, including football and rugby, playing with his children and spending time with his lovely family.



Mrs Cotter – Y4 Teacher

Mrs Cotter has worked for SCE since 2001 in a number of schools across Germany and Brunei. Previous to her appointment with SCE she worked in London and Preston in the UK but is a true Yorkshire lass at heart!

She is very excited to be here in Cyprus and is looking forward to making new friends and colleagues in a very exciting environment. She loves to travel and to dance and is keen to continue to explore new places within Cyprus.



Mr Reader – Y5 Teacher

Mr Reader previously worked in UK government service for 25 years, both at home and overseas. He joined his wife here in BFC in September 2013. He holds a BA(hons) in Literature and obtained his PGCE from Canterbury Christ Church University in 2015. Many of you will recognise him from in and around the school as he has previously worked as a LSA in Year 6 and latterly as a supply teacher across all year groups. He loves life at Akrotiri School and is really excited by the new and exciting cross-curricula topics.

He is looking forward to the year ahead and to helping inspire all the children he has the honour to teach. His hobbies are running, reading, exploring Cyprus and supporting Liverpool FC.



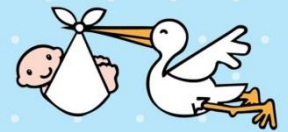


Mrs Ashford – Y5 Teacher

Mrs Ashford has been teaching for 15 years. Graduating from King Alfred's College, Winchester, in 2001 with a BA(hons) in Primary Education. She has taught in both UK schools and overseas and has spent the past nine and a half years teaching at Haig School in Germany. She is really excited to now be teaching at Akrotiri School and is looking forward to a fun year ahead in Year 5. She is looking forward to getting out and about in the local area and exploring more of the island along with her husband and their two dogs.

Mrs Roberts' baby

We would like to congratulate one of our teachers, Mrs Roberts and her husband on the birth of their happy and healthy girl, Megan Haf. She was born on 9th August, 8lbs 11 ounces and both mother and baby are well.



Congratulations!

FS1 classes

Well done to all the Geckos and Seahorses who have settled into school so well. We have been enjoying lots of stories, songs and of course messy play!



FS2 classes

This term FS2's topic is, 'Will you be my friend?' Part of the topic is to look at People Who help Us. After listening to the children's ideas of who helped look after them, we arranged visits from our Caretaker, Office staff and Cleaners. They came into classrooms and the children asked them questions about their jobs. On Tuesday the children had an exciting visit from Katie, who is a paramedic at the Medical Centre. She drove to school in her ambulance, which the children had the opportunity to explore. She also talked about her job and how she helped look after people who were ill or injured. Katie showed the children her 'medical toolkit' bag. She modelled how to test their temperature, listen to their heartbeat and check their throat. The children enjoyed telling her stories of when they had hurt themselves and that they were brave, and that they didn't cry.



Y1 classes

Year 1 children have had a fantastic start to the year. We have all settled in well and are working hard. We have enjoyed looking at our class story about 'Pete the Cat' and his brand new white shoes. We have enjoyed joining in with singing Pete's song and are really good at retelling it! After writing sentences about Pete's story, we have now started to innovate the story and add our own ideas. We have also been buying shoes in our shoe shop, drawing Pete on the computers and using pens, designing some new shoes for Pete and creating zig-zag books!



Y2 classes

In Year 2 we launched our 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures' topic this week with a fantastic 'Messy Monday Morning'! We squigged and slopped and glooped and squelched our way through an exciting array of hands-on (and feet-on) activities, and had a thoroughly messy time!

Y3 classes

Year 3 children have launched into their topic 'Scrumptiddlyumptious' with great enthusiasm. We were all lucky enough to receive chocolate bars from the Great Willy Wonka himself, and these contained golden tickets. We are now well on our way with our adventure in chocolate. In English, we have started studying the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', with a focus on setting descriptions.

This week we started experimenting with chocolate and by the end of the half term we will have created our own chocolate bars.

We are finding out what it is like to be in *A World of Pure Imagination!*

Year 4 classes

The children have all settled in well and are getting used to the new routines. But...a strange thing happened on Monday!

There was a terrible mess left outside the Year 4 classrooms. We followed a trail with clues; it led to a weird scene!

'Double, double toil and trouble
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.'

Year 4 learned this poem and we are now writing our own magic spell poem.

This will engage the children for our Topic called "Potions".



Y5A – Escher Class

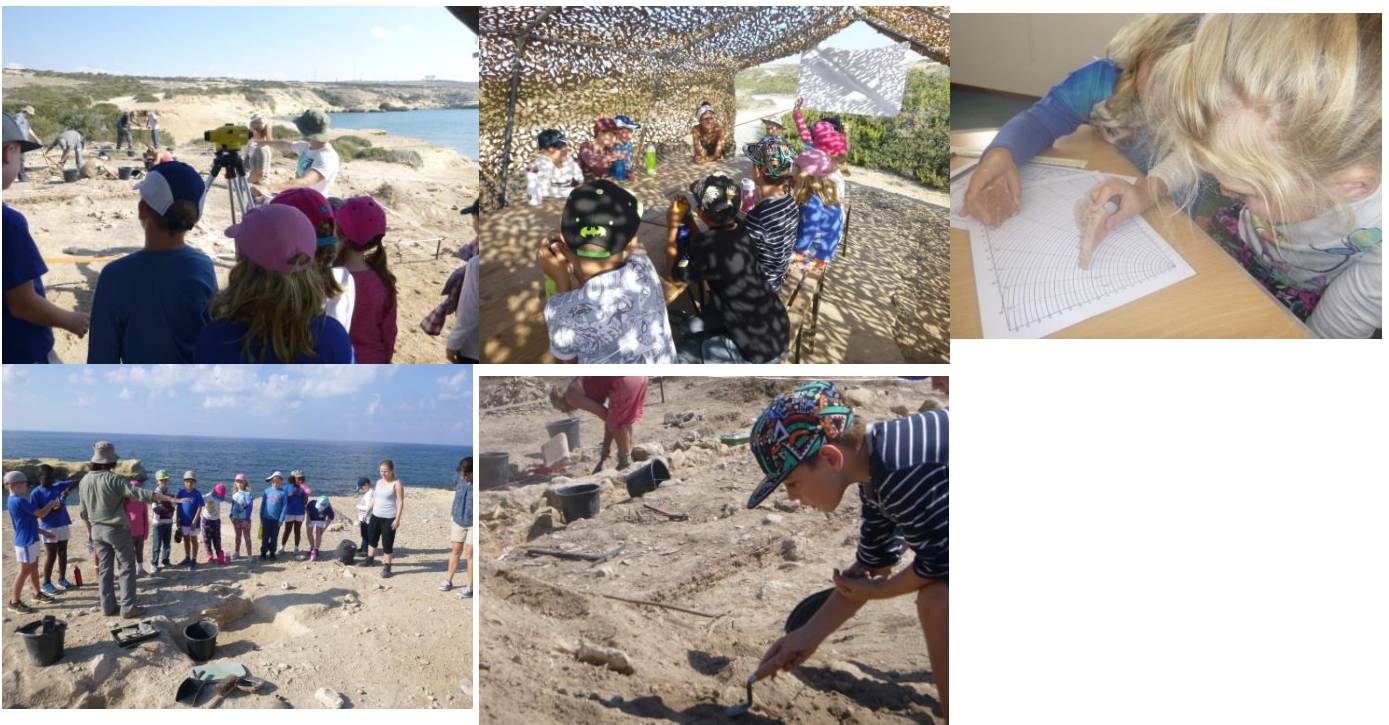
I am extremely impressed with how all the children in Escher class have settled so well into the new school year. Our topic for this half term of 'Peasants, Princes and Pestilence' has got off to a flying start this week with us meeting the gruesome character of pestilence.

Y5R – Van Gogh class

The Van Gogh class has settled into Year 5 life extremely quickly. They are all fully engaged with our half-term topic of 'Peasants, Princes and Pestilence' (certainly the personification of the Black Death appears to have left a lasting image in their young imaginations!) The atmosphere in class is wonderful and we hope the environment will soon show the full potential of all class members; helping them shine and make excellent progress across the curriculum.

Archaeological dig at Dreamer's Bay

This week some of our Y3/Y4 pupils had the opportunity to visit the archaeological dig at Dreamer's Bay. The site is being excavated by a joint venture between the University of Leicester and Operation Nightingale, to further explore the history of the region. Our pupils explored the site, talked with the archaeologists and watched them at their work, ordered a timeline and even took part in a dig themselves! We then returned to Akrotiri School where we learnt how to predict the scale of pots from small pieces and draw what they might have looked like.



Y6 class

Year 6 also visited the archaeological site.

'We really enjoyed meeting the archaeologists and seeing the pottery they had discovered.' (Leah)

'We learned about the different civilisations and we had to sort out different stuff that different people had.' (Vinnie)

'I liked the part when they dug up the ground and found the wall boundaries and they thought that they found a house or a temple.' (Alfie)



Important safety/medical notes and reminders for Akrotiri School

Important Message from School Nurse

If your child has a current medical condition for which they require emergency medication to be held in school (asthma inhalers / adrenaline auto-injectors/ anti-histamine), please ensure that this is brought into the school office.

Any medicines must have a pharmacy prescription label attached and be in date.

If you require further information, please contact
Andrea Mason (SSAFA School Nurse).
(Monday – Thursday 0800-1300hrs) 99618375 / 25275832

Sickness Bug

A reminder about returning to school following illness:

In line with NHS recommendations and best practise in UK schools, children with diarrhoea and / or vomiting should be absent from school for a minimum of 48 hours after their symptoms have gone.

This period of time helps to stop the spread of infection to other children and staff.

It is important to inform us as early as possible, if your child is going to be absent. We ask for your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

Parking And Drop Off – Foundation And Main School Car Parks

Could we remind all parents the school drop off and parking arrangements, designed to help improve child safety, are in either the sports pavilion car park, by the small rank of shops (florist, hairdressers etc), or in the main Ermes car park and escort their children into the school grounds.

Main school front car park is for school staff only.
Foundation car park is for school staff only.



Playground Equipment

As per our risk assessment, children are closely supervised by prescribed ratios of staff during play and, it is for this reason that we **must ask parents not to allow any children to use the equipment during drop off and pick up times, as these are not supervised by staff.**

We do realise that the area is very inviting to children but we would like to ask for your cooperation on this matter. Thank you.

Safe Use Of Scooters And Bikes

We would like all pupils to stay safe at all times. Please wear a helmet when riding your bike or scooter.

Please walk with your bike/scooter while you are on school grounds.

Please take care when riding around camp especially near crossings and at the bottom of the hills near to school.

There have been a few incidents of pupils not being safe recently so could all parents also assist us by reminding any child they see acting in an unsafe manner that the rules are in place to ensure everyone's safety.

Dogs in School

May we remind you that dogs are not permitted anywhere on the school grounds. Although largely well behaved and patient, they can be intimidating for small children or anyone who is unused to dogs.

We also ask that in addition, dogs are not tethered to our boundary fences during drop-off and pick-up. This includes the wire-fenced area opposite the front of Foundation Stage.



Smoking

Akrotiri School and Foundation Stage grounds are designated as non-smoking areas. This includes the use of e-cigarettes.

Your co-operation is appreciated.

Pupil Contact Details/Information

If anyone has new contact details e.g. new telephone numbers or have moved house, please can you let the office know your new details.

Call on 25276167 or email Gill.Eardley@sceschools.org

Staff Email Addresses of Akrotiri School

Headteacher – Mrs Robinson: Rebecca.Robinson@scschools.org
Deputy Head – Miss Brown: Louise.Brown@scschools.org
Assistant Head & Foundation Stage Leader – Mrs Ball: Rachel.Ball@scschools.org
Assistant Head & Safeguarding – Miss Coates: Janet.Coates@scschools.org

Y6 - Michael Collins: Michael.Collins@scschools.org
Y6 - Lisa Humphries: Lisa.Humphries@scschools.org
Y5 - Martin Reader: Martin.Reader@scschools.org
Y5 - Kristy Ashford: Kristy.Ashford@scschools.org
Y4 - Claire Cotter: Claire.Cotter@scschools.org
Y4 - Mary Keoghan: Mary.Keoghan@scschools.org
Y4 - Fiona Kirby: Fiona.Kirby@scschools.org
Y3 - Vicky Flynn: Victoria.Flynn@scschools.org
Y3 - Andrea Vincent (Kemble): Andrea.Vincent@scschools.org
Y2 - Holly Davies: Holly.Davies@scschools.org
Y2 - Jennifer Harvey: Jennifer.Harvey@scschools.org
Y2 - James Bennington: James.Bennington@scschools.org
Y1 - Beki Stevens: Rebecca.Stevens@scschools.org
Y1 - Andy Bowles: Andrew.Bowles@scschools.org
Y1 - Adam Tomlin: Adam.Tomlin@scschools.org
Y1 - Amanda Lowe: Amanda.Lowe@scschools.org
FS2 - Rachel Plant: Rachel.Plant@scschools.org
FS2 - Lindsay Winslade: Lindsay.Winslade@scschools.org
FS2 - Adam Davies: Adam.Davies@scschools.org
FS2 - Sally-Ann Taylor: Sally-Ann.Taylor@scschools.org
FS1 - Michelle Boyd: Michelle.Boyd@scschools.org
FS1 - Laura Hankinson: Laura.Hankinson@scschools.org

Office Staff:

Main School: Mrs Photi: School Secretary & Recruitment – Koula.Photi@scschools.org
Mrs Eardley: Admin & Mobility – Gill.Eardley@scschools.org

Foundation Stage: Mrs Quinlan: Foundation Secretary – Clare.Quinlan@scschools.org

Academic Calendar for 2016-2017

AUTUMN TERM 2016	
Staff Training Days	Thursday 1 st and Friday 2 nd September
First day for children	Monday 5 th September
Open Afternoons Parents/Teachers meeting	Week Beginning 3 rd October More details re dates and timings will follow in the next Newsletter
Half Term	Monday 24 th October – Friday 28 th October
Parents Forum FS1-Y6	Wednesday 9 th November in Foundation Stage Hall 1230-1330 hrs.
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 14 th December

SPRING TERM 2017	
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 3 rd January
First day for children	Wednesday 4 th January
Half Term	Monday 20 th February – Friday 24 th February
Last Day of Term	Friday 7 th April

SUMMER TERM 2017	
First Day of Term	Monday 24 th April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1 st May
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June
Last Day of Term	Friday 21 st July

Community News



ssafa Lifelong support
for our Forces
and their families

Contact:
Sian, Community Children's Nurse, 99618366

Tel: 00357 2527 5832

Email: BFC-SSAFA-HQ-ADMIN@mod.uk

Website: www.ssafa-cyprus.org

SIMPLY DIFFERENT

Simply Different is an opportunity for your child and siblings to meet new friends and take part in a variety of fun activities – Home start are on hand to provide additional family support.

October 2016

Mini Olympics

Monday 17th October 2016

14.00 – 16.00

**Chaplaincy Centre,
RAF Akrotiri.**

Come and have some fun.

Refreshments available.