

# Akrotiri School Newsletter

31<sup>st</sup> March 2017



## Stars and Golden Mentions of the Week

**Aston Ellis  
Ffion Warlow  
Oliver Stewart  
Erin Unsworth  
Jessica Payne  
Hope Davies  
Jessica Edwards  
Jorja Bella Furness  
Lewis Frame  
Amara Boothby**

**Jenson Pilgrim  
Cerys Holley  
Cole Brett  
James Martin  
Charlie Smyth  
Oliver Thomas  
Rowan Kemble  
Zoe Prince  
Bella Bowman**



# Stars and Golden Mentions of the Week ending 24th March.

**Darcey Backshall  
Daisy McGowan-Hough  
Ava Winslade  
Matilda Baker  
Megan Towill  
Autumn Deeves  
Chloe Edwards  
Seth Rodgers  
Freya Moore  
Tyler Dent**

**Olivia Ellis  
Liam Cadice  
Millie Bowles  
Finlay Stevens  
Amara Richards  
Emily Stewart  
Aurora Deeves  
Millie Firth  
Cameron Law**

# Stars and Golden Mentions of the Week ending 17th March.

**Jamie Hodgson  
Max Greenwood  
Isabel Wilson De Los Reyes  
Sophia Hazell  
Hayley Dye  
Ethan Langdon  
Summer Clough  
Clark Evans  
Harley Gulliver  
Ethan Dewan**

**Hollie Thirkell  
Bella Dalkin  
Sophia Wilson De Los Reyes  
Logan Fletcher  
Victoria Sansom  
Holly Trigg  
Katie Sprawson  
Connor Edwards  
Nia Edwards**



# Head Teacher Update

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

## **Staffing**

As we approach the end of another term in school, we must bid a fond farewell to two of our teachers. Miss Plant has been teaching the FS2 Bats class for the past year as Mrs Brett has been on her maternity leave. We would like to say a huge thank to Miss Plant for all her hard work and commitment. We are sorry she is leaving but delighted that she is not going too far – she has secured another position in Episkopi School. We will be welcoming Mrs Brett back to school full time on the first day back following the Easter holidays. She will be in class next Wednesday and Thursday for handover with Miss Plant to ensure a smooth transition.

Mrs Hankinson will also be leaving us next week. She has made a big impression in the short space of time she has been here and we are sorry that she is leaving. She has been teaching our FS1 Geckos Class. She also is not moving very far as she has a new position in Dhekelia. We are very pleased to be welcoming Mrs Bowles as her replacement. Mrs Bowles has worked in several of our classes across the school and we are pleased that she is now becoming full time and joining the FS1 team.

We would like to thank both Miss Plant and Mrs Hankinson for all their hard work and we wish them both well in their future positions.

## **Ofsted**

As you are all aware, we had a visit from Ofsted last week. We had two inspectors who were here for 3 days. We enjoyed their visit as it gave us the opportunity to show off all the great improvements that have taken place during the past year. During their visit they looked at all elements of school from the learning and teaching, the learning environment and all aspects of leadership and management. They were very pleased with what they saw and the pupils definitely impressed them the most as they were so well mannered and polite. I was very proud of all members of school. We were very pleased with the visit and we are now eagerly awaiting the publication of the report. This will either be at the end of next week or straight after the Easter holidays.

## **84 Squadron Mosaic**

Ann Clayton has almost become an honorary member of our staff team! She has worked very hard these past few weeks to complete the mosaic which is looking fantastic. We are so pleased that every member of school has participated in creating the mosaic. We aim to complete it during the next two weeks by painting the background. We are hoping to have a grand opening during the first week back after the Easter holidays. We will keep you posted.

## **End of term**

Time seems to pass very quickly. We can't believe that we are nearly at the end of another term in school. It has been a very busy term with lots of exciting learning with our new Cornerstones topics, plenty of school trips and visitors to school. I hope that you all have a fabulous break over the Easter holidays. We return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Please can I remind you that we finish for the holidays at 12pm next Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

**Rebecca Robinson**  
**Headteacher**

## FS2 classes

This week in FS2 we have been looking at the story of Easter and the children have been writing sentences about it. The children have designed their own Easter cards and have also designed a basket or carrier to protect a special egg. The children have practised their doubling in maths and revised the teen numbers.

It was a pleasure to invite all our children's mums in last Friday, thank you for supporting this event, we hope you liked it!





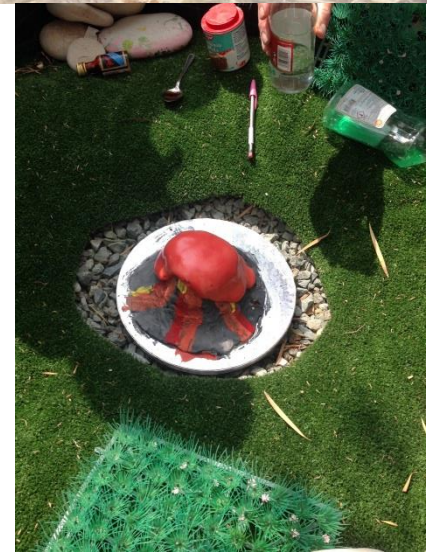
**Year 1** classes have jumped wholeheartedly into their Rio De Vida topic this half term and have loved researching facts about the Amazon rainforest and the animals that live there. The fact files the children have written have been very informative but as we approach the end of our topic, it's all about carnival! The children have been brushing up their Samba dance skills, making instruments to play the beats they have made up, not to mention donning their creative hats to design and build floats, costumes and masks for the parade itself. The parade is on the last day of term and the whole school is coming to join in the fun!

*Year 2* classes visited Cyprus Land this week! We had an amazing time learning about all things medieval. We had a turn at archery and weaving, learned about armour, ate in the Knight's Canteen, and walked around the incredible 3d model of Cyprus!

*The day was finished off by a battle between two Knights... and we crowned a new Queen of Cyprus!*



**Year 3** classes have been enjoying their topic 'Tremors'. We have found out about volcanoes and even made our own volcano models. It was great fun exploding them. In our history lessons we have found out all about Pompeii. Our 'Escape from Pompeii' stories are amazing and we are looking forward to reading them to our friends next week. 'Will we escape from the exploding volcanoes?'



**Year 4** classes have had a really interesting time learning all about the process of digestion:

We found out that our brain sees or smells food and gets our saliva ready. Then, we slice the food with our incisors. After that, the food is ground up by the molars. Your tongue then helps you to swallow down the oesophagus. The oesophagus is a long tube that squeezes the food into your stomach.

In the stomach, gastric juices help to churn the food and break it into particles.

After that, the mush passes into the intestines where all the nutrients are absorbed by the body. What is left over is waste which passes out of the body.

We did not just use books to find out this information - we actually had a go ourselves. We smelled food, cut it up, ground it up, added saliva (water), then gastric juices (cola). This was like the stomach so we churned the food to make it into small particles.



## Y5 - Star Gazers

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, the Year 5 children came back into school at 1800hrs to spend time searching the night sky as part of their 'Stargazers' topic work. After a brief period in class being shown the relevant apps to use, the children undertook their own investigations on the KS2 playground.

Briannah Butler, Y5R captured the enjoyment of all, saying, "I really enjoyed Y5's Stargazing event. We use the iPads to track the ISS (International Space Station). Working in pairs, we were able to identify several planets and constellations and record them on our data capture sheets."

Thanks also to Mrs Quinlan for volunteering as our First Aider.

As well becoming keen trackers of the ISS from home - as it overflies Akrotiri (check out the free GoISSWatch app in the App Store) - they have also created some fantastic space helmets and solar system models, which are making our classrooms look fantastic. To top it all, they have also created an absolutely fantastic 'planets' wall display in the Y5 corridor. If you get time, check it out. It's out of this world!



## **Year 6 Evacuation to Netherpiddle**

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March (1940), our Year 6 children were evacuated from London to the Wiltshire village of Netherpiddle. The children were welcomed into the village by the Billeting Officers and spent their first evening at the Springtime Reception held in the Village Hall. The reception was filled with fun activities such as dancing and singing led by Vera Lynn, sewing activities, a beetle drive and a wonderful meal of sausages, mash and beans.



## Akrotiri School PTA - Mother's Day Sale

**Last Thursday and Friday all the children from FS to Y6 came to the Mother's Day Sale and had a fantastic time choosing their gift, paying for it and writing their own label independently. The look of pride on their faces said it all and at the same time we raised €160.38 which will be used to purchase items for school. A big thank you to all parents who supported this event.**

### A message from Sgt Malcolm McLean PTA Chairman

Akrotiri School Parents Teacher Association (PTA) is back, formally known as Friends of Akrotiri School.

We decided that we should change our name back to the PTA to create more awareness of our group as it was apparent people didn't fully know what FAS was or did. The PTA are here to help support the school and children by organising fundraising events where all the money raised will always go back into the school. Examples of this are the Santa's Grotto that ran in December and the recent purchase of new football kits for the school team. All children when they leave the school will now be presented a teddy bear with the school logo on it as a parting gift bringing fond memories of their time at the school.

All of this has been funded by the PTA.

To make all this possible we need to run events throughout the year and our most recent event was the Mother's Day Gift Sale. We as a committee wanted to say a very big thank you to all the children and parents for supporting this event. I think that everyone will agree that the gifts were brilliant. Our treasurer Sue Williams put a lot of effort in to finding the gifts and with the help from our committee members hosting the sale over the 2 days.

The amount raised was €160.38 from the sale.

We are also looking to host more events throughout the year and we will keep you updated when the plans are in place.

There is also a new Facebook group for you all to join so you can see all the latest information on events and what we are looking to spend our funds on next.

So why not join the group called Akrotiri School Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

**We are always on the lookout for additional committee members and volunteers for events, so why not come along to our next meeting on the Thursday 6th April @ 1345 hrs in the Art Room in the school, or send us a Facebook message.**

*Sgt Malcolm McLean*

*PTA Chairman*





## **'NO HAT - NO PLAY'**

Please could we remind you that  
'No Hat-No Play' policy  
will be fully in place as from  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.**

Children with no hat at playtimes will be required to stay in shaded areas which will restrict their activities considerably. We do sell hats from the School Office for €4.30.

## **Summer School Uniform**

*After Easter holidays, children can wear their summer uniform in school. It is really important that pupils wear the correct uniform. It generates pride, commitment and a high standard. Please support us in raising standards by ensuring your child is dressed in the correct uniform. Thank you. As a reminder, summer uniform is as below:*

### **Girls in summer**

Gingham checked dresses in blue in a sensible style, white socks, or white polo shirt & beige/stone shorts. Sensible footwear, such as shoes or proper sandals. (Not flip-flops or backless sandals).

### **Boys in summer**

Beige/stone shorts, white short-sleeve shirts, or white polo shirt, white socks and sensible footwear such as shoes or proper sandals (not flip flops or backless sandals).

## 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.



## LEAVING AKROTI RI SCHOOL

It would be really helpful if you could let us know if you are likely to be posted before September 2017.

We are planning now for the new academic year and the clearer we are about pupil numbers the better we can organise classes and teacher responsibilities.



## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### SPRING TERM 2017

Last Day of Term	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April <b>School closes at 1200 hrs</b>
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### SUMMER TERM 2017

First Day of Term	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Last Day of Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

### SCHOOL TRIPS / EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

YEAR GROUPS	WHAT AND WHEN	TIME	WHERE	COMMENTS
<b>FS1-Y6</b>	Big Arts Week Week beginning Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May			All week

# School Academic Calendar for 2017/2018

## **AUTUMN TERM 2017**

Staff Training Days	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
First day for children	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December

## **SPRING TERM 2018**

First Day for children	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day of Term	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March

## **SUMMER TERM 2018**

Staff Training Day	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
First Day for Children	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Holiday	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July