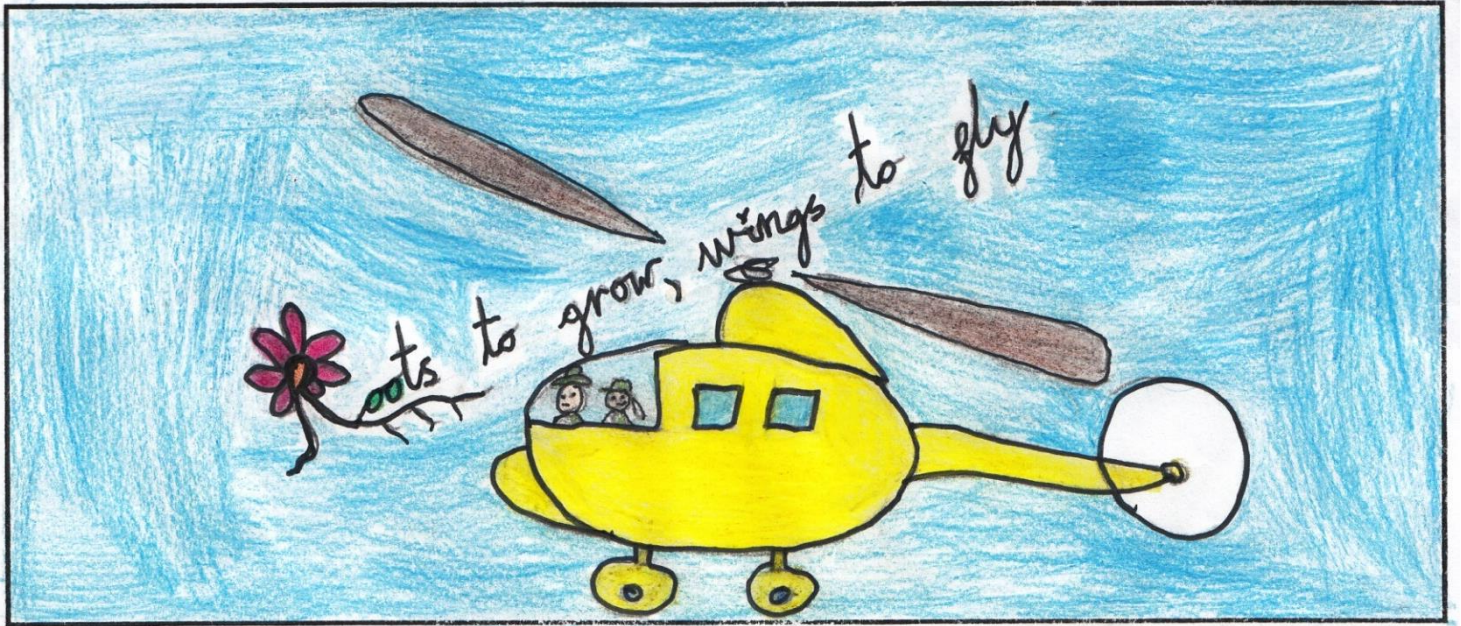


Akrotiri School Newsletter

14th July 2017



Stars and Golden Mentions

**Aston Ellis
Merrilees Belcher
Calvin Lovence
Freya Mills
Archie Moore
Kayden Royle
James Critchley
Isabella Lancaster
Noah Jarvis
Tayler Wills**

**Maddie Firth
Isaac Taylor
Grace Kenrick-Wilks
Sean McGann
Theo Ball
Owen Watson
Nathan Cutmore
Chloe Reeves
Josh Allen**

Stars and Golden Mentions



Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

End of Year Thanks

Welcome to our last newsletter of this academic year. What a year it has been! I would like to take this opportunity to give as many thanks as possible to all the people who have made this past school year so successful.

As you are all aware, Akrotiri School has been on a rapid journey of improvement this past year as we have implemented many new initiatives and changes across all areas of school, in order to raise progress and attainment for all our pupils. I was very proud of the whole staff team when Ofsted came in March this year and awarded us our Good grading with Outstanding for our pupil behaviour and welfare. This was great validation for all our hard work and commitment from the whole staff team and the hard work and excellent behaviour from our pupils. I would like to say a huge thank you to every single member of the staff team and our pupils. They really are a team to be proud of.

The support we have received from the wider school team has also been fantastic. Our SGC have undergone lots of structural changes this year with Group Captain Blackburn at the helm as Chair. He has driven many of the improvements and shows great support to the school. We have also received support from the PTA as they have worked hard to fundraise for whole school projects. Last week their hugely successful Rock n Roll Bingo raised a massive €600 which will go to our new outdoor classroom, that we are planning to build next year with the help of Sgt Mark Porter and his team of skilled craftsmen at the A&G Workshops. Dan O'Connor and his team from DIO are also a huge support with our many development projects.

Head Teacher Update (contd)

I would also like to thank all our parents and carers who have come along with us on our journey. I have always been so delighted with parent attendance at school events and we have received so much support throughout the year when we have put out a call for helpers.

So another year ends and a new one will soon begin! We are already looking forward to the next year and I shall enjoy reporting to you as the year progresses on our developments and achievements in school. I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful summer break and we will look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Wednesday the 7th September.

Big Art's Week

What a fantastic Big Art's Week we have just had! Our Art's Leader Miss Flynn, co-ordinated a very successful week full of music, art and drama. All our work revolved around our birthday celebrations as we celebrated 60 years of Akrotiri School. It was fantastic to see the exciting work taking place and I am sure that you will love the art work that will soon be on display in and around the school. Many thanks to Miss Flynn for such a successful week.

Much of the fun during the week came from filming our video which was directed and filmed by our very own Mr Bowles, AKA Bowles Spielberg! He has filmed our children both in school, and out and about the station dancing for our video. We have been so pleased that the sections visited danced with us and joined in the fun. Many thanks to 'Mr Bowles Spielberg' for his hard work. He has filmed and edited the film which will be previewed at the cinema next Wednesday at 2.30pm. You are all invited. For those of you who can't make it, please feel free to visit the school at the end of the day on Thursday where we will play the video on a loop until 2pm. The DVDs will be available to order with a suggested donation of €5 at all the viewings. All money raised will go towards our School Fund.

Staffing

As we reach the end of the school year, we always have to say a very fond farewell to members of staff who are moving onto pastures new. We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Jennie Harvey who leaves us next week to return with her family to the UK. She has worked at Akrotiri for 5 years and has been a valued member of staff and latterly, a middle leader. She will be missed by us all and we wish her luck for the future. We are also sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Adam Davies and Mr Martin Reader, who have completed their NQT induction years with us. It has been an absolute pleasure having them both on the staff team. Their contribution has been great and we will look forward to hearing of their future successes. We are sorry to be saying farewell to Mrs Vicky Greenwood who also returning to the UK. We are very grateful to her for working in our extra FS1 classroom since January. Mrs Emily Hanslip has also been working in our extra FS1 classroom recently and we would also like to thank her for her continued hard work. We are also sorry that Mrs Anne Marie Carlisle is leaving us this summer too. She has been a valued member of our support team and we wish her well in her move back to the UK.

We are looking forward to welcoming some new members of the team. Miss Lucy King is looking forward to joining us from Germany and Miss Rachel Plant will be returning to cover Mrs Taylor's maternity leave. We are also delighted to be welcoming Mrs Nia Roberts back in September as she is returning from her maternity leave.

Rebecca Robinson
Headteacher

A Message from RAF Akrotiri SSAFA

Dear Akrotiri Primary School,

On behalf of the RAF Akrotiri SSAFA in Service Committee, I would like to sincerely thank you for joining in with our annual CAMO Day on Friday 23th June 2017.

The day raised over €450.00 which will help towards allowing the SSAFA Committee here at RAF Akrotiri to continue its support of our serving personnel and their families.

Your attendance and time was very much appreciated and once again, thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Rachael Clarke

Rachael Clarke

RAF Akrotiri SSAFA in Service Committee Chair

Thanks Mrs Greenwood!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Greenwood and wish her and her family a smooth move back to the UK. Mrs Greenwood has been teaching in the FS1 Turtle class since January and has ensured that all the children have had the best start to their school career. So Mrs Greenwood, thank you and good luck for the future.

Big Arts Week (BAW)

Last week we had a very successful BAW. The whole week started in style by a visit from some of the RAF Akrotiri Voluntary Band who played well known tunes such as Mamma Mia and Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machine to all the children in Years 1-6. They also talked to the children about the instruments they were playing. The children thoroughly enjoyed the concert by the band.

At the beginning of the week Mr Bowles began the filming of all the youngest children in the school FS1 ready for our dance DVD to commemorate the school's 60th birthday. They all set a high standard with their dancing and very impressive air guitar playing! During the week all the classes were filmed by Mr Bowles and all the Key Stage 2 classes were filmed 'on location' around the station. A huge thank you to the sections around camp who hosted the classes especially the Fire section, Air Traffic Control Tower, 84 Sqn, Air Terminal and Dog Section as well as the Station Medical Centre. It was great to see so many of you joining in the dances and becoming part of the DVD.

Students from St. John's School were here all week, along with Mrs Hayley Lister, leading some drama workshops. All the children from FS2 to Year 5 took part in these drama activities and thoroughly enjoyed them. A big thank you, to the students for working with us during the week.

There was more musical support during the week provided by Cyprus Music Service. Mrs Millard worked with all the children in Y2 teaching them some Welsh songs and dancing, Mrs Betley worked with FS2 teaching them some African drumming and Mr McVicar worked with Year1 teaching them how to play the P-bone which is a plastic lighter version of a trombone. All the children loved the opportunity to enhance the normal music provision they have in school.

Years 3, 5 and 6 had the opportunity to further develop their art skills by working with Mr Bougaerd from St John's School. He worked with all classes developing their painting skills and showing Years 5 and 6 how to enlarge some art work that they had produced. The finished artwork will go up around school so keep your eyes open to see what the children managed to create!

Finally on the last day of BAW many classes had a birthday party to celebrate the school's birthday. The school band closed the week by playing in assembly for Years 1-6.

What an amazing week to celebrate the Arts. Over the next few days and weeks the completed artwork will start to appear around school. Mr Bowles is currently editing the DVD and we plan to have it ready for a preview next week. Many thanks to the cinema for allowing us to have our first showing on the big screen! It will take place on Wednesday 19th July at 1430 hrs with the doors opening at 14.15 hrs.

Big Arts Week (cont)

In order to give you an enjoyable memory of your child's time in Akrotiri School and to support our school fundraising, we will be selling copies of the DVD for €5. This will allow us to recoup our costs and add to our School fund. Order forms will be available after the screening and in school. Please ensure that all orders are pre-paid. If you are leaving the island please ensure we have a forwarding address.

For those of you who are unable to attend the Cinema screening on Wednesday, we will have the video playing in the School Hall on a loop on Thursday, straight after school.

Finally 'thank you' to everyone who made the week a huge success.

Miss Flynn
Arts curriculum Team Leader

Big Arts Week Highlights



FS2 Mrs Brett learning how to play djembe drums with Mrs Betley from CMS.

Year 3 Mrs Kemble's class with their art work.



Year 3 Miss Flynn class with their art work.



Year 4 Ms Keoghan's class taking part in drama activities



E-Safety – Important Information

There have been serious concerns raised about children in MoD schools on island accessing programs or apps where they post images or videos of themselves singing or dancing for others to see. This has led to teasing from other children and further investigation has uncovered some very disturbing news.

Specifically 'music.ly' and 'live.ly' have been found to allow children as young as nine to be sent sexually explicit messages and to be groomed. Both sites/apps are aimed at the thirteen plus age group.

Our priority is the safety of all of our children and we would encourage parents to search online for: **channel 4 news music.ly**

The above site has full information.

We take e-safety very seriously in school and conduct regular learning sessions with the children and have strict filters and controls over our networks.

If you would like some advice or more information please contact Mr McCool at school.



FS2 have thoroughly enjoyed their Space and Technology topic. The children have had the opportunity to meet staff from Olive Harvest and try some space food. They have designed and created their own space rockets and aliens.

The children have been excited to watch their sunflowers growing and they all tried using different mediums to create their own sunflower pictures and labelling the different parts of the plant.

The children also have been learning to programme the Bee-bots to rescue the alien's underpants and to scan QR codes with the i-pads and then decode the clues.

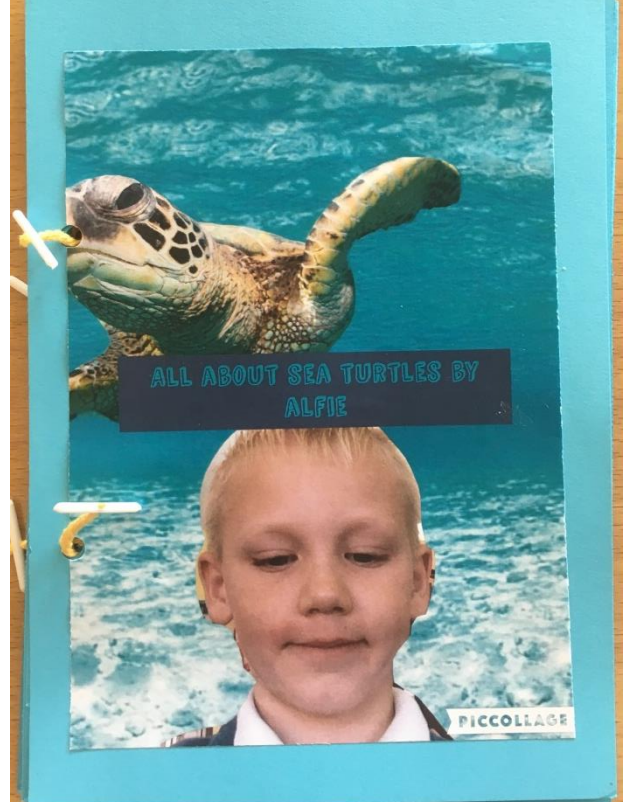


Year 1 had a fabulous week for big arts week. We looked at Paul Klee and recreated his art work using tissue, paint and pastels. We really enjoyed being noisy with Mr McVicar where we played the pBuzz. We played lots of drama games with some students from St. Johns, it was really fun.



Y2 Britto Class

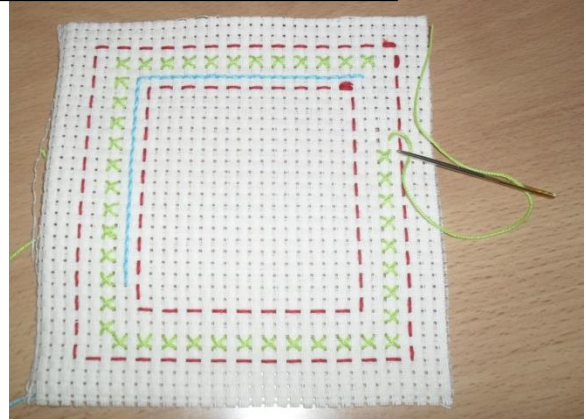
Britto class have had an awesome year this year! Not only have we moved classrooms, but we have also gained some fantastic friends (and lost some on the way.) We have been part of fabulous learning experiences, including a magical Christmas performance, visiting Cyprus Land and Kolossi Castle and performing an unforgettable 'Pirates versus Mermaids' show! Our learning has taken us to the caves of dragons, past marvellous medicines, to the shores of Australia, into space and to the depths of the sea - and the writing we have produced has been astonishing, so good in fact, we produced some for the Turtle Watch! We have loved learning as a class this year, accepting challenge, rising to the occasion and showing how resilient we are. We are now ready to make the move to Year 3 and take all of our wonderful learning with us. Phew...that was a great year!



Year 3 had a fantastic time during Big Arts Week. On Tuesday we worked with Mr Bougaerd from St. John's school. He helped us to start our 6 different panels, each one representing an artist from one of the decades that the school has been open.

This has brought the end to an exciting year. All of Year 3 have worked so hard in their first year in KS2 and enjoyed all the opportunities it has offered such as swimming, taking part in sports tournaments and learning to play musical instruments. After a well-earned summer's holiday they are all looking forward to the challenges of Year 4.

Y4 CLASSES



We have been learning to sew and have used running stitch, cross stitch and back stitch to create a design.

Work in progress!



We used lots of different art techniques to create these stunning Viking longboat collages. It was hard work, but it was worth it! The children enjoyed dressing up as Vikings and playing '9 Men's Morris' which is one the world's earliest board games.

Finlay Stevens even created a Viking longboat chocolate cake as a homework project! The children have worked extremely hard this year and are now looking forward to Year 5!



It has been a hectic but fun final half term in Y5 classes. In addition to putting the final touches and polish to the fantastic English and Maths skills acquired in Year 5, we have crammed in: Bikeability, two author visits, KS2 Sports Day, swimming lessons, a swimming gala, art and DT enrichment days, Camo Day, Year 5 assessment tests, two poster competitions, pen pal letters, Big Arts Week, the 'Don't Stop Me Now' video at 84 Sqn and a Science workshop with staff from Newcastle University.

The summer approaches and it is clear that everyone in Year 5 deserves a long and restful break before... we go again! Well done, one and all.



Year 6 have taken part in a number of activities with Year 6 from Episkopi School, all aimed at preparing the children for the move to secondary school.

They took part in two 'Risk Days', one at Episkopi where they looked at various aspects of safety awareness in the home. At Akrotiri, they visited 84 Squadron and then went to the swimming pool to do some water-safety activities.



The D&T (design & technology) enrichment day was extremely fun. When we got to Episkopi School, we had a quick break and went into their DT room.

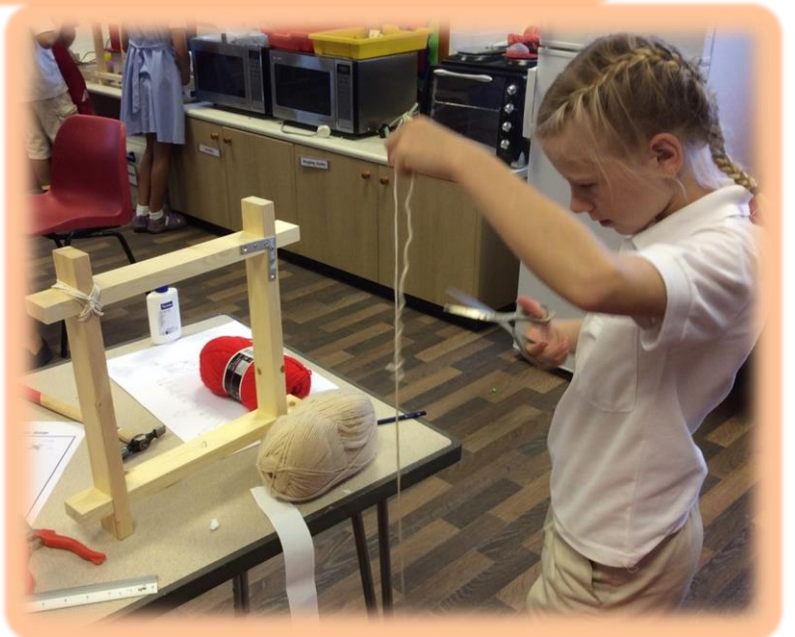
In the room we learnt about shadow boxes and how to make them.

We also made mood boards to give us an idea of which colours we should use for our shadow boxes.

We used a lot of equipment to make them: hammers, nails, screwdrivers, screws, glue guns, different types of glue, string, brackets and lots more.

I really enjoyed the day and if anyone has an opportunity to go to a D&T day, say a big YES!

Syrlene Y5



Primary Schools' Swimming Competition

On Thursday 29th June, 24 children from KS2 took part in a swimming competition between the four MOD Primary Schools in Cyprus. This took place at Akrotiri.

After finishing runners-up for two years in a row, the team was determined to try and wrestle back the trophy. The competition was close was from the start with three schools, Akrotiri, Ayios Nikolaos and Episkopi all closely matched. In the end, the tournament came down to the last race – the Year 6 Freestyle Relay. Incredibly, after 32 races, the competition ended in a draw between Akrotiri and Episkopi and so both schools received winning trophies.

The team from Akrotiri School were all fantastic. Well done to:

Archie Bennington, Millie Bowles, Jack Battersby, Georgie Branton, Tyler Derrick, Zac Simpson, Zoe Prince, Dylan Parr, Millie Cooper, Cameron Law (all winners of their respective individual races); plus Henry De Long, Lili Morgan, Thomas Selway, Cerys Holley, Kyra Leirer, Naomi Williams, Jackamo Ballard, Charlie Abbott, Nathan Cutmore, Jessica Selway, James Battersby, Sienna Derrick, Faith Ruddy, Daisy Bowles for the points they won for the team in either individual races or relays.



HEALTHCARE ISSUES
Message from School Nurse

**“We have been advised not to keep or store medication pertaining to Healthcare Plans, please can all medication be collected from school for example inhalers or auto-injectors. We therefore ask that you arrange to collect any medication held in school for your child, by Friday 21st July at 1200 hrs. Please check the expiry date and ensure that this is brought back into school on the first day of the new term to give to your child’s new class teacher.
Thank you for your co-operation.”**

New Families Arriving On Base during the Summer holiday

If your neighbours are newcomers with school age children, please inform them that school will be open for registration on:

Thursday 31st August
From 0900 to 1100 hrs

PLEASE BRING IN ALL RECORDS FROM YOUR CHILD’S PREVIOUS SCHOOL

For any new **Foundation 1 (3+)** &
Foundation 2 (4+)
age children, please also bring along your child’s
BIRTH Certificate or passport

School Academic Calendar for 2017/2018

AUTUMN TERM 2017

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

SPRING TERM 2018

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| First Day for children | Monday 8 th January |
| Half Term | Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February |
| Last Day of Term | Thursday 29 th March |

SUMMER TERM 2018

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

RAF AKROTIRI BOWLING ALLEY

FRIDAY 21ST JULY 2017 @ 1500

GRAND OPENING OF THE COURTYARD REFURBISHMENT

BY KIND PERMISSION OF GROUP CAPTAIN BLACKBURN MA BSc RAF

ALL RANKS & FAMILIES WELCOME

BAR OPEN

LANES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN TO BOWL FOR **FREE**
(1500-1630)

FOOD AVAILABLE FROM THE WATERING HOLE MENU



SPECIAL DEAL – CHICKEN WINGS AND



CHIPS

