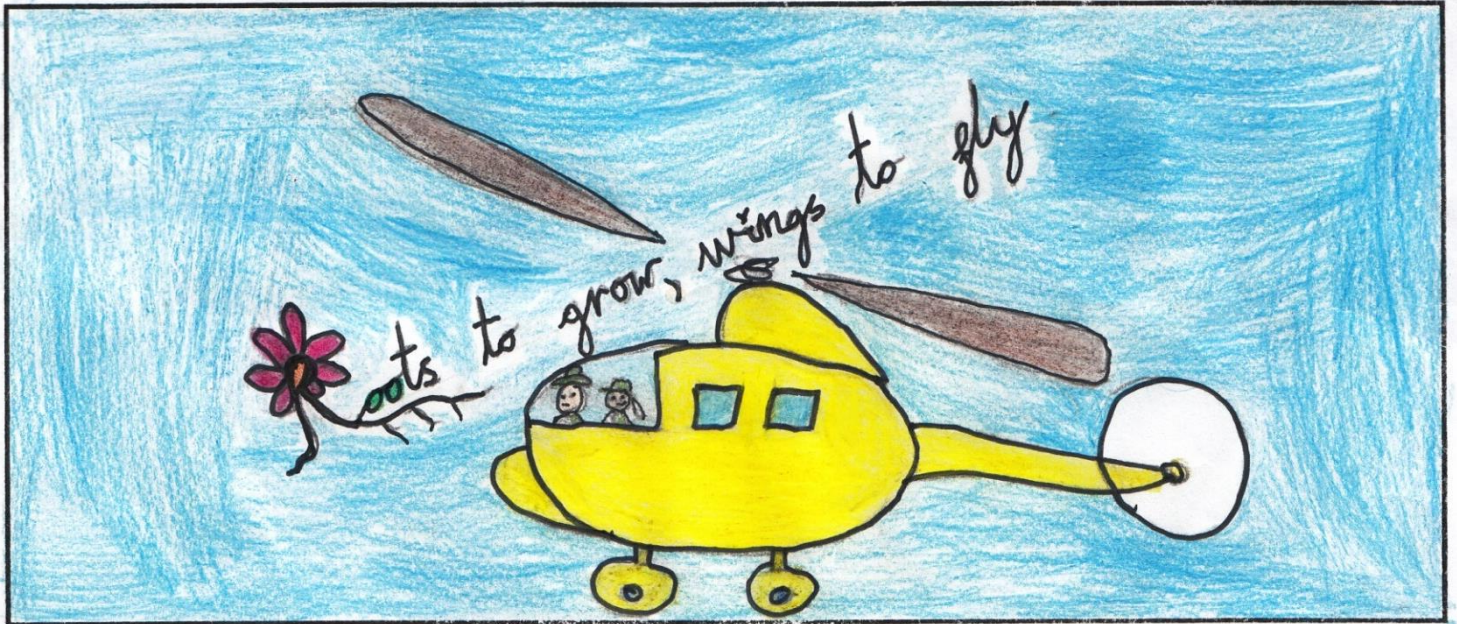


# Akrotiri School Newsletter

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018



## Stars and Golden Mentions

Lily Bartholomew  
John Ness  
Dylan Paxford  
George Johnson  
Tristan Parr  
Ashton Keightley  
Ollie Stewart  
Joshua Brett  
Elliott Knowles  
Zach Easson

Kayden Royle  
Lexi Wickham  
Scarlett Graham-Mortley  
Harley Gulliver  
Cameron Brett  
Owen Gasson  
Emily Stewart  
Ernie Boyd  
Zara Salmon  
Daisy Davies



# Stars and Golden Mentions of the week ending 23rd February 2018

**Arianna Ware  
Finlay Clayton  
Charlotte Moore  
Tayten Hathaway  
Lily Inger  
Jaxon Archer  
Lily Parker  
Noah Bellis  
Archie Moore  
Archie Hurley  
Thomas O'Connor  
Ethan Dewan  
Taylor Allen  
Lennon Tonkin  
Liam Cadice  
Ragan Sansom  
Josh Tomlin  
Jessica Denison  
Connor Edwards  
Rowan Kemble**



## Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Green Monday**

We had a fantastic first day back following half term as we embraced local traditions and celebrated Green Monday to mark the start of Lent. We had lots of fun learning about Green Monday and we enjoyed some local cooking demonstrations from Mr George with the help of our brilliant cleaners. We enjoyed welcoming Padre Matt into school again as he led assemblies for all our pupils with the theme of Lent. Our highlight was certainly taking all of the kites we had made in school out to the field to test them out on the sport's pitch. There were some fantastic designs and I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the judging as we found winners for each year group. Many thanks to Mrs Brett and the Humanities team for organising the day's events.

### **Local School Links**

We thoroughly enjoyed welcoming the Year 5 pupils and accompanying staff from Erimi School into school this week. We all had a fabulous day completing art activities based around a local book that all pupils have read: 'Spanos and the 40 Dragons'. The children have worked together to produce a beautiful wall hanging and a large mosaic both depicting dragons. I am looking forward to seeing them up on display in the school in the near future. Many thanks to Miss Flynn, our Art's Team Leader and the Year 5 staff for their hard work in making the visits so successful.

The staff were very impressed by our pupils, staff and our fabulous environment. The Headteacher and I have already booked a date in the diary to do some joint development work and we are hoping to plan some reciprocal teacher visits and observations in the future.

### **FS Building Works**

What a pleasure it has been to see the building works complete and the children having access to a fantastic new outdoor space. Our long awaited new toilet block and outdoor learning space are just what our new Turtles class needs. The staff teams have already created an exciting and stimulating space for the children to learn. Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this happen for our return from the half term break.

### **Sporting Success**

We celebrated another massive win for Akrotiri last week as our girl's football team attended the cross-island competition last week. They returned home having won all four competitions! A huge well done to all the girls and Mr Collins, their coach.

### **RAF 100**

We enjoyed welcoming Sgt Mark Porter to assembly this week as he brought the wonderful planes that he and his team have made for us to celebrate RAF 100. It has taken his team 6 months to make 10 planes, one to represent each of the ten decades of the RAF. They start with a biplane and end with a Typhoon. They are all to scale and are real works of art. The children are all encouraged to enter the art competition to win the chance to paint one of the planes, which will go on display in the main school entrance. Many thanks to Sgt Porter and the continued support his team show to school.

**Rebecca Robinson**  
**Headteacher**

# GOVERNOR OF THE MONTH

I was so excited when I found out I was to be Governor of the Month for January 2018. The end of the previous term leading up to Christmas holidays was so amazing; January can sometimes be a tough month in comparison.

I knew the children and teachers would be filled with enthusiasm for the New Year and the new term. It was great to be asked to represent the School Governance Council and be part of getting back into studying and learning with all the excitement that brings.

I was invited into school to attend a Golden Mention assembly and was very impressed with how well all the children sang the School song with such great voices. As with all Golden Mentions I was so pleased to hear of the effort the children put in and their work and their support and kindness for each other. This kindness is infectious and it all adds to create the sense of belonging and happiness I feel whenever I visit school.

During this assembly I was introduced to the attendance bear, I'd never met the attendance bear before and I was nearly as thrilled as the children. I've never seen an entire assembly sit bolt upright with such eagerness when the bear was brought out. It was as if they were brought to attention on a drill square! Congratulations to Mrs Brett's class for outstanding attendance.

My next visit to School was on the grand occasion of the visit of HRH Queen Elizabeth II, like with the attendance bear the children were so excited. We sat and discussed Buckingham Palace, the Union Flag, the Queen's dogs and changing of the guard. What a lovely day everyone had.

Thank you to all the teachers and children for making January such an amazing month and I hope February is filled with as much fun and learning.

**Dan O'Connor**  
**Governor of January Month**

As February's Governor of the month, I was invited and attended the FS Assembly on Fri 2 Feb and both Assemblies on Fri 9 Feb just before mid-term.

On the assembly Fri 9 Feb, I also had the honour of presenting the awards for the Half Term Heroes. It was an absolute delight to hear how passionate the children are with their school work and their attitudes to not only the teachers but also their classmates; highlighted in the wording of some of the awards.

On a sadder note, I saw the presentation of goodbye gifts to those who were returning to the UK during the half term break. To hear what they will be missing from their time here in Cyprus shows how much they and their families have really embraced the opportunity of having a posting to such a wonderful place.

I have to say though that the highlight was being witness to the School Band and to hear how they have expanded from just a short time ago when the majority of the band were teachers, to the full complement across all disciplines. All numbers played were done so with much gusto and clear enjoyment from the band members.

To see the achievements of the children, it is clear that they are in the hands of very professional and committed teaching staff; great work!

**Tim Carpenter**  
**Governor of February Month**

# WORLD BOOK DAY

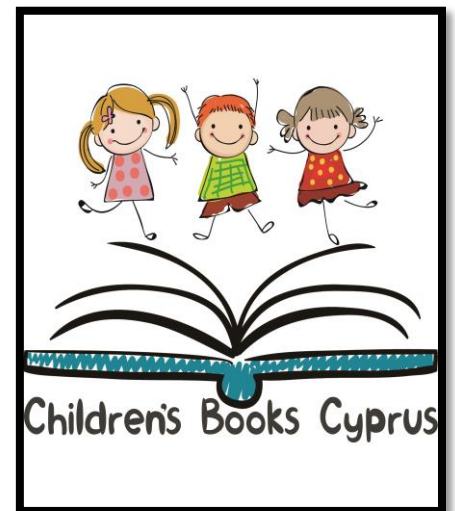
**We will be celebrating World Book Day on Monday 5th March.**

The children are invited to come to school dressed up as one of their favourite book characters and if possible bring the book to share in class too.

Children's Books Cyprus will be coming to our school on the 5th March to celebrate World Book Day. They are kindly giving a voucher to be exchanged for a free book for every child at our school. There will be a selection of books that the children can choose from (age appropriate).

In addition they will be bringing with them a fantastic choice of books that can be purchased by children and parents on the day. All of their books are brand new and priced from €1 to €5 each.

([www.childrensbookscyprus.com](http://www.childrensbookscyprus.com))



Key Stage 2 children who are not usually collected from school can bring some money (up to €10 is suggested) in a sealed, named envelope and will be given the opportunity to purchase a book when their class are collecting their book.

On Monday 5th March we would like to invite parents to come and read to their child's class or to a group of children. If you would like to join us, please can you let class teachers know a convenient time for you to come and read? It can be a book from home, one from the classroom or even one about your job.

**Thank you for your support, Lindsay Winslade (Reading Leader)**



On Monday 19th February the whole school celebrated Green Monday. We learnt all about the start of Lent in Cyprus and made some Cypriot food. We also made kites and had a school kite flying competition on the field!

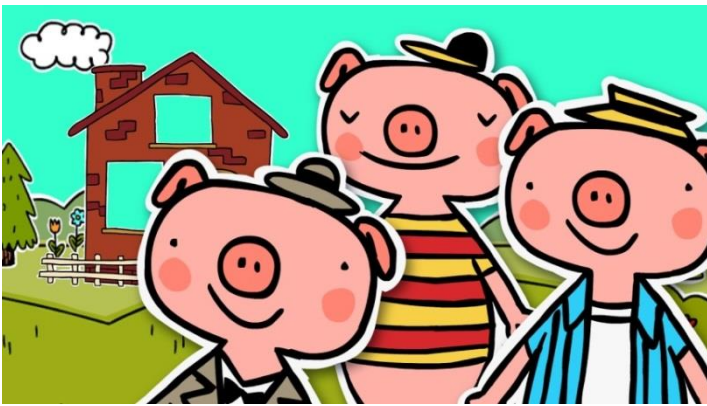
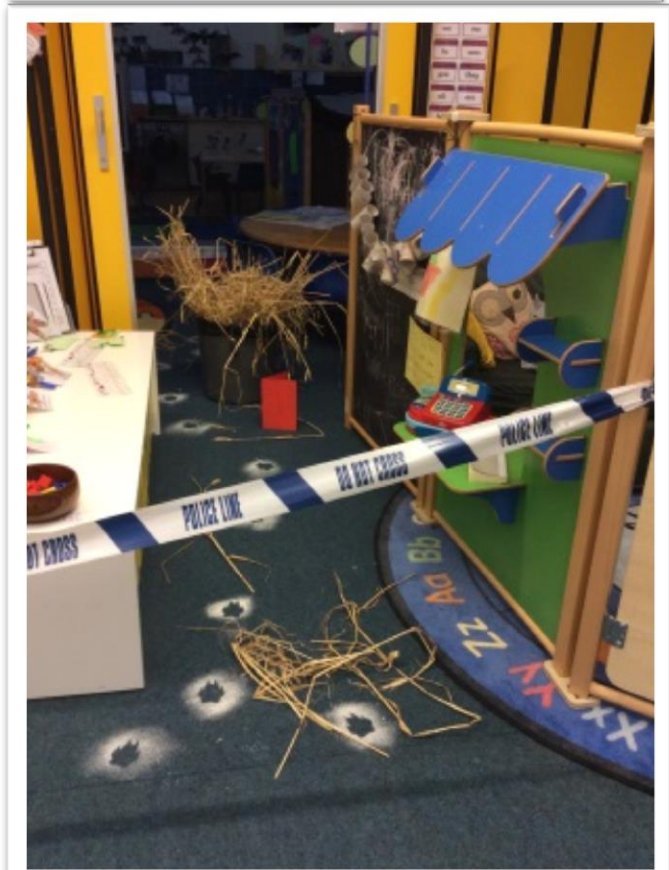
The Padre concluded the day with an assembly about Lent. We all had a great day!



Watch out! The Evil Pea is at large and is causing havoc in the FS1 classrooms this week! He has scattered peas all over the floor, tied up the veg, held our class pets to ransom and padlocked superheroes to the sand pit! We have been working very hard, solving mathematical problems to free them.

Don't worry, we have made and painted a large pea prison...we are hoping to catch him when he is least expecting it! Failing that, we could use the superpowers we have invented in our superhero potion lab! Watch this space...





FS2 have started our traditional tales topic with the story of 'The Three Little Pigs.' They arrived at school to find 3 crime scenes: one of straw, one of sticks and one of bricks.

They have been learning how to construct their own houses and looking for clues as to who had created all the mess.



Last Friday, Year 1 had a Brazil day. We did lots of different activities to kick start our new topic and give us a flavour of Brazil. We learnt how to count to 10 in Portuguese, the main language of Brazil, we made and ate yummy Brigadeiro, we played football, we learnt how to Samba dance and play Samba and we used the computers to find pictures. It was a great day and we all really enjoyed it!



Year 2 had an exciting start to this half term as they had a banquet, linked to their current topic of 'Towers, Turrets and Tunnels.' They spent the morning baking bread and making fruit kebabs for their feast as well as learning a medieval dance. The final activity was to learn to play a recorder which is similar to instruments that were around hundreds of years ago. Once they had changed into their finest clothes they showed their parents the dance they had learnt and shared their food. However, what the parents didn't realise was that rather than standing and proudly watching the children's dance they would have to join in! Luckily the children showed them what they had to do and a great banquet was had by all.



Here is one of our poems by  
Lennon Tonkin:

*I'm a volcano, that bubbles with rage  
I bubble and hubble in the  
circle of fire  
I am anonymous because no one  
knows who I am  
I have never erupted before*

*I'm a volcano, who has been sleeping  
for 1000 years  
I am getting ready to erupt  
I am dreaming about destruction  
And destroy people and towns*

*I'm a volcano that has just erupted  
I am enjoying the destruction I cause  
Dripping down with boiling lava,  
changing my magma inside  
Puffing out a large amount of ash,  
covering the fragile city below.*

*I'm a volcano.*

This half term, Year 3 have been having a great time, finding out all about explosions and volcanoes. We started our topic by talking about why volcanoes explode. To show this we did the coke and Mentos experiment. The pressure from the gas inside made the coke erupt out of the bottle. Last Thursday, we were very excited about our author visit. James Nash came to school to tell us all about his life as a poet. He worked with us to write some fantastic volcano poems.

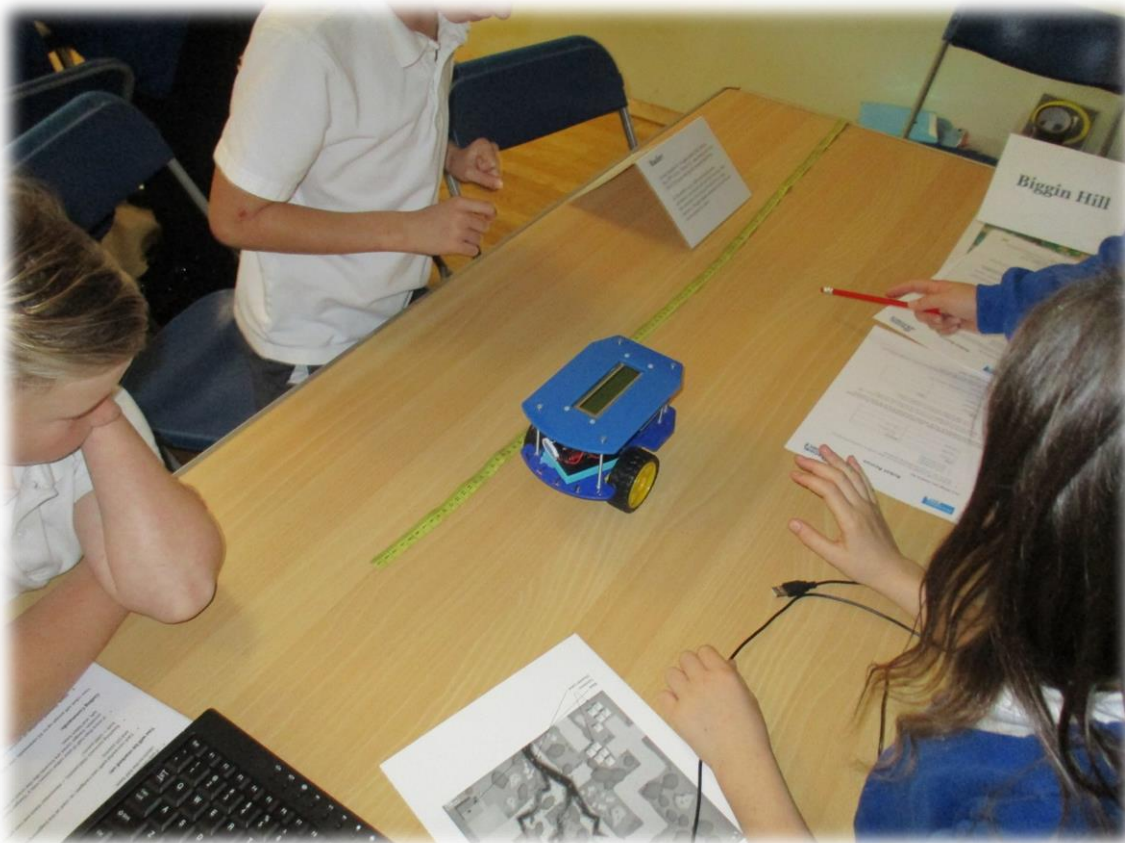


Year 4 have had a busy start to the new half term. We had lots of fun last week; making and flying our kites for Green Monday. Also, we worked with an author from UK who helped write some fantastic poems. We even performed some of them in assembly. We have now started our new topic and have learned all about different types of teeth and their functions.

The children will now be looking after their teeth and brushing really well as they know how important their teeth are. Ask us how we know if an animal is a carnivore, herbivore or omnivore by looking at its teeth.



Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic STEM day this week. We learnt about engineering and some of the different careers and opportunities available through engineering. We worked with Episkopi School in the hall to programme a robot to navigate different pathways to take aid to stranded villagers. The activity involved a lot of mathematics and collaborative skills. We really enjoyed the day and would like to thank everyone involved.





Year 6 had a fabulous time making kites as part of the Green Monday celebrations. The children used all their design and technology skills of cutting, folding, attaching and strengthening materials in order to create a kite that was both aerodynamic and stylish. They really enjoyed taking them to the field and try to fly them!

Also, the children have been learning about World War II and in particular the experiences of wartime evacuees. As part of this topic, we watched the film version of 'Goodnight Mr Tom' and wrote persuasively in support of Mr Tom's wish to adopt William Beech. The children had to write with maturity and in a formal style; they produced very convincing arguments.



Congratulations to our **Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 girls' football teams** for their outstanding success at a recent inter-school competition. All of the girls were excellent ambassadors for the school.

Altogether, twenty-six girls from Akrotiri took part. We had two teams from Year 3/4 and two from Year 5/6. Each team played matches against other schools in their mini-leagues. By the end, Akrotiri had won all four competitions! More importantly, the girls who took part - from all three schools - played with enthusiasm, with a sporting attitude and enjoyed the day.

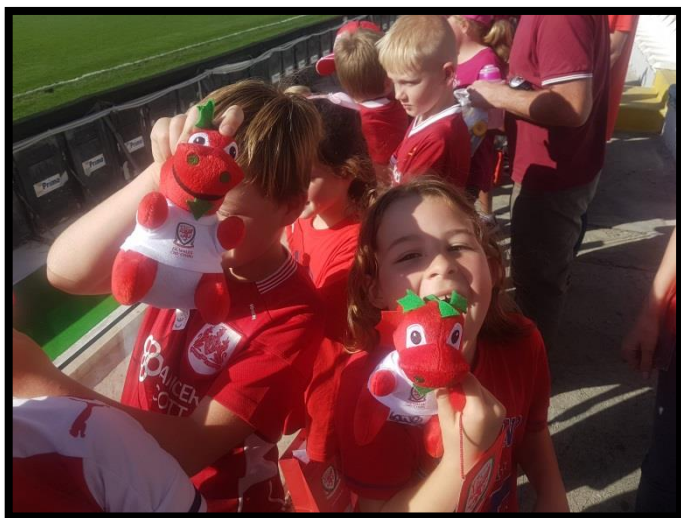
*'A big thanks to Miss Lowe, Mrs Gibbs and Mr Bowles who have helped me with girls' football since January.'*

**Mr Collins**



## Wales Football Trip

We were lucky enough to take 46 children to Larnaca on Wednesday to watch the Wales football team play Finland. We had a wonderful time watching the game, meeting the players, getting autographs and some of us were even lucky enough to get some signed shirts. The Welsh FA also gave each of us a goody bag!!!





# Mother's Day Gift Stall

Buy mum a present for only €2.50!

PTA are holding a Mother's Day Gift Sale on:

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

from 0830 to 1230 hrs –

**FS1 & FS2 in the Old Library Room**

**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March**

from 0830 to 1230 hrs –

**Y1-Y6 in the Old Library Room**

during the school day.

Please send the money in with your child  
on the day.

**Unfortunately 'no money = no gift'**

Thank you for your support,  
PTA ('Akrotiri School Parent Teacher Association')





# RAF AKROTIRI STATION FUN DAY

## SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018

- PARACHUTE DISPLAY
- 84 SQN DISPLAY
- CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT
- STALLS
- FOOD & DRINK STANDS
- MILITARY WORKING DOGS DISPLAY
- LIVE MUSIC
- AND MORE TO COME

### *School Dates*

#### **SPRING TERM 2018**

**Last Day of Term**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
**School finishes at 1200 hrs.**

#### **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