



Akrotiri School

Friday Feeling

#13

Friday 06 December 2019

This week Christmas has officially arrived. Our Monday morning assembly celebrated the first advent candle, *hope*, and we considered together what hopes we might have personally, and for others. Silent night was the backdrop to the lighting of the candle, which I was requested to do by one of our Y2 pupils. Next Monday we will consider *peace* for the second lighting on our advent wreath.

Monday also gave us the tremendous opportunity to listen to the progress that the children in Y3 have made with their violins through the 'Wider Opportunities' initiative run by the MoD Schools Music Service. Support from parents to listen and act as an active audience was superb; something that I am becoming very accustomed to. The shared pride we have is what makes this school such a special place to be.

The activities and performances didn't seem to stop on Monday – it was also the time for our choir to support the Forces Store during their Christmas open afternoon, and they did so brilliantly. The choir sang with passion, enthusiasm and a sense of fun, which I am sure put anyone lucky enough to be present in the Christmas spirit, despite the barmy temperature outside. Well done to all involved, you represented the school amazingly.

Getting back to nature was the aim of the game for Y6 as they put their Forest Schools to the test in Happy Valley on Tuesday. Given a rescue scenario they had to construct stretchers, build shelters and prepare an open fire to cook food on. Again, their attitude and commitment to the task was nothing short of impressive and I am pleased to report the rescue mission proved successful!

Finally, this week I give huge thanks to Mrs Gibbs and the Sergeants' Mess. Today the whole of FS2 sat down to enjoy an incredible Christmas lunch in the school hall. Volunteers from Y6 and Y5 acted as waiting staff to ensure a smooth flow of food and the PTA provided crackers for everyone. This is a first for Akrotiri School and a tradition I hope will continue in the future. It was, of course, the prelude to the Christmas lunch experience that the remainder of the school will attend next week at the Sergeants' Mess.

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas...

Have a great weekend.

Ben Turner

Headmaster

