

Akrotiri School Friday Feeling #24

Friday 24 March 2020

How things change in seven days. At the end of the last Friday Feeling there was some speculation about how COVID-19 restrictions may affect us in the coming weeks; I think it is now abundantly obvious!

I am very clear about my current priorities and those of the staff at Akrotiri School. First and foremost, I want to be able to provide you and your children with a safe and meaningful framework within which to learn remotely. I am concerned that whilst there is a huge amount of support and online signposting towards ideas and worksheets, that this can become very overwhelming.

To address this, whilst acknowledging that these are excellent, we have devised a weekly overview of learning for each year group. This will include reading, writing (mostly diary based) and maths aimed at the specific year groups, in addition to whole school themes which will allow siblings from different year groups to find out about and engage in similar activities across other curriculum areas. There will also be physical and mindfulness challenges to get involved with too. I hope that by providing a weekly overview it will give teachers greater opportunity to engage daily with the children in their class and provide feedback on their learning. This overview will be shared with you at 0800 on Monday morning and can be completed over the course of the week.

We are already looking at ways to innovate our engagement further by, for example, providing a daily story read by the class teacher and a daily poem and thought from me to identify the end of the 'school' day. Please bear with us as we get these technologically ready. Also, we are planning something special for next week – so watch this space!

Finally, with some good news, I am delighted to be able to announce that we appointed our new Deputy Headteacher at the beginning of the week. Mrs Hannah Robinson will be joining us from her current position of Teaching and Learning Consultant for BFC. Hannah has already been working with us in her current capacity and has forged excellent relationships with children and staff. I very much look forward to her permanent move to Akrotiri School.

I leave you just one more learning opportunity from the latest edition of 'Where's Wally'. Have a wonderful weekend.

Ben Turner Headmaster



