



Akrotiri School

Friday Feeling

#25

Friday 27 March 2020

I started last week's Friday Feeling with the sentence 'How things change in seven days'. Well, another seven days forward and the situation has changed beyond recognition.

From an educational point of view, I find it fascinating how quickly the expectations and norms of our everyday lives prior to COVID-19 can alter so quickly and the brain adapts to new norms. 2m distancing, no hand-shaking, questioning our every external move and socialising exclusively via screen seems completely natural. It will be interesting to see how our reintegration into post COVID-19 society pans out.

The past week has offered a number of learning experiences for us all I am sure – not least the engagement with remote learning. I have been very pleased with the responses that we have had to our new way of working and have taken onboard the feedback that has filtered through to me. To that end the weekly overviews will come to you before Monday morning allowing you time to reflect on the activity suggestions before commencing the week.

I would also like to reiterate to you the expectations around this whole situation. Clearly remote learning is something that none of us wanted, expected or indeed had much time to plan for. It has always been my aim that school does not overwhelm families with unrealistic expectations, but rather offers support to maintain a learning rhythm over this period. Learning, of course, comes in many different forms and I hope that the weekly learning sheets reflect this belief. Please do not feel that you need to 'teach' children for x number of hours a day – it is far more important to foster an enjoyment and love for exploring, trying out, failing, and improving.

As a school we recognise that this has been a testing week and so we decided to award each child with a special Golden Mention; I hope that your child(ren) received theirs. However, I have become aware that the addresses we have recorded may not be the one you are currently living at. Staff delivered certificates to all children at the addresses that we hold in school – please contact the school if you have not had one with your child's name and correct address.

Next week there will be an Easter treat delivered to your house – it would be tremendous if you could decorate an Easter Egg or create an Easter Garden and put it outside your front door by Friday next week. There will be a gift for everyone and special mentions for ones that we are particularly impressed by. We're looking forward to seeing many of you again as we come around the streets.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ben Turner
Headmaster

