



Akrotiri School

Friday Feeling

#017

Friday 3 February

A lovely energy surged throughout Y1 earlier in the week. An outstanding turnout of parents at the phonics workshop generated a super opportunity to learn more about the teaching of phonics, and a chance to engage in activities with children. I was really impressed with the conversation and enthusiasm which was fostered by everyone involved, from the school staff to the parents and children. A super workshop which will be followed up with a maths theme later this term.

Mrs Robinson and I met with the new Education Welfare Office, Bekki Miller, this week to talk about promoting attendance. We had a look through our attendance figures, particularly where attendance is below 90%, to identify where support could be offered to improve toward our target of 95+%. I will be sending letters home over the next week to offer support in tackling absenteeism. Evidence suggests a strong link between attendance and school success. This is because they must make up missed learning and catch up with new learning at the same time, which multiplies the greater the amount of time that is missed.

Number day has been a huge success today. During the 'Golden Mentions' I took the opportunity to talk to children about numbers and how they exist around us all of the time. The games the children had invented and played were great fun and there was certainly a lot of number enjoyment going on! Only surpassed when a spaceman passed by the Y3 window and gave us all a surprise. How I managed to refrain from bursting into Babylon Zoo's, Spaceman, is probably a gift to the class. And the pilot!

Finally, a plea to encourage you to keep to the large area of rough ground near to the FS building if you are bringing a dog with you at drop off/pick up time on the west entrance. A number of our children are quite fearful of dogs, or indeed are allergic to the fur and being in close proximity to the dogs around the concreted waiting area exasperates this. Thank you for your understanding.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Ben Turner
Headteacher

