



Akrotiri School

Friday Feeling

#033

Friday 23 June

With no change to the norm we had a very busy, but fruitful week. As the mercury rises, so does the tempo in school in the final few weeks before the summer break. It started with a very successful core visit conducted by HQ DCS BFC, where it was agreed that the progress made against our priorities, particularly achievement of children at 'greater depth', was very strong. Visits to classrooms across the school confirmed our narrative of strength in every year group, with children having an equitable access to high quality teaching.

Following the core visit was a two-day safeguarding review, which looked at all aspects of safeguarding from policy and procedure to culture and practice. In every area we were highly commended and we are understandably delighted as a result. It is testament to the hard work that has been put in over the last few years that staff and pupils talked so confidently and positively about the school, with particular regard to safeguarding.

Our immediate reward for successfully engaging in the process was to watch the spectacle that is the Field Gun demonstration. Invited by Flt Lt Dan Lowe, the whole school went out onto the gun park to learn more about the tradition behind the race and the many aspects of the manoeuvres and firing. As we approach Armed Forces Day, it was a privilege to be a part of the training as the team head off to HMS Collingwood next week. We wish them the best of luck!

We are incredibly proud of the community we serve and understand very well the context, impact, highs and lows of military life. The relationship we have with you and the wider station is one that we value highly and we look forward to celebrating Armed Forces Day with you tomorrow. On Monday, we continue our co-ordinated work with the Armed Forces with what promises to be a very exciting STEM and rugby day led by the REME team.

In school, our science leads Miss Kirby and Mrs Chong organised a tremendous science day today. Children from across the school were set scientific challenges to test and solve. It was great to listen to the focussed conversations, hypotheses and evaluation. Thank you for a great day. Active science was also a key part of the Y6 curriculum this week. Special visitor, Dr Glover, came in to develop children's understanding of the function of the heart by bringing in real-life hearts to explore and dissect. A very memorable session.

Y6 also got in touch with their artistic sides when visiting artist, Claire Linney, came in for a painting master class with a flamingo theme. The creations were stunning and children were very proud of their final outcomes.

Finally this week, we say au revoir to Mrs Sinclair who commences her maternity leave today. We wish her the very best with the new addition to her family! Also, congratulations to Mrs Curtis on the birth of her daughter Evelyn Rose. We look forward to seeing you all soon! If you are leaving, please remember to complete a leavers form asap so that we can ensure a smooth transfer for you and your child.

Have a lovely weekend,

Ben Turner
Headteacher

