



Akrotiri School

Friday Feeling

#001

Friday 08 Sep

A very warm welcome back (or 'to' if you have just arrived) to school. It has been a very enjoyable and fruitful week, which started with two days of INSET training with teachers on Monday and Tuesday. We reviewed the individual, year group and whole school successes from last year as well as projecting where we want to be by the end of the year. A session led by Maj Stuart Haggerty helped us to explore positive mental health strategies in support of our work towards healthy school status. Additionally, in a bid to widen our swimming offer, teachers engaged in stroke technique training with Julie Jones, before we welcomed new families into the school during the final part of the day.

Children have approached the new school year with excitement and confidence. The first assembly of the year focused on our tremendous ability to deal with change and how the school values will help guide us successfully in our life at school, through both learning and social interaction. I was incredibly impressed with the FS1 children, who came to school for the first time and arrived as if they had been doing so for weeks. Equally, throughout the school, children have demonstrated a mature and responsible approach, eager to learn and supportive of each other. I look forward to this continuing.

Our new school timings have worked well this week, thank you for your co-operation in helping this to succeed. The new procedures have ensured that children are in class by 0745 ready for a prompt register and enabling learning to start swiftly. The additional time at the end of the day has afforded us the opportunity to build in more regular whole class story time – an invaluable chance to share high quality literature and enrich vocabulary.

Next week I look forward to sharing the new class names. As we enter an Olympic year in 2024, we have chosen Olympians as the theme for the class names. The research the children have gathered this week has been stunning and I have enjoyed learning new facts derived from the stories of those chosen Olympians. I hope they have been able to share some of their research with you – it has been fascinating.

Have a wonderful weekend – and enjoy the start of the rugby world cup,

Ben Turner
Headteacher

