



# Akrotiri School

## Friday Feeling

### #018

Friday 26 January

There has been a tremendous response to 'Number Day' today, with children engaged in special number activities, challenges and problem solving, in addition to some very creative fancy dress. My particular favourite was a young man in Y5 who had dressed with odd socks, back to front T-shirt and one-legged leggings – when asked which number he was, he replied 'an odd one!'.

The termly core visit on Wednesday gave us an opportunity to have our performance judgement validated by HQ DCS. They agreed that we are providing excellent learning opportunities and experiences for all children. Yet again, I was very proud of the engagement from children and the quality of work and progress seen in books. Teachers gave a super articulation of active learning, and the picture we had painted verbally was certainly reflected during the visit to each year group.

Budding clothes designers in Y4 have been researching global fashion icons this week, to look for inspiration and understand how culture and tradition can be represented in the clothes we wear. Their next stage is to design and produce a shirt, in small scale, for a model fashion show. In Y4, they also engaged in STEM sessions with the RAF STEM ambassadors, based here on the station.

Y1 invited a couple of special visitors in to talk to them about the history of RAF Akrotiri as part of their local history unit, earlier in the week. Both Julie Keen and Wg Cdr Mastin shared some very interesting information and answered Y1's challenging questions. Thank you for coming in! FS2 were also visited this week; by the RAF Police! The children arrived at school on Monday to discover a satellite had crashed into their outside area – the Police came in to spark real adventure as the children put forward theories and initiated investigation into this incredible occurrence!

Although we place a great deal of importance on enrichment experiences, as has become commonplace in UK schools, we are now in a position where we are unable to fund transport costs for residential and school trips from the school's delegated budget. We still wish to provide these enrichment opportunities and therefore must add this element to the overall trip cost. We will continue to try and minimise costs through, exploring grants, continued fund raising and inviting visitors into school rather than traveling externally, but there will likely be some increase when compared to visits in previous years. This is with the exception of sporting events, where your child may have been selected to represent the school.

Finally, next week is Children's Mental Health Week. Clare Squires, our Akrotiri school nurse, will be available to support any families that would like help on how to manage their child's mental health, to manage their worries and build in strategies to make them more emotionally resilient. Please contact her on [clare.squires107mod.gov.uk](mailto:clare.squires107mod.gov.uk) if you would like any support or advice.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Ben Turner, Headteacher

