

## Akrotiri School Friday Feeling #01

## Friday 6 September

A very warm welcome back (or 'to' if you have just arrived) to school. It has been a very enjoyable and exciting week, which started with two days of INSET training with teachers on Monday and Tuesday. Colleagues worked with the station on Monday, to explore the impact of military life on families and children, as well as understanding more about the role of RAF Akrotiri. This will help us to continue to deliver the very best for our children and also to enhance the curriculum through further partnerships with sections on the station. The second day gave us the opportunity to reflect and learn more about the substantive and disciplinary knowledge associated with subject areas, as well as looking at how this could be enhanced within our context. Very exciting times ahead.

When the children arrived on Wednesday, we hit the ground running. Those returning to school demonstrated great empathy and teamwork in helping the new children settle in, quickly securing a sense of belonging and confidence. Once in the classrooms the children responded tremendously to their new teachers and surroundings and started to consider their class names – this year named after military bases around the world. They have already accumulated a number of interesting facts and have enjoyed exploring a contrasting station. Class names will be revealed next week, in assembly.

Walking around the school this week has been a pleasure. From the very youngest children to our new Y6 cohort, there is a sense of calm and purpose. Teachers have reported on positive interactions, confidence and curiosity; all of which are great ingredients for the best learning. There will be some changes to be aware of as children move into new Key Stages and teachers will communicate home with relevant information. One of the changes for Y3 children is that they will no longer have snack provided as they did in Y2, so if you have a child in Y3, please ensure they have a healthy snack for break time. At the beginning of next week, we will send a MCAS (My Child at School) app request, this will allow families to communicate with the class teacher. Please watch out for the email – if you do not receive anything, please let us know, as there could be a problem with the recorded email. Thank you.

I look forward to the week ahead and establishing further, the foundations for a productive year ahead.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Ben Turner Headteacher

