

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

25th October 2018

A Chairde (Friends),

School closes tomorrow at the normal time for one week. The children will return to school on Monday 5th November. It has been an amazing first 8 weeks of school and it has been a privilege to see all the children develop on their journey through school. I would like to thank all the children, staff and parents who make every day a pleasure here at Griffith Barracks.

We say goodbye tomorrow to Chris Woerner who has been with us for the past 11 months. I want to thank Chris for all his enthusiasm and commitment to the school. Gina Fusco will return to us after the midterm break.

Swimming

6th Class and 4th Class have their last swimming session tomorrow. 5th Class and 2nd Class will begin their 7 sessions after the midterm break on 9th November. If there is any parent who would be able to help out at swimming, please contact the relevant class teacher at firstname.surname@griffithbarracks.ie.

School Trips/workshops and Swimming

At the start of the year we set out the payment programme for parents, which I am attaching today again. The final payment for this school year is for trips/workshops (all classes) and swimming (Rang 1 to Rang 6). The payment is 40€ for Infants and 90€ for all other classes. This money can be paid using the Aladdin online payments system. You will receive a link today which will enable you to make the online payment.

Aladdin Connect App

There are still about 40% of parents not using our Aladdin Connect App. We would be grateful if you would consider downloading the App, as text messages from the school are free of charge to all parents using the app. This means funds can be spent on other areas. A text message to the whole school costs 22€.

Student Dáil Newspaper

Many thanks to all the outgoing Student Dáil representatives for all their work over the last year. They worked on many projects like the Yard Book Lending Library, which was very popular in Clogher Road. The new Dáil take up their positions in the coming weeks and I am really looking forward to working with them. Meanwhile, we will get the much-awaited Student Dáil Times out to you very shortly.

Students of the Week

Well done to all our Students of the week this week.



6th Class Visits



This week 6th class went to a Maths workshop in Marsh's Library. Many thanks to Olga, one of our first class parents, who works in the Library for facilitating the trip. The class got great feedback and really enjoyed the trip.

The class also visited the Seamus Heaney exhibition at the Bank of Ireland Cultural and Heritage Centre. The class has a family connection with the Poet so it was particularly fitting that they got to go on this trip

<https://www.nli.ie/en/udlist/current-exhibitions.aspx?article=0ebd1d65-6087-4f38-a2a0-467de598b745>

First Class

Both first classes got to visit Marsh's Library this week.

<https://www.marshlibrary.ie/education-2/primary-schools/>

Election

This week we have been voting in our own Presidential Election in fifth and sixth classes. We watched the pitches of the various candidates on News today.

<https://www.rte.ie/player/ie/show/news2day-30001385/10956258/>

The children all have a mock-up of the real ballot paper and will get to vote and count the votes where they will learn about how the election works using the Single Transferable Vote (STV) system which is only used in Ireland and Malta.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/your-guide-to-how-the-voting-system-works-in-ireland-1.2548068>

We also looked at the upcoming referendum which the electorate will vote for tomorrow.

Junior Achievement Ireland

3rd and 5th class are taking part in a workshop on Friday with Junior Achievement Ireland. Find out more about how Junior achievement works below:

<https://www.jai.ie/our-programmes/primary-school-programmes.html>

Spooky Walk

Many thanks to all who took part in the spooky walk. Fresh off the presses here are some photos.



4th Class

4th class have been working on fractions this week and doing some excellent hands on work in halves, quarters and eighths and extending to twelfths and sixteenths.

Board of Management Community Report

<http://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Board-Of-Management-Community-Report/3796/Index.html>

Spooky Fun in Senior Infants

<http://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Spooky-fun-in-Senior-Infants/3797/Index.html>

Active learning at its Finest! Ready Set Go Maths in Junior Infants

<http://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Ready-Set-Go-Maths/3798/Index.html>

Assembly

This week we had Assembly al fresco (outside) as we have done many times over the years here in Griffith Barracks. Every month for this whole school assembly a different class will introduce themselves and each child will share one aspect of life that they are really interested in. Sixth class got the ball rolling today and they showed what an interesting and eclectic bunch they are.



Sixth Class Musical

Over 15 parents attended a really productive meeting on the parent led 6th class production. This is always a special event in the school calendar and is enjoyed by children and parents. We will keep you updated on the production in the coming months.

Child Protection

Jenny and I attended Child Safeguarding Training in the last week and we have been reviewing our policy on the Board. We are hoping to have a parent focus group in the coming weeks to feed into our policy. If you would like to take part, you can contact the PA or myself at eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie.

Calling all Musical Parents!

Can you play a tune or hold a note? If so, we need you.

There is a plan a-brewing, but we need your help.

In fact, we can't do it without you!!

If you can play an instrument or sing a song, please contact Anna as soon as possible.

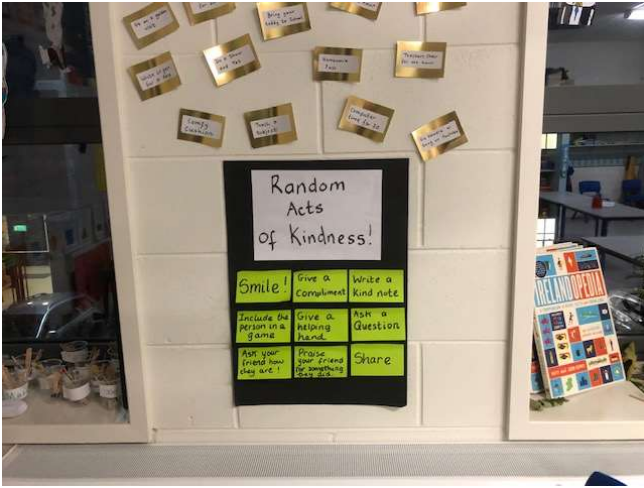
Thank you in advance,

Anna - 0870654599

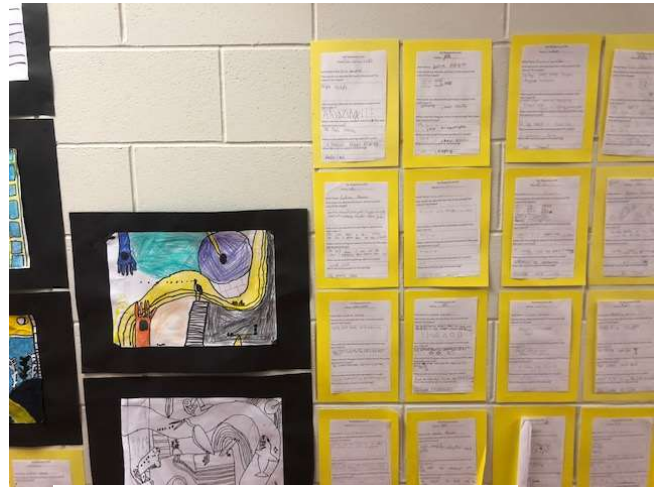
walshanna@gmail.com



Making Slime is definitely Educational



Random Acts of Kindness in Rang 3

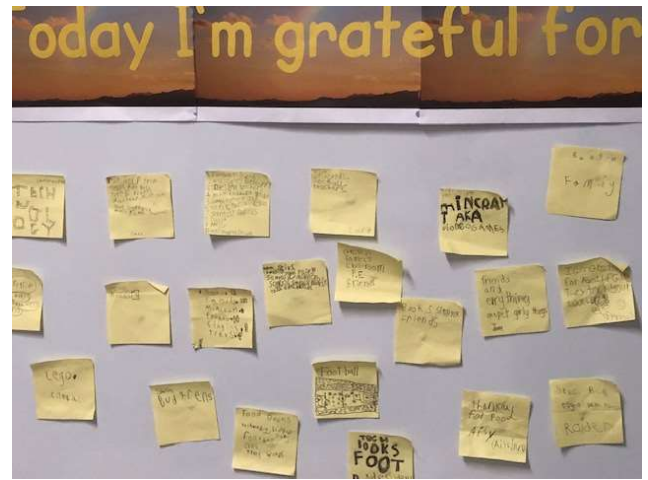


Great Responses to Art in Rang 1 Aisling

Bain taitneamh as an sos. Tá sé tuilte go maith agaibh (Enjoy the break – it is well deserved).

Beir Bua,

Eddie
Príomhoide and *Where's Wally!*



Lots of things to be grateful for in Aisling's Class