

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

31st May 2018

A Chairde (Friends),

School Closure

The school will close tomorrow at the normal time and re-open on Wednesday, 6th June. Wishing you all a lovely Bank Holiday weekend.

Principal's News

It's been a great week here at GBMDS with coffee, cakes, quiz conundrums, sporting success and great learning all forming highlights of the week. Below is a sign-up survey for parents who wish to help out with the move. We need helpers for packing in the week up to the move and unpacking on the Thursday and Friday after the move has taken place. The first packing session will take place on Wednesday 20th of June at 2.10pm with the second session on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th of June. The data from this survey will be used to organise our move and will be destroyed at the end of August. We will set up an email group through our Aladdin database so we can coordinate information to volunteers. We need two to three volunteers per class. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided to all!

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=GHR3J8BLrk2tb7BLMEihEL2HrjqF9TJFrFKo9_ck7A5UQ0pLRU9LNIQOR0xBSzhUQzNJQVRRIJFUy4u

Well done to all who took part in our Poetry Competition. There was a great standard and our shortlisted poets will get to come on a tour of our new building.

It has been great to welcome our new Junior Infants this week who came into the school in groups each afternoon.

This week I have been organising electricity, phone, gas and insurance for our new building. We are also planning which rooms each class will be in etc.

We hope that our new revamped website will go live over the next few days. I want to thank Ruth and Clare who have put so much work into the preparation of this over the last seven months. We hope that the website will be a window for all the great things that happen in our school every day.

As part of our data protection policy which we are working on (GDPR) we will be launching *Aladdin Connect*. Aladdin Connect will:

- enable parents to view and change the data that we hold on them
- give you access to your child's school reports
- include a School App which will reduce text costs
- give parents the option to opt in to share contact information with their children's class mates' parents through a parent privacy option.
- enable you to view your child's attendance along with late arrival data.

We will send a letter explaining this in more detail over the next few weeks before our school reports are released.

Bake Sale

A reminder that the Bake Sale in aid of UNICEF takes place today. UNICEF was chosen by the children as they particularly wanted to support children in areas of conflict around the world. Thank you so much to everybody who baked, assisted their child to bake, bought sneaky cakes in the Spar shop or who stayed in the kitchen to do the washing up when all the fun was over. If any parents would like to buy some baked goods, they can do so after school today. As always, your support is hugely appreciated.

3rd Class News

Third Class have been working with Ciara Harrison, a textile artist, over the last 6 weeks. They learned skills in weaving, Pom Pom making, sewing appliqué and tie dye and impressed us all with their CraftEd presentation. Their presentation would have graced the halls of Leinster House and their descriptions of what they had done were articulate and full of detail. Third class also had a great trip to the Green Door Market.



2nd Class News

Second Class had a fantastic trip to the bog last week. The sun shone, the animals were friendly and we loved everything about Causey Farm. On Friday we will be the envy of all at GBMDS as we attend the Bloom Festival <http://bloominthepark.com/>

Piano for new School

Jenny has secured a donation of a gorgeous piano which will be a great addition to our new school. We are looking for help to transport it from Laragh, Co. Wicklow to SCR in the first week in July. If you can help contact the office at office@griffithbarracks.ie

Table Quiz

Thank you so much to everybody who helped out at the Table Quiz last Thursday. It was a very enjoyable night and a lot of hard work went on behind the scenes by Estelle and Basil (our wonderful Quizmasters) as well as all their helpers on the night. It is a lovely social occasion. Thank you to all who attended or donated raffle prizes too. It couldn't have happened without your input. They raised the amazing total of €1,780.00 which we are using towards a laptop trolley and 16 laptops for the children. This will be really helpful to the children when working on all areas of the curriculum and in particular research.

Hurling and Camogie News



Our Hurling Team have reached the final of their Cumann na mBunscoil competition! The boys performed fantastically in their semi final against our neighbours in Francis Street. It is a big deal to play in Croke Park and something all the players will remember for the rest of their lives.

The final of the Shield is on next **Tuesday, June 5th, in the Hogan Stand, Croke Park at 2.40pm.** The school is closed that day but we have organised a bus to collect the team and any others who would like to go along to support them (see important note sent home in the schoolbags if you wish to attend, as tickets need to be bought for supporters). The bus will be leaving the school at **1.15pm.**

We want to pay a special tribute to the Girls Camogie team who played their hearts out in their semi-final last week. It was an amazing match with the girls never giving up. The unbelievable goal in the second half really lifted GBMDS spirits. It was so close at the end that the girls can really walk away from this year's campaign with their heads held high. Ben and Cian have been really complimentary of the 6th class girls for their leadership during training and during matches this year.



Santry Sports

This week we had an amazing assembly where we celebrated all the children who took part in our Athletics programme this term. Every child who took part received a medal (77 in total). We won five medals in total at the National Athletics Stadium in Santry in the footsteps of Sonia, Derval O'Rourke and David Gillick. We were so incredibly proud of all of our athletes who competed in Monday's and Wednesday's events in Santry. They were enthusiastic, supportive, encouraging, fair-minded and quite frankly, pretty brilliant. Despite long waits, baffling intercom announcements, and hugely competitive events they smiled and cheered their way through the two days.

A lot of hard work went into the training and preparation for the competitions and the standard was, as always, so high. In every single event we did ourselves proud and there were many nail biting moments as a result. A huge shout out should go to the u10s teams who were, for the most part, competing for the first time - they absolutely took it in their stride! Teams and athletes to watch in the future for sure!

In addition to all the fun and team spirit, we returned to school this year with some medals. On our field day we had 5 medal winners and on our track day two teams came home beaming with bronze medals around their necks. What a result!

Our medal winners are as follows:

U11s hurdles - silver

U11s high jump - bronze

U12s long distance - bronze

U14s high jump - bronze

U14s high jump - bronze

U12s relay team - bronze medal winners

Clare & Anne-Marie.



Book Money Reminder

Reminder to anybody who has not yet paid their child's book money for next year to please click on the link and make an online payment as soon as possible. If you need us to send another link, please let us know.

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

- Today – Bake Sale (parents can buy at home time if they wish)
- Tomorrow - 1st June – 2nd Class trip to Bloom in Phoenix Park
- Tomorrow - 1st Class trip to Dublin Zoo
- Monday 4th June – School Closed (Bank Holiday)
- Tuesday 5th June – School Closed and Final of Cumann na mBunscoil
- Thursday 7th June – 2nd Class Trip to The Mosque in Clonskeagh
- Friday 8th June – 6th Class Trip to Baysports, Athlone
- Friday 8th June – Junior Infant Trip to Sealife
- Monday 11th June – GBMDS Patron AGM

Women's Mini Marathon

Thank you very much to Lucia and Martina for their brilliant coffee station that has been in the yard the last couple of mornings. As you will probably know, they are raising awareness and collecting on behalf of the school as they will be running the women's mini-marathon this weekend. If anybody would like to donate to them, they can still do so at www.idonate.ie/Griffith. We wish them and any other parent running, all the very best on Sunday. We will be thinking of you at 2pm when you take to the streets of Dublin.



Students of the Week

Congratulations to all our Students of the Week this week (see photo).



Some photos of our Assembly yesterday

Ádh Mór
(Best wishes),
Eddie
(Príomhoide)



Artist's Impression of our newSchool