

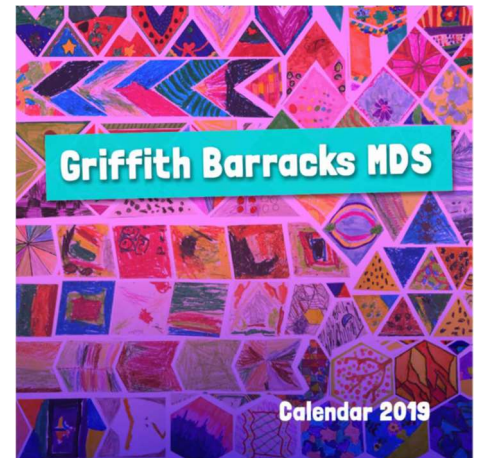
GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

17th January 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

School Calendar

We have three boxes of calendars that I would really like to sell. If anybody has a contact in any local shops or businesses we could try to sell them there. It is such a lovely calendar it would be a shame to have so many spare.



Code of Conduct – Positive Behaviour Policy

Many thanks to all the parents who attended the Positive Behaviour Policy focus groups on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was great to get feedback and to see the level of expertise we have in our school community. The next stage of the process will be more work on this by the staff based on these meetings and then a final ratification by the Board of Management at our February meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie. I am attaching feedback from one of the childrens' focus groups we held as part of the process.

Grandparent's Day Thursday 14th of February – Save the Date

Grandparents Day will take place at 11am to 12.30pm on Thursday 14th of February. All grandparents and special older relatives of every child in the school are welcome. The day will consist of a tour of the school and a look at the history of the Guard House followed by visits to the classrooms. We will round off the morning with some Tea/Coffee and light Refreshments provided by the PA. This is always a much looked forward to event and the children absolutely love it. We also have our lift now if the stairs might put off any attendees coming.

'Fun Friends' and 'Friends for Life' Information Morning

Jenny, Anita and Claire G. hosted a really interesting information session on the "Friends for Life" programme in the hall today. Fun Friends is the section of the programme in Rang 1 being undertaken now and 5th class have just completed their programme.

The group activities where children learn new skills are crucial to the success of the Fun FRIENDS program. These evidence-based, play-focused activities equip children with foundational resilience skills in a way that can be easily grasped, understood and used in everyday life:

- Helping other people including family, peers, and teachers
- Self-awareness of body clues (e.g. tense means stressed, butterflies means nervous)
- Relaxation techniques for the body and mind during stressful situations
- Engaging and relate to peers and making friends

Many thanks to Jenny, Claire and Ruth for organising.

Quiz

The School will host an inter school quiz on January 30th in the hall. We will have guests from our friends in:

- Canal Way ETNS
- Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School
- Stepside ETNS
- St. Catherine's NS
- Firhouse ETNS
- Ballinteer ETNS

It promises to be a great event and a great way to meet our counterparts in other schools. Our school quiz team will take part in the Credit Union quiz on Saturday February 2nd in Taney Parish Hall.

Junior Infant Parent Teacher Meetings

Junior Infant parent teacher meetings take place this term on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th of February. Cian and Cathal will be touch closer to the time and you will be able to book your appointment via the school app (Aladdin). Parent teacher meetings are an opportunity to meet the teacher away from the busy day to day running of the classroom. They are a really valuable part of the school year.

Curriculum News

Great work is happening with our spelling focus. This week we were reviewing our spelling strategies that we teach discretely in each class and have spent a lot of time updating our Literacy policy.

Science Day

Today we are focusing on Science within the school. There are lots of Science experiments taking place across the school from eggs that can't crack, to eggs that can float in Salt. We have also made rainbows and other amazing experiments with some wonderful STEM resources we recently bought for the school.

Board of Management Update

This Week the Board met. We are working on the Code of Behaviour and we have certified the school accounts for 2017/2018. I will do the usual quarterly community report for the board after the February meeting.

PA News

The PA AGM is on Wednesday, 6th February 2019 at 7.30pm and all members of the school community are welcome. Topics for discussion include the afterschool activities and further details will be circulated shortly.

After School Activities Supervisor Needed

ASA supervisor required on Fridays from 1.30pm-3.30pm. Role entails:

- being the contact person on site at school while activities are running,
- gathering children from classes before activities
- bringing to parents/ Kids Club after the activity.
- You would be garda vetted and there is a small payment for the role.

Please contact the PA at gbmdsafterschool@gmail.com

Peace Proms

Peace Proms participants are reminded to pay for the bus through the link that has been sent to the group. The cost is €5.

Green Council

The Green Council has been hard at work. They wrote to Avonmore to ask if they could change their plastic straws on the milk cartons. They are also weighing the bins to see how much waste we use as a first step of cutting down. Many thanks to Cathal for organising.

Student Dáil

The Student Dáil this week were discussing having a school Mascot. They also looked at suggestions for after school activities which will be passed on to the PA. They are hoping to have a talent show at the end of the year which the Student Dáil will help Eddie to organise.

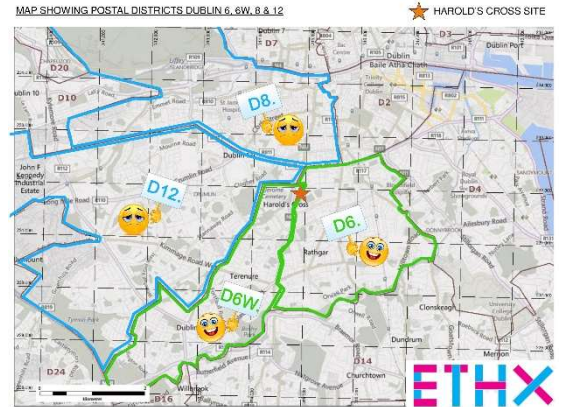


ETHX Campaign Public Meeting

Will you help us change the minds of politicians and the Minister for Education on the new Harold's Cross second-level school catchment area? Children from Dublin 8 and 12, and not just Dublin 6 and 6W, should be eligible to attend this school in their locality.

The ETHX campaign will hold a **public meeting** in the Griffith Barracks school hall on **Thursday 31 January at 7.30pm**. Politicians and public representatives will be there. We will be there. Will you? We really need your support. Please sign up to attend on the night by clicking [here](#)

If the link doesn't work, please copy and paste this into your browser
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K8WQMHD>



Students of the Week

Congratulations to all our students of the week.



Beir Bua,

Eddie
Príomhoide