

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

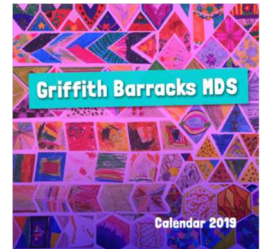
10th January 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

A very happy new year to you all. This week in Assembly we have been looking at "The Power of Yet". All the things that we can't do we just can't do them yet! As we all prepare our own goals for the year ahead I am really looking forward to working with you all. We have a busy term ahead with lots of exciting events and learning opportunities planned.

School Calendar

We still have some school calendars for sale if you'd like to buy any extras for friends and family. Calendars cost €10 each or €15 for two. We have about 3 boxes left so it would be great to get as many sold as possible. We hope to do a big sale next Tuesday January 15th at drop off and collection. If anybody is available to cover the stall, contact me on eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie.



Enrolment

The lottery for Junior Infant places in 2019 takes place tomorrow. We will then offer out the first round offers early next week. The enrolment policy is attached below. Contact Rene or Eddie if you have any questions.

https://griffithbarracks.ie/Content/2018/12/Enrolment_Policy.pdf

Code of Conduct – Positive Behaviour Policy

Over the last term, the teachers and students have been working on revising the Code of Conduct, which we now call our Positive Behaviour Policy. We are going to have two opportunities for parents to be part of the process. The first consultation will be next Tuesday, 15th January at 6pm. The focus group will be an hour long and all are welcome. There will a second consultation meeting at 9am next Wednesday, 16th January. We hope this will facilitate parents who can only make mornings or evenings. To give me an idea of numbers, could you email me on eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie if you are going to come to either session.

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

Next Thursday, 17th January at 8.50am we will hold an information meeting in the school hall for parents of First Class children, who will be working on the Fun Friends Programme.

The *Fun Friends* programme was developed by Dr Paula Barrett to help guide the social and emotional development of children aged 4 to 7 by using fun, play-based group activities. *Fun Friends* nurtures the child's development by teaching them to engage resilience early on, encouraging them to thrive and smoothly transition into school and out of school life.

The meeting will take about 20 minutes and will be a great way for you and your child to get the most out of the programme.

Quiz

This week 5th and 6th classes have been brushing up on their trivia and general knowledge as we prepare for the Credit Union Schools Quiz. We will have a team representing each class.

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

This year, the school is focusing on a number of areas with regard to curriculum. Spelling is our particular area of focus. We are also updating our Literacy plan. The Primary language curriculum in English and Irish is also being

introduced from Junior Infants to Second class. The Department of Education and Skills has sanctioned a day's closure to facilitate the implementation of this. We hope to do this day in March and will let you know the date as soon as possible.

Our next area of focus will be on teacher planning and we hope to update the templates we use when planning schemes of work. The teachers meet every Wednesday after school in order to plan, discuss and implement all our policies and procedures. Later in the year we will look at Maths and an area of SESE (Scientific, Environmental and Social Education).

Welcome Eoin

This term, we welcome Eoin Rochford who will be taking 4th class while Derek is on Parental Leave. I would like to wish Eoin all the best in his new post. Cora will be away from January 28th to February 8th as part of her postgraduate studies in Special Education. Sarah Brazil will be in during this time.

PA News

We hope to have the Parents' Room up and running in the next week and we will send an email out to all parents with the rules etc. around using the room. The programme of After School Activities will be released in the coming days by email. The PA hope to have their AGM during this half term.

Peace Proms

Thank you to our fabulous Griffith Barracks Choir, we are very impressed with them. A big thank you also to all the parents who have facilitated their arrival on those early mornings at 8:15am.

In January 2019 3rd - 6th Class will be rehearsing on Mondays and Fridays in school time and for four weeks only on every Tuesday morning at 8:15; Tuesday 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th January. This leads up to our performance on Sunday 3rd February. The children need to be available from 4pm until late on the 3rd February - it'll be great! There will be a performance in school at 2pm on Friday 8th February, more details to follow.

We're attaching some links from the Peace Proms team and would really appreciate it if some practicing could happen over the holidays.

Thank you, Jenny, Anne Marie and Clare

Boogie Medley

<https://youtu.be/moVnr77rYoQ>

Greatest Showman

https://youtu.be/if0_RIBocs

Make Some Noise

https://youtu.be/uniaF1e_nrl

Pop Medley

https://youtu.be/MD_lph7v8mY

Matilda Medley

<https://youtu.be/GQ0wP8g0oE>

ETHX Campaign Public Meeting

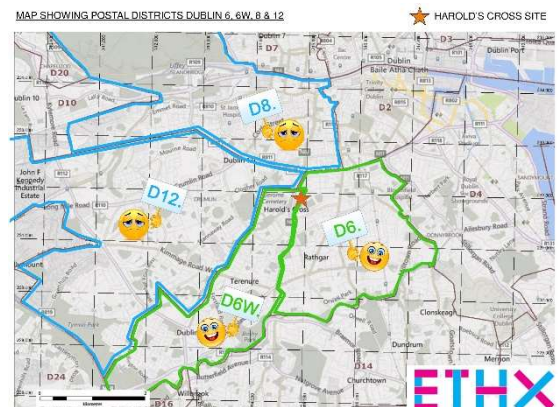
Will you help us change the minds of politicians and the Minister for Education on the new Harold's Cross second-level school catchment area? Children from Dublin 8 and 12, and not just Dublin 6 and 6W, should be eligible to attend this school in their locality. The ETHX campaign will hold a **public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

Friends for Life 5th Class Graduation

5th class have also been working on the *Friends for Life* programme which is an extension of *Fun Friends*. See link for more information. <https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/5th-Class-Graduate-in-Friends-for-Life/3825/Index.html>



Students of the Week

Congratulations to all our students of the week.



Figure 1 - New Year celebrations in Rang 3 Emma

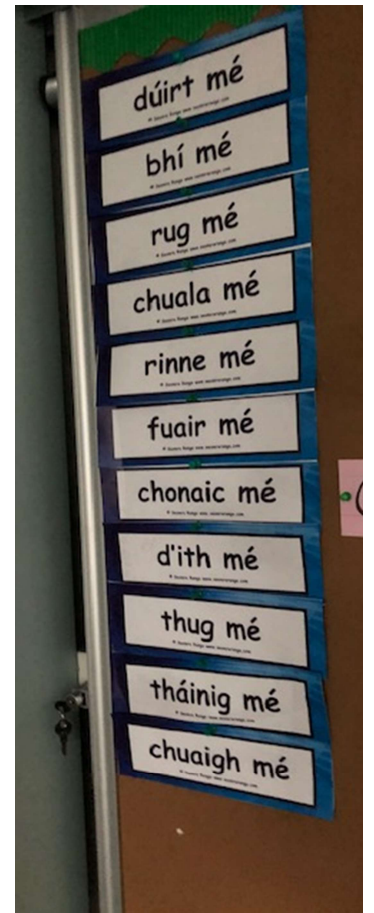


Figure 2 - Working on past tense irregular verbs Gaelic in 6th Class

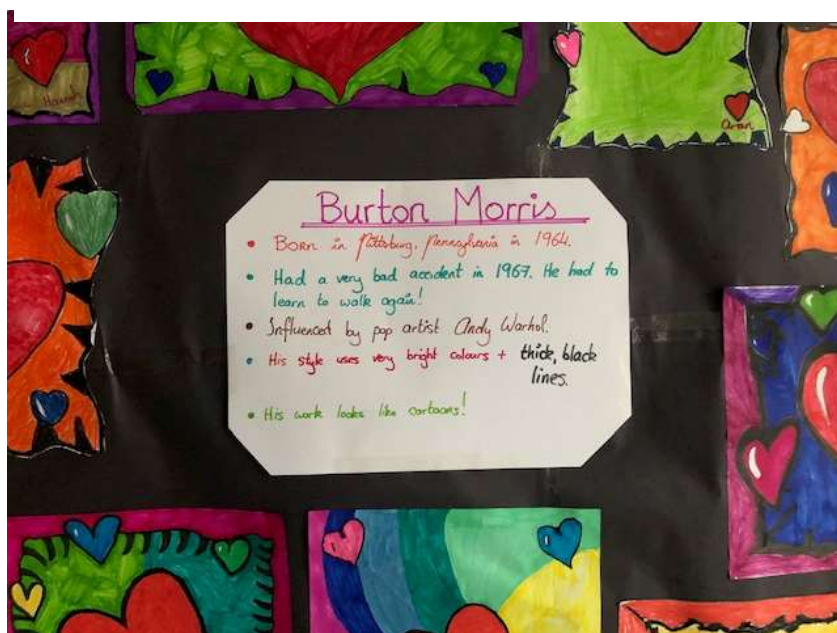


Figure 3 - Learning about Artist Burton Morris in 5th class



Figure 4 - Senior Infants have been doing great word work during Power Hour



Figure 5 - Learning shared Responsibility in Rang 1 Aisling

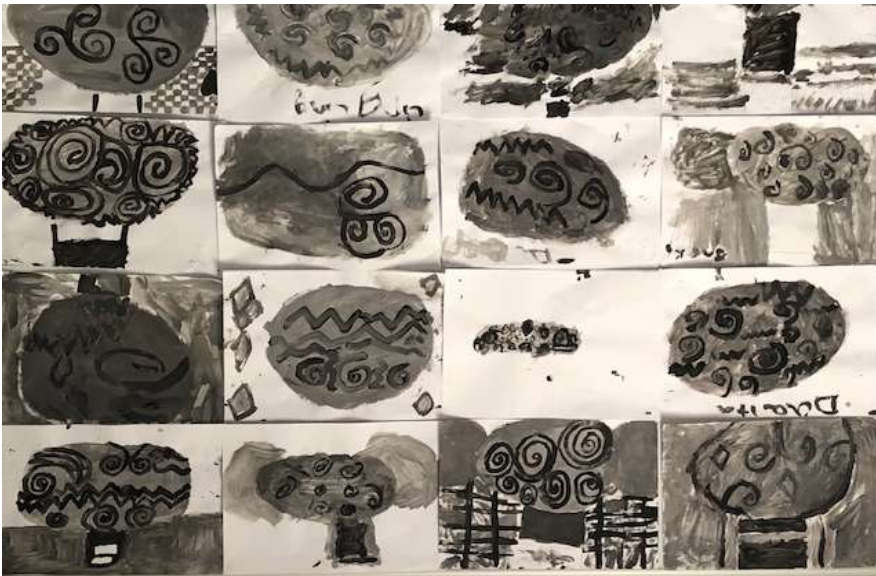


Figure 6 - Learning about Newgrange in County Meath in Rang 1 Anne Marie (Up the Royal!)

Beir Bua,
Eddie
Príomhoide



Figure 7 - Fourth Class art based on Matisse's painting "Dancers"