

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

17<sup>th</sup> October 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

## *Mid-Term Break*

The School will close on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at the usual time and reopen on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 8.50am. We hope you all have a good break. Many thanks all our students, staff, parents and friends for their great contribution to a great first half term.

## *Spooky Sponsored Walk*

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## *Library News*

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**Tomorrow, there will be another cataloguing and scanning session in the Library at 2.35pm. Please come along if you can help.**

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## *Primary Language Curriculum in Service Day*

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[https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Primary/Curriculum-Areas/Language-New-Junior-infants-2nd-class/Language-Home/Introduction/\(i\)-About-the-new-Primary-Language-Curriculum](https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Primary/Curriculum-Areas/Language-New-Junior-infants-2nd-class/Language-Home/Introduction/(i)-About-the-new-Primary-Language-Curriculum)

## *Tree Week*

There was great engagement for tree week across the school with visits to Oscar Square and Sundrive Park. If you would like to find out more about Irish trees and wildlife this is a resource that we use in school by Environmentalist and regular RTÉ contributor Éanna Ní Lamhna.

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### Students of the week

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This week we had a joint assembly with the whole school coming together. Each child got to sit with their buddy from a different class. It is great that the children get to interact with each other across the school. 4<sup>th</sup> class Eoin serenaded us with their version of the Beatles "Stand by Me".

### 6<sup>th</sup> class visit the Seamus Heaney Exhibition

Sixth class had a great trip to the Seamus Heaney exhibition.

*"In 2011 ..."* says Katherine McSharry, Head of Outreach at National Library of Ireland and the Project Director of ['Seamus Heaney: Listen Now Again'](#), the first exhibition to take place in the new Bank of Ireland Culture and Heritage Centre, *"... Seamus Heaney packed up some boxes in his home in Sandymount – he wrote in the attic of the house – took them out to the car with his son Michael, drove the car to the National Library, and carried the boxes out of the car and up the stairs, with the help of Library staff, and that's how they became part of the National Collection."*

There were great questions and insights from sixth class. Many thanks to Aisling for organising and to parent helpers.





### STEM project

6<sup>th</sup> class have been working hard with facilitator Dietmar Weiss on their STEM project. There has been great practical and hands on work which has been really interesting and enjoyable for the children.



STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Rather than teach the four disciplines as separate and discrete subjects, STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning paradigm based on real-world applications.

### School Self Evaluation

The Coiste Gaeilge (Irish Language Committee) has been busy at work at GBMDS. We engaged with student voice and surveyed the students and staff on how we can improve the way we teach Irish across the school. We are going to focus on Oral language this year and focus on making sure that every classroom in the school has scaffolds in place to help students when speaking Gaeilge. If you are walking up the stairs or visiting a class use the displays and posters to practice your Irish. This is combined with our work on integrating arts subjects in play based and project thematic work.



### **Board of Management Report**

The Board of management met this week. The Board discussed the following:

- Reviewed the Critical Incidents Policy
- Reviewed the Enrolment Policy
- The Health and Safety Statement was reviewed and the possibility of the school getting a defibrillator was discussed.
- The Board always goes through a child protection report.
- School Self Evaluation
- Supporting Students with additional needs
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### **Parents Association News**

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- Ensuring the After School Activities are working for all
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- The PA will half fund a skipping workshop which will take place in January for all children in the school.

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### **Patron News**

#### **About the Patron Body**

The patron of a primary school owns or leases the school building and is responsible for the characteristic ethos of the school. Schools are managed by boards of management on behalf of the patron. The Patron of Griffith Barracks is the Patron Body. Our building is owned by the State.

#### **The Griffith Barracks Patron Body**

Who are they and how are they appointed?

The GBMDS Patron is a limited company subject to company law and has charitable status. Membership of the Patron is open to all who share the goals of the school. Anyone can join as a member for the academic year. The Patron Executive (PE) is the committee appointed by the Annual General Meeting each year to do the business of the Patron over the year.

The ethics committee is a sub-committee of the patron. This year the patron is leading a project on the greening of Griffith Barracks. Please contact Aaron Tay the Patron chairperson at [patron@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:patron@griffithbarracks.ie) if you would like to be involved in this project.

### **Lost Glasses**

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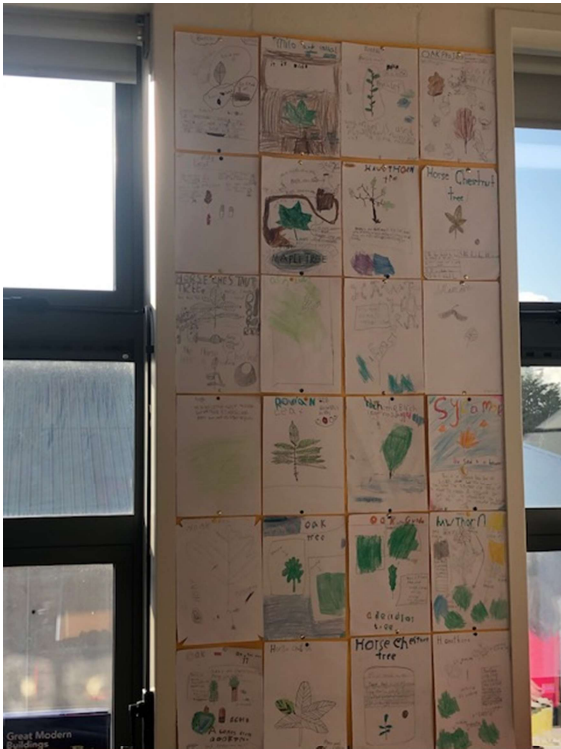


Figure 1 Excellent work on Trees in the Environment in R2



Figure 2 3 D forest based on found objects - a joint effort by Rang 1

#teamwork



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Figure 3 Dingle Scarecrows in Senior Infants

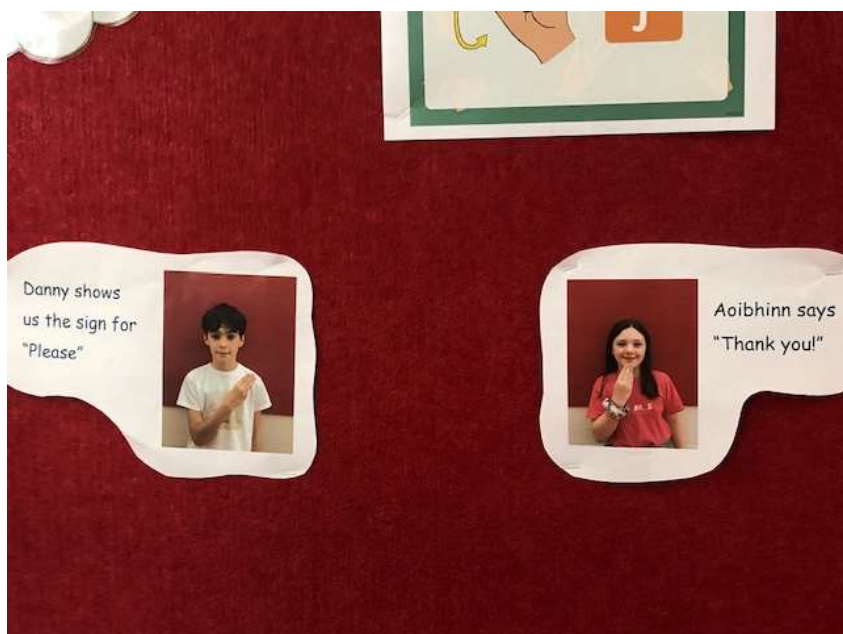


Figure 4 Learning to say please and thank you in ISL



Figure 5 Visual timetables in Junior Infants



Figure 6 Personal Profiles in Junior Infants



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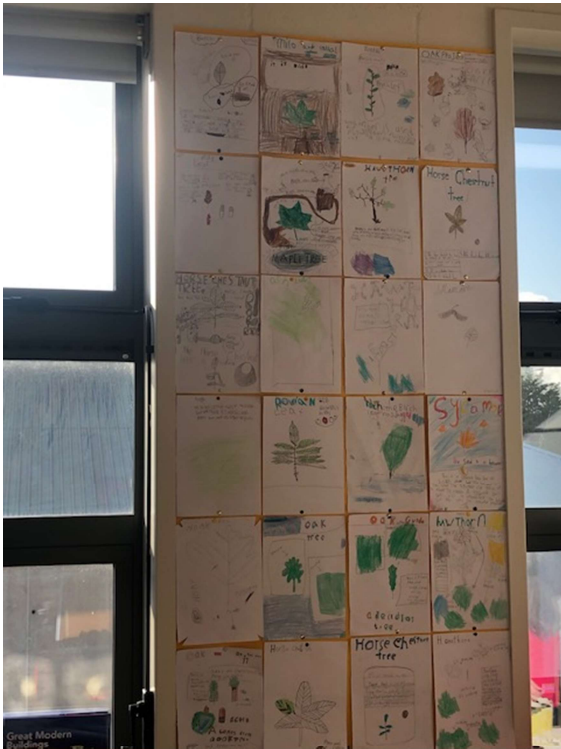


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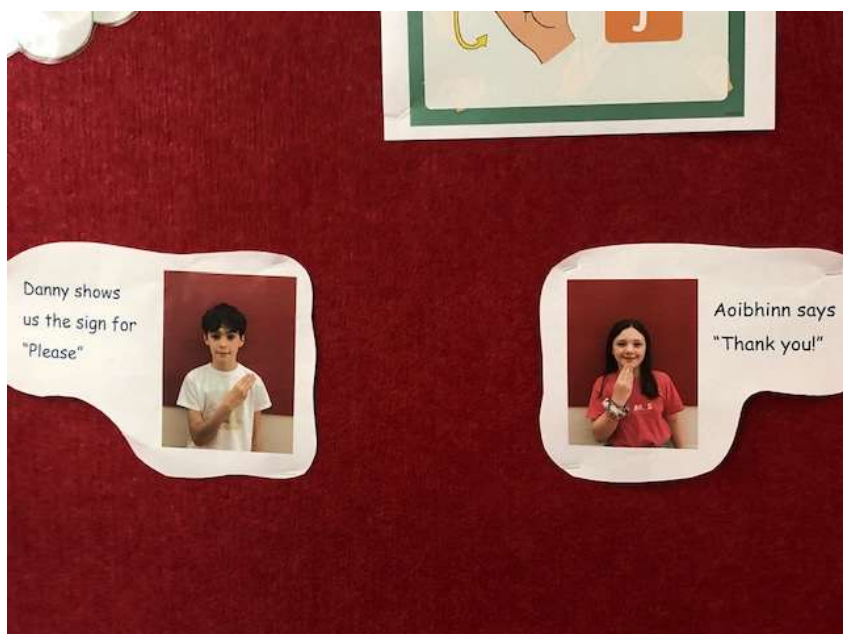


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