

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

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A Chairde (Friends),

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

## Reminder - Internet Safety Day – save the date

We will have an **Internet Safety Day on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October**. There will be workshops for children, a session for staff after school and then a parent information evening at 7pm in the school. For more information on the company leading the sessions check out <https://zeeko.ie/>.

## Weather warning

A status orange wind warning has been issued for five counties and a status yellow warning nationwide between this evening and tomorrow morning, when Storm Lorenzo is expected to make landfall in Ireland. Dublin falls under the yellow category. We will be monitoring the situation closely overnight to make sure that every precaution is taken to ensure that the children and all members of our school community are safe. Keep checking Aladdin for any notices or texts. The following Statement has been issued by the Department of Education and Skills:

*A status orange wind warning has been issued by Met Éireann for Galway, Mayo, Clare, Cork, Kerry and Limerick and will be in place from 6pm on Thursday to 3am on Friday morning.*

*Schools and all education centres (universities, IoTs and further education centres) in areas affected by a status orange alert should remain vigilant, and keep themselves apprised of any hourly and other updates from Met Éireann, and from their local authorities, local radio, and An Garda Síochána.*

*In all events, and if in any doubt, schools and other education settings should err on the side of caution. Schools are empowered to make closure decisions if, in their judgment in the interests of the safety of the school community, it is prudent to do so. Any and all decisions about school closures will be informed by, as well as prevailing and predicted conditions, any damage that might have been caused to school buildings overnight or at any time during the storm, and whether such damage – where it exists – might present a risk to safety. Similarly, other educational settings should make closure decisions based on those considerations.*

*We will continue to monitor the situation as it progresses and will follow any advice from the National Emergency Coordination Group. (DES, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019).*

## Library Update

Many thanks to those of you who have signed up to help with the shelving, alphabetising, bar-coding and sorting of books on Saturday October 12th from 10:30am - 1:30pm. We are still looking for more volunteers, so if you're free, please contact Jenny at [jenny.mccrohan@griffithbarracks](mailto:jenny.mccrohan@griffithbarracks).

This Wednesday, the staff started the process of opening all our library storage boxes. These books will form the nucleus of our new library. Many thanks to fourth class parents Brian and Nerea who stored so much of our school's resources whilst we were in Clogher Road.

When going through all the boxes of books, we came across a box of books suitable for older readers (left over from the Winter Fair 2018) so, in the spirit of reading, we'll leave a selection out next week and please help yourselves.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Class on News Today

5<sup>th</sup> Class were contributing yesterday to the weekly question on News Today, which is RTE's young people's news programme, which is broadcast daily. The question was "Do you think you're living in an important time in Irish history and why?" The contribution of 5<sup>th</sup> Class was read out on air. You can find it at 6 minutes and 17 seconds in on this link

<https://www.rte.ie/player/series/news2day/SI0000001210?epguid=IH000369226>. News Today is a great resource from our national broadcaster and does a great job explaining difficult questions and situations in the world around us.

### Peace Proms Choir

Well done to our choir members who came out in force on Tuesday morning at 08:10am, our day got off to a super start. The Peace Proms Choir (3rd - 6th) will perform on Saturday 1st February at the lunchtime concert in 2020. We presume there will be a 'Presale of Tickets' for parents again, last year these were available in November. We will notify parents as soon as the tickets become available, with a reminder that they sell out really quickly. Many thanks and any queries please contact Anne Marie or Jenny

### Intercultural day

The schools Intercultural Day which will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of November. This event is always a great event in the school calendar. If you would like to take part or volunteer contact Anita at [anita.dermody@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:anita.dermody@griffithbarracks.ie)

### Parents Association News

The Parent's Association met last night. The main item was the election of parent representatives to the Board of Management. The following parent representatives were elected:

- Niall Dunne (Junior Infant and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class parent)
- Aideen Burke (Junior Infant parent)

I'd like to wish Niall and Aideen all the best in their new roles. The Patron will now get to work on appointing patron nominees to the Board. Many thanks to Andy Haydu (Junior Infants and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class) and Sinead Riordan (2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Class) for their brilliant service on the Board over the past number of years. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing and diligent Board who have been champions of the school and steady as a rock during this period of great change for GBMDS. I'd particularly like to pay tribute to Paul Howe, who has been a great support to the school and to me personally since I came to Griffith Barracks in December 2017.

### Spooky Sponsored Walk

Our Spooky Sponsored Walks will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> October. This year we will be raising money for ICT equipment, a bubble tube for our Sensory Room and some soft furnishing for our library. Sponsorship cards will be issued two weeks before the event. Every year the whole of Griffith Barracks goes all out in the dressing up stakes. Any ideas for my costume this year?

### Payments to the School

Many thanks for all the voluntary contributions we received in the last week. We really couldn't provide the service we do here without them.

### Students of the week

Well done to all our students of the week.



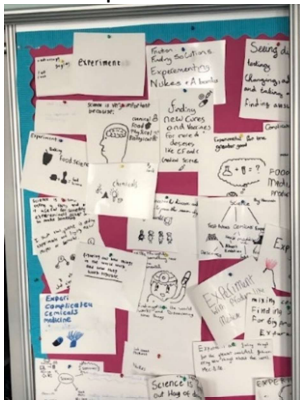


### Power Hour

First class are making great strides with their reading as part of our “Power Hour”. “Power Hour” or “Lift-Off to Literacy” is an intervention that gives children lots of opportunities to read books at their own level of competency and gradually lift the complexity of what they can do in both reading and writing.

### STEM Project

Sixth Class have been doing great work as part of their STEM workshops with facilitator Deitmar Weiss. Many thanks to Senior Infant parent Magali Lucchini who secured funding from her company which enabled us to offer these workshops.



### We are all learning ISL at Griffith Barracks

Great progress across the school this week with our signs where we learned “Yes” and “No” and our next three letters. You can help your child practice the signs using this link <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=irish+sign+language&&view=detail&mid=F937A277081D9204DF6CF937A277081D9204DF6C&&FORM=VRDGAR>

### Open Day Announcements

**Greenhills Community College** are having their Open Day on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October from 2pm to 4pm. See the noticeboard for further information regarding any of the upcoming Open Days.

Beir Bua,  
Eddie (Príomhoide)

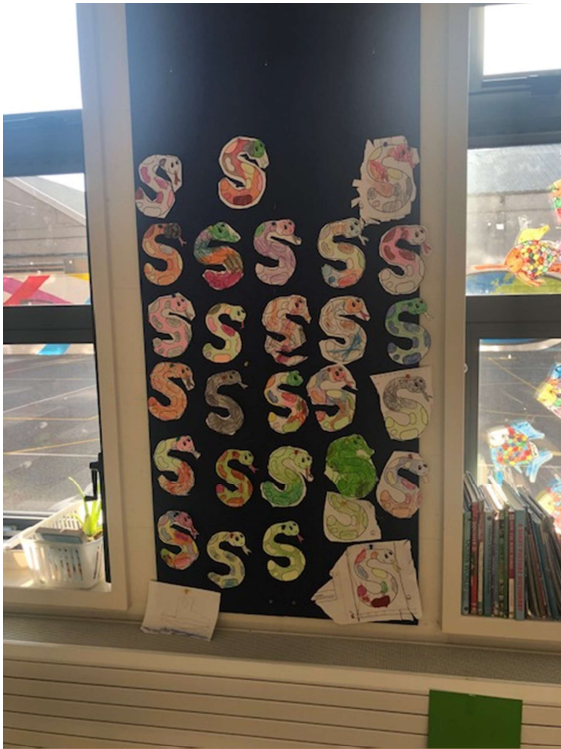


Figure 1 The Snake is in the Grass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4dF1gyiXOmQ>

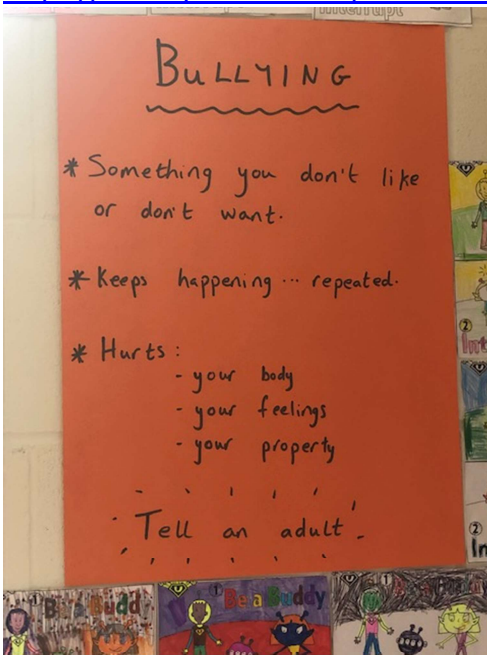


Figure 2 Looking at Bullying in Second Class

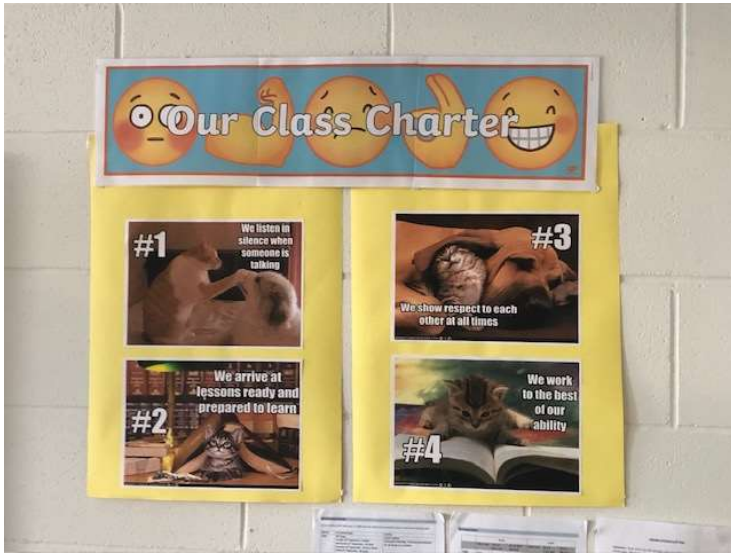


Figure 3 Rang 6 Class Charter has lessons for us all

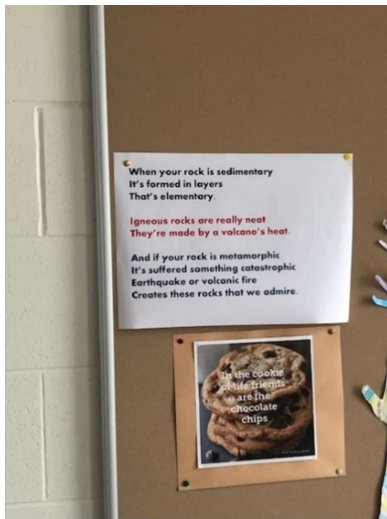


Figure 4 great and catchy poem about Rocks in second class



Figure 5 Data handling in Rang 4



Figure 6 Gaeilge in junior Infants



Figure 7 making a conversation easy - our focus this year!



Figure 8 Third class birthdays. We read all our birthdays out every week.



Figure 9 Statisticians of the future in Rang 4

