

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

28th November 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

It has been a great week here at GBMDS. Here is a flavour of all the great work in our school community over the last week.

Intercultural Day

Intercultural Education is education which respects, celebrates and recognises the normality of diversity in all areas of human life. It sensitises the learner to the idea that humans have naturally developed a range of different ways of life, customs and worldviews, and that this breadth of human life enriches all of us. It is education, which promotes equality and human rights, challenges unfair discrimination, and promotes the values upon which equality is built (NCCA, 2005).

Many thanks to all the Ethics Committee which has worked tirelessly to make our Intercultural Day a reality today. The Ethics Committee is a sub-committee of our Patron and meets monthly to discuss and promote our school ethos and ethical education within the school. Many thanks to Gill (our Chair), Anita, Jenny, Aaron, Lizzie and Beatrice who make up the committee. Thanks to Anita who coordinated the event amongst staff and students here at school. A big thank you to all the parents (representing 23 countries) who contributed food and time to make the day a great success. Intercultural Day celebrates all our connections here in Ireland and all over the world as well as a celebration of diversity. Below is a list of all the workshops that the children took part in today. We also have some photos fresh off the press from today's event.

If anybody left any trays, containers or plates here, please check in Reception as we have a collection of them left over. It would be great if you could collect them as soon as possible in case they go missing.

Today's Intercultural Workshops

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|------------------------------|--|
| Junior Infants Cian | Mother Tongues Workshop with Francesca |
| Junior Infants Cathal | Mother Tongues Workshop with Francesca |
| Senior Infants Ruth | Legends with Estelle |
| Senior Infants Claire | Legends with Estelle |
| 1 st Class | Legends with Estelle |
| Both 2 nd Classes | African Music Workshop with Justine & Michael |
| 3 rd Class | Belly Dancing with Elena Korean Culture Talk with Miss Kim & Aisling |
| 4 th Class | Capoeira Parish of the Travelling Community |
| 5 th Class | Anti-Racism Workshop – Gill African Music Workshop with Justine & Michael |
| 6 th Class | Nick Henderson, Refugee Council Muhammed and Tarek, Syrian Architects |

PA Meetings Survey

The Parents Association (PA) would like to plan their meetings for the rest of the year to ensure that as many people as possible can attend. A reminder to please click on the link below to take the PA meeting times survey. It's anonymous, will only take a minute and there's no obligation to attend every meeting. It'd just be great to know when would suit best for most people to come along when they can. The survey can be accessed here. It will close tomorrow. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9Q97F7W>.

WhatsApp Group Guidelines

I am attaching the WhatsApp Guidelines which our Ethics Sub-Committee worked on last year. A good way of looking at WhatsApp is - don't post it if you would not be prepared for that post to appear on the wall of the school with your name beside it. As a school community we have done a lot of work with the children in this area this term and I thought it was a good time to remind all of us adults how important it is to remember that WhatsApp is a great resource but needs to be used correctly.

Payments to the School

Many thanks to all who have already made a payment for trips, swimming and workshops, which was due at the beginning of November. A reminder to those that haven't made a payment yet to please do so on Aladdin. Junior and Senior Infants pay €40 and 1st - 6th Class pay €90 (includes the cost of swimming). It is possible to pay it in two instalments if you wish (minimum payment set at €40 per instalment).

Patron Gardening Group

The work of the Patron gardening group gathers pace in the coming week. We are preparing to get the planting area in the Infant yard in the back of the school ready for planting. We will have a weeding day next Monday if any parents are around to help.

Monday Dec 2nd: 1:00PM- 1:30PM

- Removing weeds from the planting areas
- Smoothing / flattening out of the existing beds

Friday Dec 6th

- Raised planters to be built
- Weatherboard will be cut to size and attached to the black back fence
- Volunteers required to assist in the weatherboard construction and attaching weed barrier membrane to the weatherboard to hold the topsoil.
- Some topsoil may be moved into place on Friday

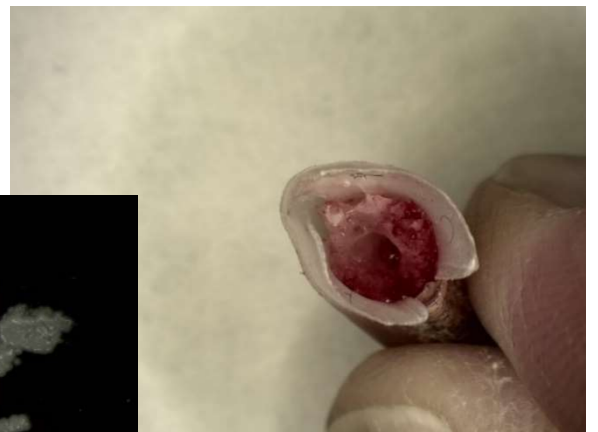
Saturday Dec 7th

- Moving topsoil to beds, covering of beds and clean up. Saturday work days are always a great way to meet other parents and make new friends at GBMDS.

Volunteers and equipment (wheelbarrows!) are needed and all are welcome to help. Please email patron@griffithbarracks.ie so we can coordinate. (Aaron, Patron Chairperson)

STEAM work in Rang 6

6th Class had the opportunity to use microscopes as part of a STEAM workshop. We looked at a range of items we brought from home such as poppy seeds, leaves and even a dog's toe nail! Thanks to Dietmar and Mason Technology for making this happen.



Students of the Week

Our Students of the Week will be announced by separate email tomorrow as we had such a busy day today.

Save the Date Winter Celebration

A reminder that we will all gather together for our end of term celebration on Thursday 19th December. There will be two shows:

- Show 1 - 9.05am - Junior Infants, Senior Infants, Rang 5, Rang 6
- Show 2 - 11am - Rang 1, 2, 3, 4

This day is always one of the special days of the year and shows off our community at its best.

A message from Football for All at Templeogue Utd

Templeogue Utd is delighted to announce our new section and is looking to recruit new players and volunteers that would be available to help out.

In 2010 the FAI 'Football for All' programme established a network of 'Football for All Clubs' through existing FAI Clubs across Ireland. These clubs provide opportunities for children with various disabilities who may struggle to excel in the environment of Underage/Mainstream Football. The 'Football for All Clubs' enable these children to join & train at the club & more importantly to be part of their local community.

We are now in the process of establishing our own 'Football for All' team within Templeogue Utd & participate in a new Football League. There will be different Divisions set up...one for players comfortable on the ball & other Divisions where the players will be mixed with 'Mainstream Players. This ensures all children will have an opportunity to participate ...no matter what their level.

Our 'Football for All' programme will follow the FAI Guidelines & is open to all players...both boys & girls...from ages u6 to u16..... with a range of disabilities.

There will also be a number of 'Mixed Mini World Cup competitions in which a mixture of mainstream players most of whom who have never played on a team mix with Children with Down syndrome /Autism etc. These children will of course play on the same. teams.

Once we have received the names of players wishing to participate, we will organise a meeting with all parents and volunteers to progress this further within Templeogue Utd.

We kindly ask that you or anyone that you know please forward on this message to colleagues and friends for our Football for All training sessions which will allow all children to be part of our Club and its activities. We hope to start with open training sessions on our Astro pitch from 4pm to 5pm on Saturday afternoons. Hopefully with everyone's help our program will commence in February 2020 or earlier if circumstances permit. To register, please e-mail your details to Johncannon64@yahoo.co.uk

Contact number

John Cannon 0876277938

Any questions/queries, please e-mail or call me.

Kind Regards, On behalf of the Executive and Football committee

John Cannon Secretary Templeogue United

Craft Fair and Exhibition

The South Inner City Adult Education Service are hosting a **Craft Fair and Exhibition** from 4pm to 6:30pm next **Wednesday 4th December**. Learners from across a variety of our art and crafting programmes will be exhibiting their work, with much of it for sale. They will also have information on the wide variety of adult education programmes that we provide exhibited on the day. It will take place in the main hall, on the first floor of Liberties College, Bull Alley St, Dublin 8. Unfortunately, this venue is not wheelchair accessible.

Beir bua,
Eddie



