

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

I hope you have all been enjoying the good weather this week, which is a marked contrast from last year when we were all tobogganing down the hill in Sundrive Park.

There is lots going on in the school at the moment. Our Library project is nearing completion and coming to the exciting building phase and the decking has been placed on our wonderful roof terrace. The final piece of our art project which is a sculpture will be fitted in the next few weeks. Here is a picture of the sculpture from the workshop. This is before it is painted.



## *Language Curriculum School Closure*

**School will be closed for all children on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May for a Language Curriculum training day.** The primary language curriculum is being introduced in English and Gaeilge (Junior Infants to Second Class) across the country and every school will have had a similar closure this year. Next week the staff have a specialist advisor in Gaeilge (Irish) coming out to the school to support us in the implementation and teaching of Gaeilge in the school. For more information on the primary language curriculum just follow the link below:

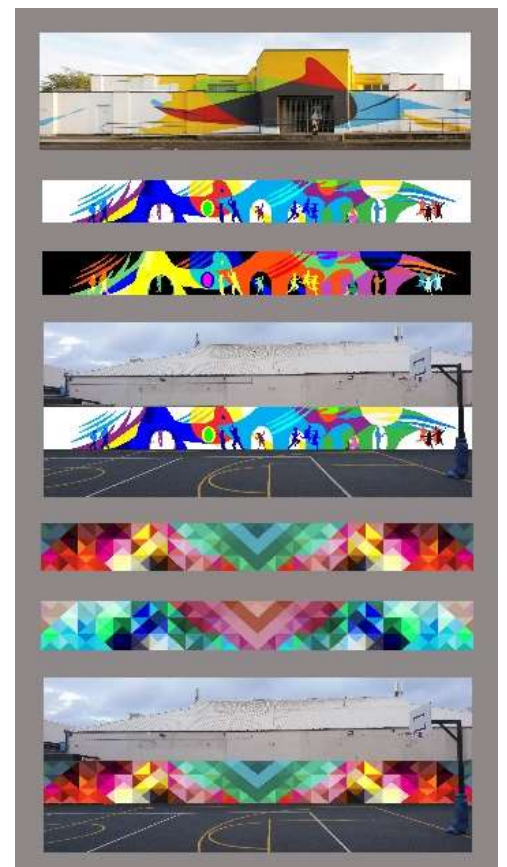
<https://www.curriculumonline.ie/Primary/Curriculum-Areas/Language-New-Junior-infants-2nd-class>

## *Wall Mural*

This Friday, we are lucky to have parent and Muralist Fintan Kennedy coming in to the school. He will meet all the children and every child will get a template to bring home where they can draw and colour their ideas for the mural. These ideas will then be worked on by Fintan to come up with a final design. The Student Dáil are also working on a school mascot at the moment and we hope this will be part of the mural in some way as well as a poetry section.

## *Athletics Training*

Clare D. sent out an email yesterday to all relevant parents and classes about our arrangements for Santry Athletics this year. I know she is looking for some parent helpers over the course of the training days this year. If you think you may be able to help, contact Clare at [clare.dunne@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:clare.dunne@griffithbarracks.ie). Many thanks to Clare, Anne Marie and Eoin for all their help with Santry this year. It is always a great thrill for the boys and girls to compete in our National Athletics stadium.



## On Next Week

### 6<sup>th</sup> Class – Science Blast next Wednesday

6<sup>th</sup> Class take part in Science Blast next week which is a primary school relative of the Young Scientist Programme. Many thanks to Anita for organising. It is an exhibition day and the children will have great fun presenting their work and looking at the work of others.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Class – Swift expert to R2 and R3

#### A heritage in Schools expert to visit R2 and R3

Super Swift *Swift* Facts from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class:

- Swifts can fly without landing for up to ten months!
- They fly up as high as 3.2 km and then they take cat naps as they glide down.
- They fly low to eat, catching spiders, flies and midges.
- They're like house martins and swallows.
- They breed in Ireland usually in small recesses and holes
- Swifts come to Ireland for the summer months & live in Africa from winter to April

### 5<sup>th</sup> Class – trip to The Ark to see “Peat”

On the edge of a town, in the middle of a bog, half way between a school and a housing estate, Ray and Jo have come to dig a hole. Peat is the story of the things they bury, and the things they find.

With lightness and humour, this new play for children asks big questions about life, death, time and history. A conversation between two 11-year olds who find themselves standing on top of everything that has ever happened, it is a story of friendship, loss, and finding our place in the world.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Class – Ruth Johnson (parent) giving a talk on Archaeology

Ruth Johnson is City Archaeologist for Dublin city and is charged with protecting, managing and investigating our oldest heritage, much of it underground. She has kindly agreed to talk to 2<sup>nd</sup> class about her work and archaeology in general.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Class – Soccer Blitz next Friday

6<sup>th</sup> class will take part in a soccer blitz with other schools in the area over the next two weeks.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Class Ciorcal Cómhra

Many thanks to parents Donnchadh, Ailbhe and Deirdre who will take part over the next two weeks in conversation circles with 6<sup>th</sup> class. Conversation Circles work in the following way. The five adults in the room spend 5 minutes with each group on a topic heading. The bell rings and the adults switch groups. It means that after each session every child has practiced their oral Irish with each other and five other adult speakers.

### Hurling in Junior Infants

Over the next number of weeks St. Kevins Development Officer Paul Mc Manus will be in working with Junior Infants on Hurling and Camogie. These taster sessions are great fun and the children will really enjoy them.



## Save the Date - 6<sup>th</sup> Class Play

6<sup>th</sup> class are hard at work to bring you this year's play 'A Cloud in Space' which will take place on **Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of April** in the Archbishop Byrne Hall, Synge Street. Hope you can all make it!! More details to follow in the coming week. Many thanks to all the 6<sup>th</sup> class parents for all their sterling work behind the scenes to make this a reality.

### World Book Day Dress Up Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Calling all budding Harry Potters, Hermiones, Doctors (sic) Noel Zones and more, we'll be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>** this year. The children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character. Dressing up is entirely optional.

Every year a splash of colour comes to GBMDS as we celebrate World Book Day. The whole school dresses up as their favourite book character and we will celebrate our favourite books. I am already planning my costume.



### Seachtain na Gaeilge March 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>

Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week). As part of the celebrations we will have the following:

- Siopa Gaeilge – Irish language shop
- Damhsa Gaelach – Irish Dancing for all students in the hall
- Seó Gaeilge – Each class will perform in our Irish language show
- PE and Art through Irish – Over the month we will be doing some of our PE and art lessons through Irish
- Jokes, poems and riddles on the intercom – bringing a smile to us all with jokes, riddles and songs performed on the intercom

This year our sponsored walk event will be part of our Siúlóid Glas (Irish language Walk). We will send out sponsorship cards next week. The money raised from this event will go towards ICT equipment.

### Students of the Week

Well done to all our students of the week.



*Beir Bua,*

Eddie  
Príomhoide



*A great Presentation on Buddhism at Assembly*