

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

7<sup>th</sup> February 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

We have been really busy across the school this week. We have been singing, coming up with business ideas, looking forward to Grandparents Day and learning about practical ways to help the planet to name but a few. Today lots of the children who are studying Chinese New Year as part of their ethics programme got to take part in a workshop run by Schools workshops Ireland. In assembly we were looking at practical ways we can all help with climate change and sustainability. In the Junior Assembly we looked at "One Plastic Bag" a wonderful story on the recycling of plastic by Isatou Ceesay. At the Senior Assembly we looked through different scenarios from Travel, cooking, gardening, plastics and energy. Our discussion was based on "50 Ways to Save the Planet" by Sian Berry which is a great resource to discuss climate change with older children and adolescents.



## PA AGM and new Officers

Many thanks to all the parents who turned up to the PA AGM last night. The main things we worked on were the passing of the GBMDS Parents Association Constitution and the standardisation of After School Activities (ASA's). I want to thank all the outgoing committee for their sterling work on behalf of all of us in our community. It is great that all this work on the constitution, after school activities as well as a really good system of online payments for ASA's is now in place. The new committee now consists of:

Co-Chairperson – James Parkin (3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Class Parent)

Treasurer – Warren Dowling (SI Parent)

Secretary – TBD

There are still some officer vacancies which will be filled at the next meeting. The PA are planning to have lots of fun events which we hope will be really enjoyable and beneficial to all parents in the school. Many thanks to Samantha and Margaret for organising the AGM. I know they are not exiting stage left fully and will be still a valued part of the PA going forward.

Here's a note from outgoing Chairperson, Samantha:

*We had a great AGM last night and thanks to all who attended and who contributed to the discussions. And to Eddie for his presentation and lovely insight to our kids busy and varied school life. Happy to say the Constitution was adopted and Motions passed - the amended documents will be posted up soon.*

*Thanks and good luck to our new Co-Chair James Parkin and Warren Dowling Treasurer.*

## Grandparent's Day Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of February – Save the Date

**Grandparents Day will take place at 11am to 12.30pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of February.** All grandparents and special older relatives of every child in the school are welcome. We are so excited to welcome everyone to the school and thank you all for such a great response.

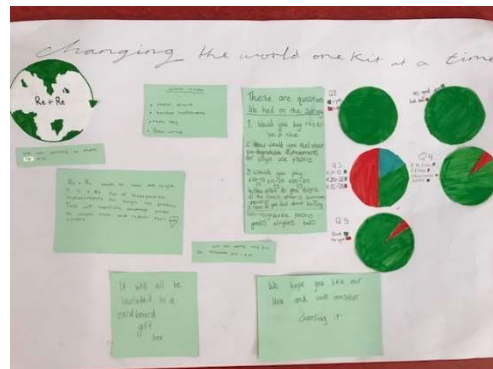
## Dragons Den



On the 6<sup>th</sup> February, we (6<sup>th</sup> Class) pitched our ideas for JEP to the Dragons Den (Eddie Fox, Clare Dunne and Sinead Deegan)! Each group spoke about their idea in hopes of getting picked! The idea/product Re+Re was the one that the Dragons picked for us all to work on. It is a truly brilliant idea but all the ideas were great. Even though going into the Dragons Den was nerveracking, it was an amazing experience! (by Ayla & Saoirse, Rang 6).

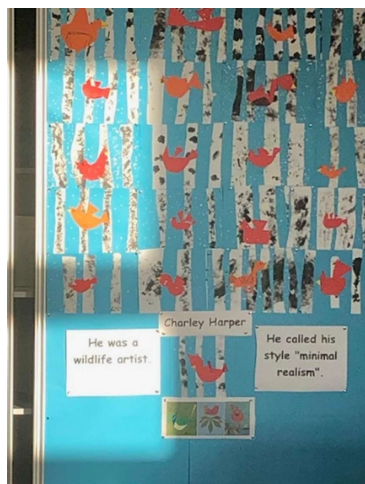
Dragons Den was one of the highlights of my week. Many thanks to parent and business owner, Sinead Clarke, who shared her wealth of experience and knowledge with us all yesterday. I was really struck by how each team delivered their pitches with good

humour, great social skills and teamwork. They are a credit to all their families and teachers.

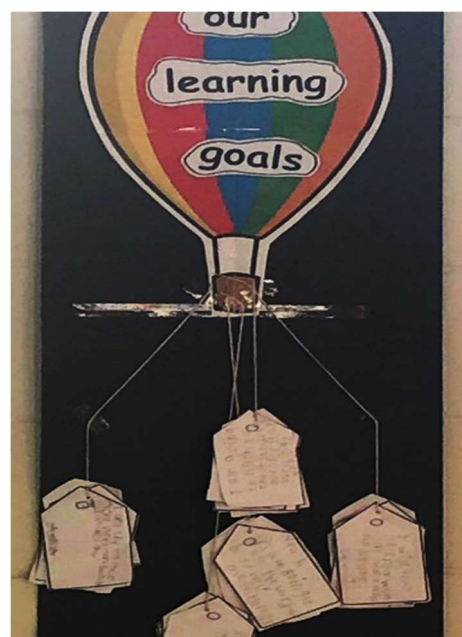


Happy Chinese New Year

## Around the School



Rang 1 Aisling working on Wildlife Artist Charlie Parker



Rang 1 Anne Marie are sure getting through those Learning Goals



Tá an Ghaeilge beo i rang 2



Scientists Extraordinaire in Rang 2 Jenny

### Junior Infant Parent Teacher Meetings

Reminder that the Junior Infant parent teacher meetings will take place next Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of February. If you have not self-scheduled a meeting by now, Cathal and Cian will have pencilled you in to a slot.

### Cian has been working on Junk Art

One infant's rubbish is another's ....

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/One-infants-rubbish-is-another-infants-treasure-/3839/Index.html>

Recycling Art in JI Cian



### R2 Titanic Project

I spent a wonderful afternoon last week with Second class where we talked about their work on the Titanic. All the class dressed up (including Jenny) in clothes from the era and I loved the way they explored the topic by looking at it through the eyes of actual people who were onboard. We also had a really interesting discussion around the artefacts that the children brought in as part of the project. Many thanks to Jenny for organising and to all the parents who helped to get all the boys and girls into the spirit in what was a great day.



Rang 2 Titanic Project

### Credit Union Quiz

Our Sixth Class quiz team represented our school with aplomb at the Credit Union Quiz in Taney Parish Centre last Saturday. They pitted their wits ably against all the best primary quizzers of South Dublin. This is the first time that GBMDS has taken part in this event and I want to thank the entire team for being a pleasure to work with. I hope they enjoyed the experience as much as I did.



Credit Union Quiz

### Curriculum News

This week we have been looking at Gaeilge and Music and at different resources and approaches to both. CLIL – Content Language integrated learning is where you teach language to the children through the performance of a skill or task. As part of our work in March we will be teaching some Art and PE lessons through Irish which will mean we are expanding our use of Gaeilge without even realising it. In music we have been looking at new resources which will help in the teaching of music going forward.

### Peace Proms



We are so proud of our Peace Prom Choir's performance on Sunday at the RDS, when they formed part of the 2,300 choir with orchestra and guest singers. **We welcome 3rd - 6th Class parents to attend an abridged performance of the concert in our hall at 1:45pm tomorrow.** The concert starts promptly at 1:45 and runs for about 30 minutes, so please come at 1:40 to be seated. Below are some great memories of last Sunday night. A huge thank you to Jenny, Anne Marie and Clare for all their work and commitment in the lead up to the show and many thanks to Anita and Aine who came and helped on the night. Below are some great photos of the night.

<https://twitter.com/gregbeardsell/status/1092177326140477445>

*On Sunday, the choir went to Peace Proms in the RDS. It was so much fun. We sang loads of songs and medleys that we practiced throughout the year, including The Greatest Showman Medley, which we sang at the Winter Performance, the Matilda Medley and the Boogie Medley. I was one of about 2300 kids in the Peace Proms Choir. There were also two amazing soloists and the orchestra was really talented and sounded great. Irish and Scottish Dancers were there as well, to do some traditional dances along to the music. The orchestra played music in between all of our songs, it was really fun to sing and dance along to the songs we knew. Thank you to Jenny, Anne Marie, Clare and all of the other parents and teachers who came to the Peace Proms. It was a really great experience and I'm really glad I did it. (Ella M. Rang 6)*



### ETHX Campaign Public Meeting

Over 250 people showed up to the second level campaign meeting last week. There were so many Griffith Barracks parents in the crowd. All parents spoke really convincingly of important it is to include Dublin 8 and Dublin 12 in the catchment area for the new school. It is testament to the hard work of the committee that there was such a great attendance. Check out the link below of the report on Morning Ireland based on the event.

[cdn.rasset.ie/manifest/audio](http://cdn.rasset.ie/manifest/audio)



### Students of the Week

Well done to all our students of the week.



*Beir Bua,*

Eddie  
Príomhoide

