

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

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7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

It has been a pleasure to be in GBMDS this week. We talk a lot as teachers about active learning and this hands on learning has been evident in spades this week here at the school. Below is a taste of life in the school over the past week. There is so much going on I know I have left out something. It is the best complaint to have as a principal writing the weekly newsletter.

## *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*

Last Friday Muralist and Parent Fintan Kennedy came to meet all the children in the school and get their ideas for our outside wall mural. We will now go through all the designs and come up with a final design based on the submissions. Many thanks to all the children who submitted such amazing and thought-provoking pieces.

## *Athletics Training*

Last Monday we braved the elements to get down to Sundrive Park for the start of our Athletics training. We had 98 eager athletes in total - a record number learning new skills. If any parents are available to help out for the hour between 2pm and 3pm, we would greatly appreciate it. Please contact Clare at [clare.dunne@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:clare.dunne@griffithbarracks.ie). Training will continue next Monday and children can be collected at 3pm from the park or 3.30pm from the school. Many thanks to Clare, Anne Marie and Eoin for organising. It is great to be getting out and there was great endurance and stamina thanks to the daily mile. Here's hoping there is a future Ciara Mageean or Mark English among our athletes.

## *Ciorcal Cómhrá*

Many thanks to the four parents who made our Irish Language session interactive in 6<sup>th</sup> class. Our two weeks has spurred us on to try this again at a later time in the year. This week all the teachers had great training in the Irish Section of the primary language curriculum.

## *PA*

The Parent's Association have a meeting tonight at 7.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

## *Swimming*

3<sup>rd</sup> Class will have their last swimming session this Friday. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Anne Marie and 1<sup>st</sup> Class Aisling will begin their 7 swimming sessions next Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> March and continue until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

## *Closure for St. Patrick's Weekend*

A reminder that the school will close for St. Patrick's Bank Holiday weekend on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at the normal time and reopen on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### School Library

The school library tender sub committee met this week. Many thanks to 1<sup>st</sup> class parent Denise for all her work on this, as well as parent, Patrick McKenna. All this work will really stand to us in the building phase of the project. The project is now ready to go out to tender.

### Harold's Cross Youth and Football Club

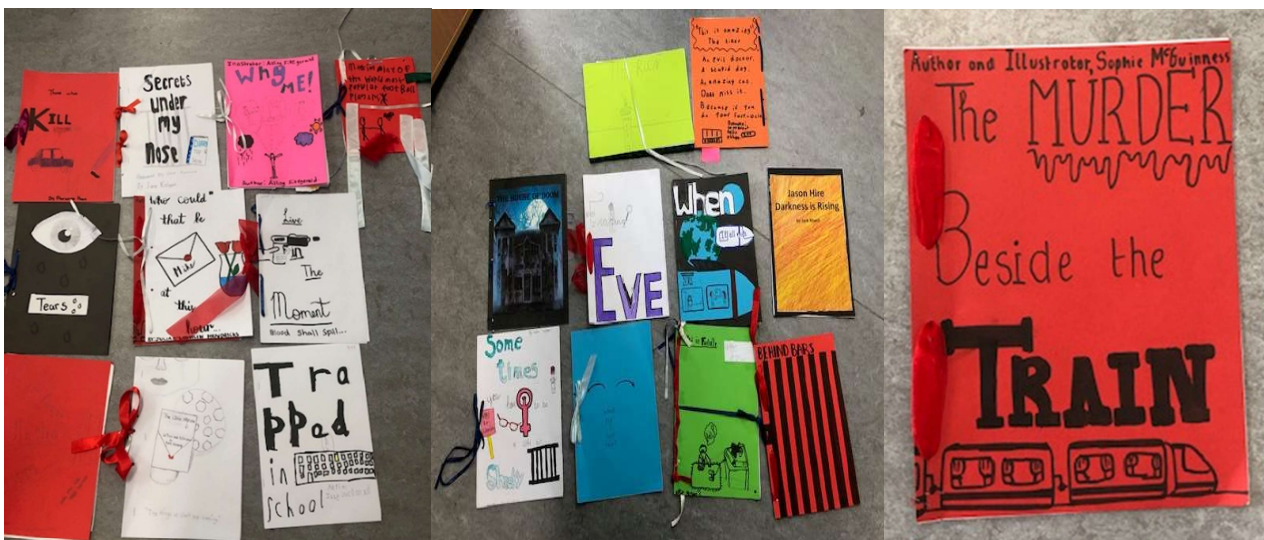
We have been asked to let you know that Harold's Cross Youth and Football Club are looking for players (born in 2007) for their U12's soccer team. They play in Rosary Park in Harold's Cross on Saturday mornings and train in Larkview All Weather Pitch (Lower Kimmage Road) on Wednesdays from 5.45pm to 6.45pm. Contact Robbie on 085-7706520 or [haroldscrossyouthclub@gmail.com](mailto:haroldscrossyouthclub@gmail.com) if interested.

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

Book day was a super success with the whole school celebrating all things to do with books and reading.



Every class held lots of different events over the last week. There is such a great culture of reading and a love of books in the school and it is something we treasure. I really appreciate the time and thought that went into all the costumes and many thanks to the staff for joining in with the fun.



4th class showed off the books they'd made in their own book fair



*6th Class learned that you can't judge a book by the cover*

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

This year our sponsored walk event will be part of our Siúlóid Glas (Irish Language Walk). All children will be given a Sponsorship Card today and we are attaching a soft copy with today's note in case it goes astray. The money raised from this event will go towards ICT equipment.

Next Monday the Siopa Gaeilge will be open for business. This is not a fundraiser and the main aim is to give an opportunity to the boys and girls to use their Irish in a real life context. If everybody could bring in €1 for the shop that would be great. Don't worry if you forget the money everyone will get a chance.

### **School Calendar for next year – 2019/20**

Please find attached a copy of next year's school Calendar. School will reopen after the summer holidays on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. The Calendar will also be available on the website if you ever need to check something and have misplaced your copy.

### **Students of the Week**

Well done to all our students of the week.

### **Climate Change Day of Action**



*Next Friday is International Day of Action on climate change. At GBMDS we will:*

DEATAOCC – Drop everything and take action on climate change. We hope to gather in the yard after discussing and sharing our knowledge views and concerns on Climate change. Resident photographers Emma and Aisling will then take a photo from the air which we will email to as many of the 158 Dáil members as we can along with an accompanying letter composed by the Green Council. Climate change is something that affects us all. It is great to see all the students, parents and staff get involved. 5<sup>th</sup> class can sign up to go to the protest on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> with Ben and Cian and will represent the school. We will send a letter on Monday to 5<sup>th</sup> Class about this.

### Hurling and Camogie Training

Many thanks to Paul Mc Manus of St. Kevins who has been working with the Infant classes on Camogie and Hurling this term. The children have really enjoyed it. Paul will be working with a number of classes over the rest of the year. Many thanks to Cian for organising.



### 6<sup>th</sup> Class Science Blast

Well done sixth class who did us proud in the RDS at Science Blast which is the primary relative of the Young Scientists exhibition. The students asked the question “does the colour of food affect our perception of taste. Many thanks to Anita for organising.



### Visits by a Swift expert, a DSPCA rep and a Geology expert today



Second and Third Class were visited by a Swift expert this week. Dublin City Council arranged for Eric Dempsey. Second and third class are now starting a campaign “Save the Swift”. Helen Bourke who is the community Development officer from Dublin City Council hopes to install some Swift boxes in our school and with our neighbours before the Swift mating season. Rang 1 also had a geological expert talk to them. These talks are

organised through the Heritage in Schools scheme. Senior Infants and Junior Infants worked with an expert from the DSPCA

### **Learning about Pets and Caring in Senior Infants**

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Learning-about-Pets-and-caring-for-animals-in-Senior-Infants/3849/Index.html>

### **Pearse Day Workshop**

As part of Pearse Day, poet, playwright and Author, **Dermot Bolger**, will be holding a writer's talk and creative writing workshop at Pearse College on Thursday, 14 March at 11.30am (to 1pm). Places on the workshop can be booked by emailing [syarker@pearsecollege.ie](mailto:syarker@pearsecollege.ie), or alternatively, just show up on the day.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Class Tom Crean Project**

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/3rd-class-exploring-the-life-of-Tom-Crean/3844/Index.html>

### **Save the Date Official Opening**

The Official Opening of the School will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> May. We will give more details in the coming week.

Eddie  
Príomhoide