

# GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

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2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

## *Reminder - Language Curriculum School Closure*

**School will be closed for all children tomorrow 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. 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>

## *Griffith Barracks 80s Night, The Ringside Club at The National Stadium, SCR – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May*

As a finish to a great week of celebration for the school, a group of parents are organising a great **social night on Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at the Ringside Club at the National Stadium, SCR, Dublin 8** which promises to be the Griffith Barracks social event of the year.

There will be a live band of very familiar faces who have joined together under the moniker of "**Straight to Video**". The band will accompany an array of budding and experienced vocalists from the sea of talent that is the Griffith Barracks parent body, staff and even Eddie! This will be followed by a Disco with DJ till late. Tickets are a steal for €8 and will be on sale in the school yard and on eventbrite at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gbmds80s-tickets-61091770129>

Money raised will go towards a Sensory Room and Sensory Garden within the Guardhouse of the school, which will be an amazing mindful area. Many thanks to all the parents who have brought this event to fruition. Please also see the cool poster attached.

## *Anybody not returning to the school in September*

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child will not be returning to the school in September. We have long waiting lists of children trying to get into the school and it is very important for the retention of staff and resources that we have accurate student number projections for September. If you think you may not be coming back in September contact me at [eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie)

## *Book Money due*

Attached to the newsletter today is the schedule of school payments. It explains when payments happen and how to make a payment in our school. The first payment is the book payment which includes books, ET subscription, site licences, pupil insurance, photocopying and art materials etc. This payment is for the school year 2019/2020

You will receive a payment request today through our Aladdin system. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions

## *Official Opening*

The Official Opening of the School will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am (not at 11am as previously advised). Many thanks to all the members of our school community who expressed an interest in attending and to those who have volunteered to help. I am looking for volunteers to help to weed the roof terrace and the walkway at the side of the school. If you can help email me at

[eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie](mailto:eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie). We will be in the school tomorrow if anyone can help with this also.

We want to make the opening a memorable event for the children. As part of the celebrations we will have:

- an ice-cream van,
- renowned Storyteller Niall De Burca will do three shows for all the classes in the school.

- Dublin Circus Project, which is based here in Dublin 8 and which has been an ASA offering here will give a workshop to all classes.
- The event will be filmed for in-house screenings later. Many thanks to 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class parent Fiach Cooling for all his help with this.
- There was great work by Myriam (R3, R1) and Sinéad (R1) making the servery sparkle in the hall. Many thanks to all the parents who have been a great support in the run up to the event. It will be great to see all the friends of GBMDS join together next Wednesday in what will be a very special day of celebration for the school

### Students of the Week

Well done to all the Students of the Week



### Assembly

This week in assembly we were discussing our in-house variety show that will take place at the end of June. This will be a chance for all the children to share their talents with their friends and fellow students. The children are also really excited about the plans for the official opening.

### School Photos

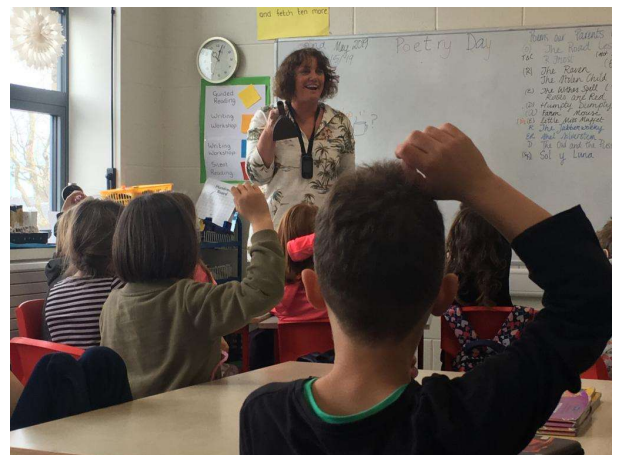
Class photos will now take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May for Senior Infants to Sixth Class. Apologies for the miscommunication and many thanks to all the parents who answered the poll saying they would like class photos every year. All photos will be back in the school over the next few weeks.

### Poetry Day

Many thanks to Jenny for organising Poetry Day and carrying on the great tradition of the spoken word that we have here in the school.

Many thanks to:

- Creative Associate, Sarah Fitzgibbon, who worked on song writing with 4<sup>th</sup> Class, based on the work of David Bowie. She also worked with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> class on the poetry of Shel Silverstein.
- Senior Infant Parent and Drama teacher, Mairead Crowley who worked with Senior Infants and Rang 1 on the poetry of Yeats amongst others.
- Real life Poet, former parent and friend of the school Enda Wyley who visited Rang 2 and Rang 6. We are so lucky to have Enda as part of our day. We looked at the Poem "Smile" by Mathew Sweeney when I joined sixth class for their workshop with Enda and you would all be so proud of the standard of work and how comfortable the children are with words. They responded so well to Enda.



The poetry wall is still in progress. The first poem up there is from former parent Nuala Finnegan, another critical friend of the school who sadly passed away last year. This work will be joined by a piece by Enda Wyly and a piece by Seamus Heaney. We also hope to have a children's poetry wall. Many thanks to 4<sup>th</sup> class parent Fintan Kennedy for all his work and support with this. As part of our creative schools work we also surveyed the children on their favourite books and we will have them represented on the stairs of the school. Here is a mock up below

### What Griffith Barracks means to us

This week Junior Infant Film maker and Junior Infant parent Jack Caffrey joined us at the school where he spent the day working with the whole school posing the question – "What Griffith Barracks means to me". Our short film will premiere at the school opening next Wednesday. I would like to thank Jack and his partner Abigail for their generous donation of time and expertise in what was a great experience for all the school and will be a great snapshot into the life at GBMDS.

1	<b>MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS</b>	Agatha Christie
2	<b>OWL BABIES</b>	MARTIN WADDELL
3	<b>Pigín of Howth</b>	Kathleen Watkins
4	<b>the Princess of BLACK</b>	Shannon Hale and Dean Hale
5	<b>CROWN NIGHT STORIES OF THE REBEL GIRLS</b>	Elena & FRANCESCA FAVILL & FRANCESCA CAVALLO
6	<b>ONE OF US IS LYING</b>	KAREN M. McMANUS
7	<b>The Snarling of Wolves</b>	Vivian French
8	<b>DÓNAL DÁNA</b>	FRANCESCA SIMON
9	<b>HORRIBLE HISTORIES AWESOME EGYPTIANS</b>	Ferry, Deary & Peter Hignettwhite
10	<b>THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN JACK</b>	DAV PILKEY
11	<b>ALEX RIDER SERIES</b>	ANTHONY HOROWITZ
12	<b>CHERUB</b>	Robert Muchamore

### Green Flag award

Super news from the Green Council – We have just received our sixth green flag. The focus this time was on Global Citizenship and litter and Waste. Well done to Cathal and all the Green Council. A big thank you to Clare and Aisling who were also a big support to the committee. A great achievement!

