

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

30th May 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

It has been a really positive week at GBMDS. Our new Junior Infants for 2019 visited the school in groups each afternoon this week. We are really looking forward to them joining our school community next September. Our new parents also got to see our Parent's Room, which is a great asset to the school and a big achievement by our outgoing parents committee. Below is a taste of life in the school over the last week. The school finishes at normal time tomorrow and returns at normal time on Tuesday June 4th. Bíodh deireadh seachtaine deas agaibh (Have a lovely weekend everyone).

Books, materials, licences and insurance money

Many thanks to all who have paid book money. Rene will send a link to everybody again next week. It would be great to have all book money paid by June 20th so we can get on with our plans for September 2019.

After School Activities Parent Survey

The council of the Parents Association (PA) has created a survey to gather feedback from the parent body and GBMDS students regarding our after-school activities (ASAs) - both current and planned. We would also like to hear from parents regarding future information talks for parents to be held as part of the PA programme of events. It's estimated that the survey should take no more than a few minutes to complete and everyone can participate and give their feedback.

Please complete by clicking on the link [here](#).

If you have problems launching the survey please copy the following to your browser

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D6YBB3H>

The survey will remain open for responses until June 7th.

Best wishes & many thanks ~ GBMDS Parents Association

School Photos and Family Portraits

Tomorrow morning at drop off time is the last opportunity to order photos through the school as the order will be collected about 9am. There will be a box outside Rene's office where you can put your sealed pouch or envelope clearly stating your name and class if you wish to order through us. Just contact the office if you need to order from the company directly.

Assembly

This week in assembly we celebrated World Bicycle Day and looked at the story "Cycle City" by Alison Farrell.

https://books.google.ie/books/about/Cycle_City.html?id=wkDntAEACAAJ&source=kp_book_descripti on&redir_esc=y

It is always great to see so many cyclists, walkers and scooters in GBMDS. Each week we have a competition to celebrate all the students who walk, cycle scoot and use public transport to school. In Senior Assembly we looked at the real life "Cycle City" of Copenhagen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSQ7wUBeEZ0&feature=youtu.be>

Students of the Week

Well done to all the Students of the Week.



European Election Hustings

6th class students attended a European Elections hustings hosted by Educate Together and the Children's Rights Alliance. Many thanks to Jen (R6, 5, SI) for coming with us on the trip and it was great to meet Tanya (R2, JI) from the Children's Rights Alliance. Tanya told us about the **#nochild2020 campaign**. It focuses on the elimination of child poverty as we celebrate 100 years since the Dáil met for the first time. You can find out more about the campaign here

<https://www.irishtimes.com/nochild2020>



Summer Camp

Emma, Clare and Aisling are running an independent summer camp in Griffith Barracks for the first two weeks of July. Camp 1 will run from 8.50am – 2pm on July 1st- 5th and Camp 2 will run from 8.50am to 2pm on July 8th- 12th. The camp is open to 5-10 year olds. The daily activities will include art & crafts, yoga, dance, drama, games and much more. They will be allocating places through a lottery system and will let you know whether or not your child has received a place. Upon confirmation of a place payment can be dropped into the Summer Camp Box in Rene's office. Please make sure payment is in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class printed clearly.

As high demand for places is anticipated we ask that parents select only one of the weeks available for their child (see link to form below).

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoCrpF2HF8N3hqls-3leaHQVXQqEvPMRKVMBOGvyt1bfgtWQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Any questions can be emailed to gbmdsummercamp@gmail.com

Kind Regards, Emma, Clare and Aisling

Around the School



Learning about Symmetry in R4

Excellent entry from 6th class to the Different Families Same Love INTO Competition from 6th class

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Different-families,-same-love/4417/Index.html>

Super Engineers in Senior Infants

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/Engineers-at-work-in-Senior-Infants/4280/Index.html>

6th Class showcase their Entrepreneurship

<https://griffithbarracks.ie/News/6th-class-showcase-their-entrepreneurial-idea/4006/Index.html>



Great photos of Ferries by Senior Infants

Pyjama Day

On Tuesday, the whole school dressed up in Pyjamas. We had a disco for the entire school with the older classes meeting up with their buddies in the younger classes. Many thanks to Emma for preparing the playlist and Cathal for setting up the sound system.





Attendance

Good school attendance increases outcomes for all children. GBMDS has its own Attendance Policy and strategy. The school cannot give permission to families going on holidays during term time as it is not within our gift to sanction such absences. Parents taking children on holiday during term time are doing so at their own discretion. Below is a link to TUSLA which is the child and family agency with really good information in terms of school attendance.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/educational-welfare-services/information-for-parents-and-guardians/school-attendance-what-every-parent-needs-to-know/>

Below is advice in terms of holidays taken during school time from the TUSLA webpage.

Taking a holiday during term time means that children miss important school time. It will be difficult for them to catch up on work later on. As a result, they may fall behind with school work and lose confidence in their abilities. We strongly advise that parents do not take their children out of school for holidays during term time. [Tusla website]

We understand that families may need to go abroad to visit relatives etc but ask that this only happens in exceptional circumstances. A good way of looking at it is that if a student misses 20 days each year and you multiply that number by 8 it would mean missing 160 days over an 8 year primary school career. Bear in mind that one school year is 183 days. We are always available if you would like to discuss attendance at school.

Coming Up

Thursday 30th May	Dublin Zoo Trip	1 st Class
Thursday 30th May	Glasnevin Cemetery and Awesome Walls Finglas Tour	4 th & 5 th Class
Monday 3rd June	School Closed for Bank Holiday	All Classes
Tuesday 4th June	Baysports Tour	6 th Class
Thursday 6th June	Rathbeggan Lakes Tour	3 rd Class

Thursday 6th June	Newbridge Farm Tour	Junior Infants
Friday 7th June	Imaginosity Tour	Senior Infants
Friday 7th June	Glasnevin Cemetery Trip	6 th Class
Tuesday 11th June	Sports Day (<i>alternative day Wednesday 12th June</i>)	All Classes
Thursday 13th June	Sealife Tour	Junior Infants
Thursday 13th June	Trip to the Mosque on SCR	2 nd Class
Wednesday 26th June	End of Term Celebration Concert for JI, SI, 5 th & 6 th Class at 9.10am	9.10am
Wednesday 26th June	End of Term Celebration Concert for 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Class	10.45am
Thursday 27th June	6 th Class Graduation Ceremony	6 th Class
Friday 28th June	School finishes for the Summer at 12pm and reopens on Friday 30 th August	All Classes

Beir Bua,

**Eddie
Príomhoide**