

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

13th June 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

Books, materials and licences money

It would be great to have this payment done before the holidays as it enables us to purchase everything in the summer before the children return in September. We have set a payment deadline of June 20th.

Staffing 2019/2020

Below is the staffing allocation for next year. The school currently is recruiting 3 new teachers for the next academic year. Classes which are listed as "New Appointment" will be informed as soon as the recruitment process is over.

This year we say Bon Voyage to Emma Fahy who will be on career Break next year. We thank Emma for her great contribution to the school over the last seven years and in particular in the Arts which has benefitted children across the school. Katie Burke will continue on career break and is gaining valuable experience teaching abroad. Fionnuala Ward will continue on secondment as ethical education officer with Educate Together.

A heartfelt thanks to Fiona Barry who is currently on career break from the school for the last 4 years and is resigning to take up a position in Cork. We thank Fiona for her service to the school and wish her well in the future.

Current Class	Moving to	Current Class	Moving to
Incoming Junior Infants	Junior Infants Cathal	2 nd Class Jenny	3 rd Class Derek
Incoming Junior Infants	Junior Infants Cian	3 rd Class Emma	4 th Class New Appointment
Junior Infants Cathal	Senior Infants Ruth	4 th Class Derek/Eoin	5 th Class Ben
Junior Infants Cian	Senior Infants Claire G	5 th Class Ben	6 th Class New Appointment
Senior Infants Ruth/Claire	1 st Class Anne Marie	6 th Class Anita	Secondary School
1 st Class Anne Marie	2 nd Class Anita	SEN Cora, Clare and Gina remain the same	
1 st Class Aisling	2 nd Class Jenny	New Appointment of Mainstream Inclusion Teacher	

Sports Day

Sports day took place this week. It was a really enjoyable day focusing on the idea that sport, health and well being is for life and not just the preserve of the elite. We had lots of different activities from yoga to Tug of War. A sincere thank you to all the parents who came to support us by helping out and sharing their expertise and buying into the sport for all ethos. Many thanks to Cathal also for coordinating a great day and being on hand to support us all. Kevins Hurling and Camogie Club were generous as always in giving us access to Dolphin park for our older children on the day.



Assembly

This week we had our last assemblies of the year. Sixth class gave advice to the younger classes on how to get the most out of primary school. We did a recap on all the ethical education themes we had worked on this year. Next week we will be having an in-house variety show which will display the many talents of the Griffith Barracks students. This will be followed by our end of year celebration and Graduation the following week.

Board of Management Report

This week the Board of Management met for their 12th meeting of the year. The Board discussed:

- the Mainstream Inclusion Policy
- staffing in the school
- preparing for interviewing of staff over the summer
- the Creative Arts Plan which has been prepared by Jenny and the Creative Arts Committee.

The Board would like to thank all the constituent parts of the school who have helped to make it a great year in the school. There will be a change in the Board in November and we will be looking for new parent reps (one mother and one father) as well as two Patron Representatives. If anybody is interested, they can contact Aaron Tay (Patron) and James Parkin (PA) through the office or myself and we will give you a rundown of what's involved. Being part of school committees can be a really enriching experience.

Patron Committee Report

The Patron Committee of our school held their AGM on the 5th of June.

The patron is the body that establishes the school.

The patron appoints the Board of Management of the school.

The patron also determines the ethos of the school.

These responsibilities are set out in law under the 1998 Education Act.

Below is a link to the Patron Page which was prepared for the AGM. Many thanks to the Ethics Sub Committee which acts as part of the Patron structure.

<https://sites.google.com/view/griffithbarrackspatron/agm/agm-2019>

The motion to waive membership fees for the year was passed, so please sign up to become a member of the association. Its free to join! <https://sites.google.com/view/griffithbarrackspatron/signup>

Students of the Week

Well done to all the Students of the Week.



Around the School

- The two first classes have been getting to know each other properly this week. We set a goal that they will get to know the names of all the children in each class so we create a community within the year group. Many thanks to Anne Marie and Aisling for organising.
- Junior Infants go to SeaLife in Bray today as part of their trips programme.
- Junior Infants Cathal have been working on a mother languages project where parents have worked on the story of the Three Little Pigs. The parents worked on props with the children to support the telling of the story. Parents then tell the story in a variety of languages spoken by the parents in the class. Many thanks to Francesca la Morgia, parent in JI and Rang 3 who brought her expertise to the project and to Cathal for facilitating this enriching work in his class.
- Next time you pass Senior Infants check out their amazing baby photos which is part of a literacy and SPHE learning experience.
- Second class are visiting our neighbours in the Mosque on Circular Road as part of the programme of visits to different places of worship in the ethical education programme.
- Third Class have produced some really interesting homework projects this month.
- 4th class have been doing great work on their tables in Maths
- It was great to see the children in 5th and 6th classes working on their SALF (Self-Assessment and Learning Folders). It was great to see the children assessing their own learning and critiquing it in a meaningful way. In the video below Assessment Researcher Dylan William explains the efficacy of Self-Assessment. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtP4X5VIs9Y&feature=share>
- We have had two Hurling blitzes this week which were really enjoyable. Many thanks to Cian, Claire and Ben for organising.
- Swift boxes were installed in GBMDS yesterday. We have hooked up a camera and a bird song caller which will attract the birds to the boxes. Many thanks Dublin City Council for supporting the installation and Jenny for accessing the project.



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You can find more about swift conservation in Ireland below <http://www.swiftconservation.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Saving-Swifts-Guide-by-BWI-2019.pdf>



Junior Infants Cathal learning about The Three Little Pigs in different languages

Coming Up

Today	SeaLife Tour	Junior Infants
Today	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 (Best wishes),

Eddie



Both Junior Infant classes released their butterflies earlier this week