

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

19th September 2019

A Chairde (Friends),

Orientation Meetings

Morning Orientation meetings will continue over the next few days. There has been super attendance and great feedback from all the meetings. It is wonderful to see such great interest in learning across the school. The remaining meetings are:

- Friday 20th September – R6 Aisling;
- Monday 23rd September – Junior Infants Cathal and
- Tuesday, 24th September – Junior Infants Cian

Permissions on Aladdin

Please make sure you've filled out your permissions through the Aladdin App. I will try to phone any families who haven't filled their permissions over the coming weeks to see if there is any help they need with the system.

Payments to the School

Many thanks to all the families who have paid the voluntary contribution. We have tried to stagger the payments to the school, so they don't all happen at the same time.

Students of the week

Well done to all our students of the week.



Notes from the Parents Association

Parent Reps to the Board of Management

Last week, we asked those interested in becoming representatives of the parents on the new school Board of Management to get in touch. We need one female parent and one male parent to join the new board. The ideal nominee should be available for monthly meetings during the school term over a four year period, be comfortable working in a group setting and have experience in an operational or administrative capacity. A process to select and possibly vote on parental nominees will be agreed at the next PA meeting on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 7.30pm. It is really important that there is a strong attendance at the meeting to shape the process. This is a great opportunity for two parents to add positively to school life and be part of policymaking in the school for the next four years. If you have any questions regarding the parent roles on the board or the Board of Management in general, you can contact Eddie on eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie or James Parkin on pa@griffithbarracks.ie

After School Activities

After School Activities for Senior Infants to 6th Class will begin on Monday 23rd September. Any queries to pa@griffithbarracks.ie.

A message from the Hurling and Camogie Group

After School Hurling and Camogie will also begin next Monday. Please ensure you have sent back your permission slip in an envelope with the payment of €40 per child to Ben, Cian or Claire by then. It is important to have the slips back before we begin our set of 8 sessions.

Mondays - 1st and 2nd class; Tuesdays - 5th and 6th class; Thursdays - 3rd and 4th class.

Thank you, Claire, Cian and Ben

Communion and Confirmation Meetings

We have been asked by Donore Avenue RC Church to let you know that there will be a Confirmation registration meeting this evening at 7.30pm in Donore Avenue Church. The Communion meeting has already been held but if there are any children who missed it and would like to make their Communion, they are welcome to come along to the meeting this evening and register. The closing date for registration for both classes is tomorrow.

Greening of GBMDS

Many thanks to SI parent Nicole Tyrell and SI and R6 parent Rory Byrne who advised us on some planting supplied to us by the builders. Our Patron hope to take on the greening of Griffith Barracks this year. Watch this space if you would like to be involved.

Ready SET GO Maths

Many thanks to all the parents who have volunteered for Ready Set Go Maths in the Infant classes. Clare Dunne hosted an information session for them this morning in the staffroom. The sessions will start in the coming weeks.

Climate Change World Day of Action

Tomorrow we will celebrate the World Climate Change Day of Action. Yesterday in Assembly we listened to the Louis Armstrong Song – What a Wonderful World. We looked at this video by David Attenborough which shows us that the world is an incredible place.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=auSo1MyWf8g>

Our main aim is to show the children that the world is amazing and that there are practical things we can all do which can help slow down climate change. We know that some of these concepts can be worrying for children, so we try to ensure that the material we work on is age appropriate.

On Friday 2nd and 3rd classes will join our Sister schools of Harold's Cross ETNS and Harcourt Terrace ETNS for a protest event. Rang 5 and Rang 6 will do their protest on South Circular Road from 1.30pm. Infant parents and children are welcome to join if they want at this time. Today I was in second class as they made their banners and was really impressed by their design skills and knowledge.

Library

Yesterday we were delighted to meet with Gillian Keyes, (librarian from Kevin Street Library) in our beautifully shelved, but currently empty library room in the Guardhouse. She has given us great advice in terms of display and systems. We're now looking for a few parents who would be interested in getting involved with the library management, as an ongoing project throughout the year; coming in during the day to manage book re-shelving, updating etc. You don't have to have any librarian experience. If you're interested and have some time to commit every week throughout the year, please email Jenny at jenny.mccrohan@griffithbarracks.ie

Stacking Day: Please also hold the date of Saturday October 12th as a day where our very generous library helpers could get involved just for the day, in an organised bar-coding, scanning, alphabetising and shelving operation. Huge thanks and more to follow...

Internet Safety Day – save the date

We will have an **internet safety day on Wednesday 9th October**. There will be workshops for children, a session for staff after school and then a parent information evening. For more information on the company leading the sessions check out <https://zeeko.ie/>.

Curriculum

This year we are looking at the teaching of oral Irish in the school. In the coming week we will do a survey of the children in 4th, 5th and 6th classes on what they enjoy and what they find difficult when learning Irish. We hope to have a school wide approach which will support all the children.

In creative schools we are hoping to work with the Fumbally Café on baking and fermenting which links into our science work.

Many thanks to one Senior Infant parent who secured funding through her company for a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths) series of workshops over the next number of weeks in 6th class. The course will be facilitated by Dietmar Weiss.

We are all learning ISL at Griffith Barracks

As part of our school programme this year we are all learning ISL (Irish Sign language)

<https://www.irishdeafociety.ie/irish-sign-language/>

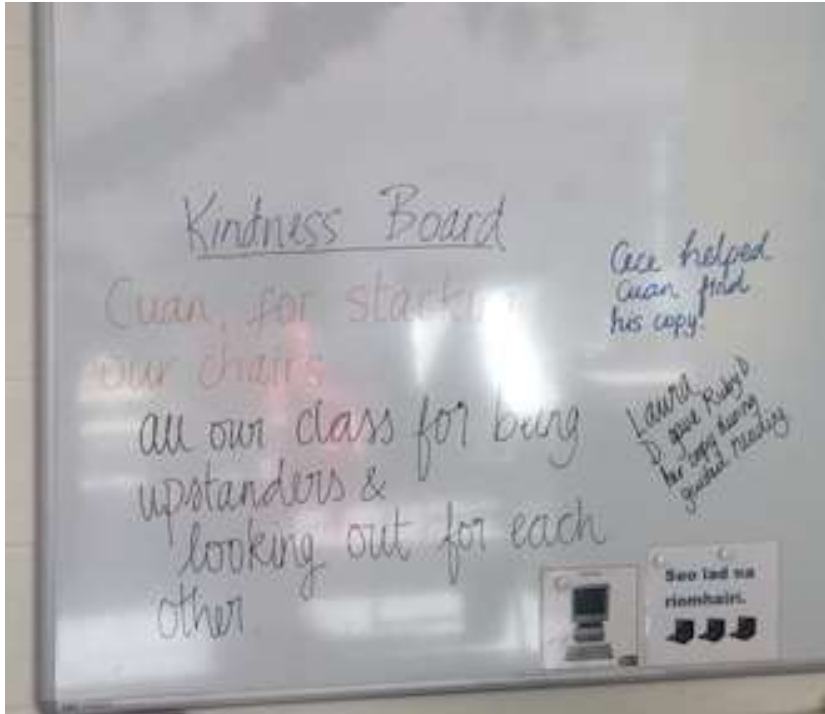
This week we are learning A, B, C. Our ISL noticeboard is just outside the staffroom. The boys and girls have been amazing in picking up the signs and putting me to shame. Many thanks to Clare Dunne for all her work in preparing this initiative.



Beir Bua,
Eddie (Príomhoide)



Learning to write our numbers in JI Cian



Kindness goes a long way in second class Jenny



Our names are so important in Junior Infants



What a weekend for Dublin football celebrated by Rang 2 Anita



Thematic work on the Giants Causeway in Rang 2 Jenny



Amazing Self-portraits from Senior Infants