

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

30th January 2020

A Chairde (Friends),

Questionnaire about Childcare at GBMDS

Many thanks to all the 168 respondents to our childcare survey. The Board has used it to inform our tender for the new provider which goes live tomorrow. The application window will remain open until February 28th. Please don't hesitate to come to me if you have any questions and I will keep you updated on the process as it develops. I also will give some feedback to the PA at their meeting. Please see attached a narrative summary of the Childcare Survey results.

Re-scheduled Sponsored Walk Day

We are hoping to re-schedule our sponsored walk for next Monday, 3rd February. We hope to leave the school at 11am. The walk will take about 40 minutes. We would love as many parents as are free to join us and get out in the fresh air. Contact your child's teacher at teachersfirstname.surname@griffithbarracks.ie if you can come along. We cancelled our spooky walk in October due to inclement weather.

Annual Bake Sale

The annual Student Dáil bake sale took place today. It is always a much loved event in our school calendar and this year the charity voted on by the Students was the Australian Red Cross. Many thanks to the Student Dáil and Anita for all their work and energy in preparing for the event. Also, many thanks to all the families who baked. We hope you had fun in the process. For those who didn't get a chance to bake this year - don't worry we know life is busy. Below are some pictures from the day.



Skipping Workshop

All the children in the school really enjoyed the skipping workshop on Monday and Tuesday. The workshop was funded by the trips and workshops payment and the PA. We have bought ropes to use for PE as well as in the yard and we hope to make skipping a regular feature in the yard at Griffith Barracks.

Every child had the opportunity to take part in the workshops in which they learned a selection of moves including individual, double-dutch, long rope, and partner skipping. The second day culminated with a demonstration of skipping skills performed by children from each workshop.

skip-hop has presented demonstrations to over 3,500 schools throughout the UK and Ireland, China and South America. Their aim is to encourage children and adults to skip for health, fun and fitness, whilst introducing traditional skipping games back into the school playground. The school supports these aims wholeheartedly. Further information can be obtained from their web site www.skip-hop.co.uk



Patron Planting group

The patron planting group met to do some weeding of the planting at the side of the school. Many thanks to all who took part.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Sovi4Sl_vbxEfaGIYcgpS1BIIWmMQpThXiGYKSJNmXs/edit

Language Curriculum Training Half Day

A reminder that the first of two language curriculum half day training days will take place on Friday 14th February next, which is the day we break up for the mid-term break. School will close for all children at 12pm that day.

Enrolment

We have just sent out our 2nd round of offers for Junior Infants 2020. The Junior Infant Information evening will take place on 19th May.

Creative Schools - Music in the Classroom in Rang 1 Anne marie

Dave and Rita started a five week introduction to music making module with first class week. The workshops will focus on using your voice, the environment and other mediums to make music. Dave and Rita teach the Guitar, Ukulele, and Piano here in the school after school. We just had our piano tuned this week. Many thanks to Dave and Rita for their commitment to music in our school.



GBMDS Poetry Book

Work is still ongoing on the school Poetry Book. The children are finishing off their poetry pieces as we speak. Watch this space in the coming months. It would lift anyone's spirit to read the poetry that the children have written as part of the project.

Library update

Work is ongoing on the Library and Jenny is busy getting ready for the big reveal. Watch this space!

Titanic project in Rang 2

On Wednesday 2nd class went all “method” by dressing up as passengers in Titanic. We learned that there were different categories of tickets and the children shared what they had learned in assembly. Both classes have been engaged in this thematic piece of work for the last number of weeks. There has been great learning and it has been great to see both classes liaise so well. Many thanks to Anita and Jenny and thanks to all the parents for bringing learning to life by your engagement with the topic.



Junior Entrepreneur in Rang 6

Over the past few weeks, 6th Class have been working on our Junior Entrepreneur Programme entry. We are coming up with a product to sell that will help our community. Right now, we are developing a few ideas, and we will have one chosen by next week. Once we have chosen our product, we will present our idea to Eddie and Sinead Clarke, with a sales pitch. When our idea is approved, we will purchase all the resources we need for the product from local stores. Once we have everything we need, we will bring our idea to life in the classroom! We will try to make our product as sustainable and eco-friendly as possible, so we can help our planet. We hope to make a product that everyone can enjoy! All the money raised will go to our Yearbook for the end of the year. We hope you will support us.

Written by Anna Rose and Mia

Students of the Week

Well done to this week's Students of the Week



**Agenda for Parents Association AGM on 10th February 2020
at 7.30 pm in the Hall
Griffith Barracks Multi -Denominational School**

1. Welcome and a few words from Eddie
2. Guest Speaker – Tanya Ward, CEO, Children’s Rights Alliance
3. Minutes of last AGM
4. Report of the work of the PA since last AGM
5. Treasurers Report
6. Motions
7. EGM October 2020

The PA will hold their AGM on Monday 10th February at 7.30pm in the Hall. It will be a great opportunity to hear about all the work the PA has done on behalf of the children and the school community over the last year.

This year, we are really lucky to have parent Tanya Ward (SI & 3rd Class) speak to us about her work as CEO of the Children’s Rights Alliance. <https://www.childrensrights.ie/about-us/staff>
I’m also attaching the PA Constitution, which was prepared and ratified by the previous PA Committee. Many thanks to all the PA for their work on our behalf in making the school a happy and inclusive place.

Peace Proms

The School choir are at the end of their rehearsals as they prepare for the Peace Proms this Saturday. Many thanks to Jenny and Anne Marie for leading this project. For more information on what Peace Proms is click the link below. Please don’t hesitate to contact Jenny, Anne Marie or myself if you’ve any questions. <https://peaceproms.com/about-cboi/>

Junior Infant Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings for Junior Infants will take place on Tuesday 11th February and Wednesday 12th February. Cathal and Cian have been in touch with parents and explained how you can schedule on the app.

Beir bua,

Eddie

Around the school



Figure 2 Wonderful art in 5th Class Sabina

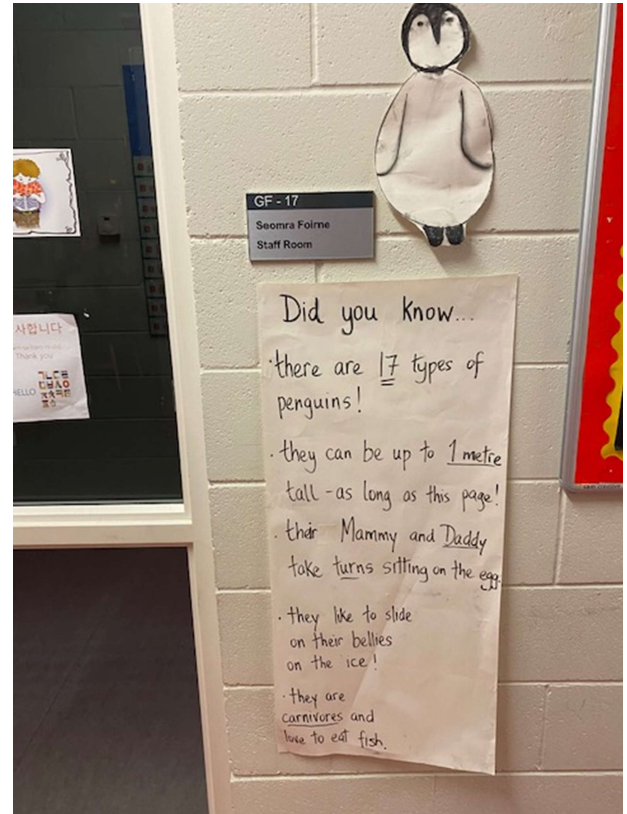


Figure 1 Everything you ever wanted to know about Penguins

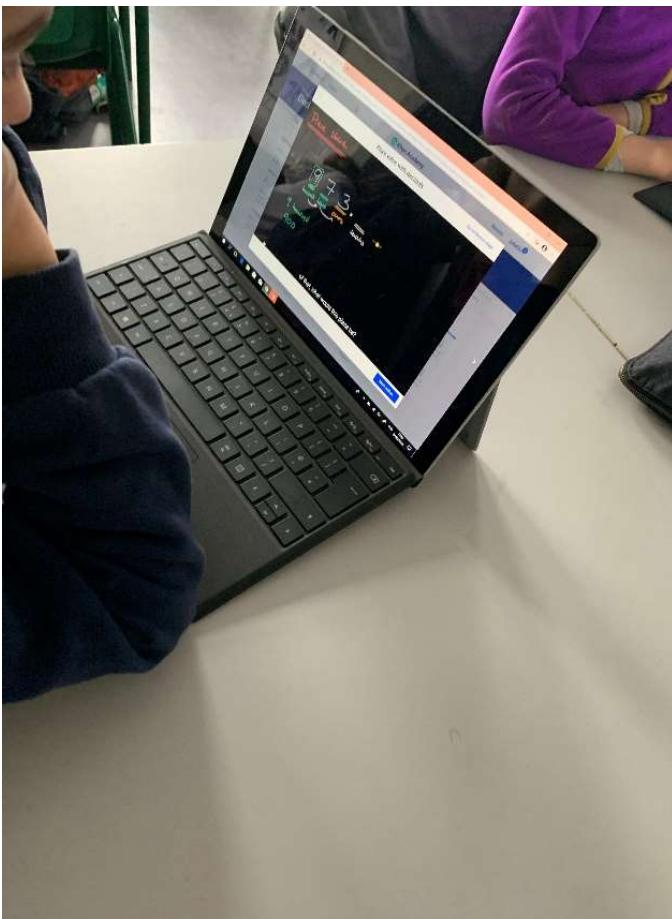


Figure 3 Khan Academy is a wonderful resource in Maths and other subjects, which provides a wealth of resources for children to support their learning. Here you can see it being used in 5th Class

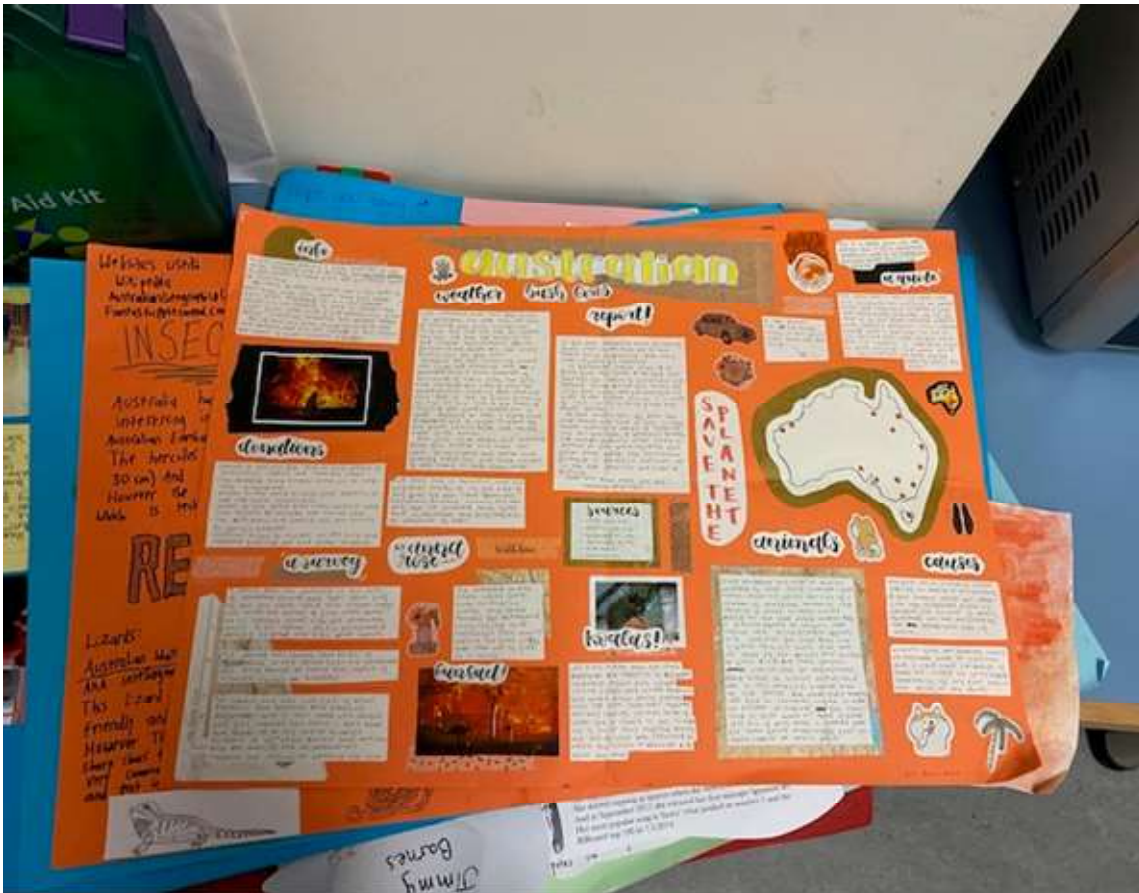


Figure 4 Brilliant Australia projects in 6th Class

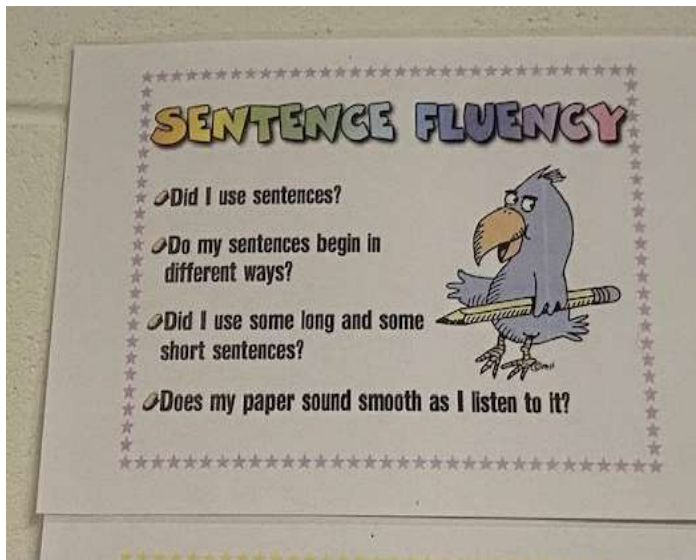


Figure 6 How is your sentence fluency?

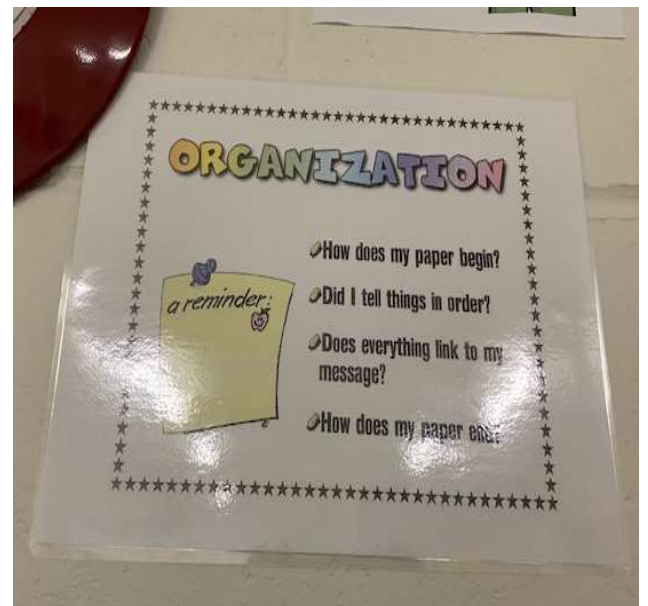


Figure 5 How is your organisation?



Figure 7 Chinese lanterns in 5th Class



Figure 8 Creative Schools Student Noticeboard