

GRIFFITH BARRACKS NEWSLETTER

12th March 2020

A Chairde (Friends),

Coronavirus

Below is the latest update from the Department of Education and Skills, which was issued today.

<https://www.education.ie/en/Press-Events/Press-Releases/2020-press-releases/12-march-2020-statement-from-the-department-of-education-and-skills.html>

<https://www.education.ie/en/The-Department/Announcements/information-for-schools-preschools-and-third-level-institutions-on-the-coronavirus.html>

All schools have been asked to close from this evening and will reopen on Monday 30th March, unless otherwise advised. Yesterday, in my update, I mentioned that the teachers have prepared work for all the children and will be emailing them through your email address every day. You will also be able to get in touch with the teachers in this way. **Please don't reply to the sent email, as it will come to the office.** When your teacher emails you, reply to firstname.surname@griffithbarracks.ie, for example, to email Cathal, it's cathal.ogorman@griffithbarracks.ie. We will list all the teachers' emails at the bottom of this section.

The school answerphone will be checked daily, as will emails. The school is taking the position that we are all working remotely for the next two weeks. Jenny and I went around to all the classes today to check in with all the children in the school. Our big message was that every single boy and girl, family and pet in Griffith Barracks is absolutely safe and this is a precaution that we are all taking as a country to ensure that every single member of our community is safe. Any boys and girls who were making their Confirmation today and do not have the books they need can contact Eddie at eddie.fox@griffithbarracks.ie and we can make an arrangement for you to come and collect them. You can access and download guidance from the Department of Education and Skills website below under the heading 'Talking to children and young people about Covid-19'.

www.education.ie/covid19

I know this will be a huge inconvenience for many people, but we have been telling the children that it is important for us to protect the more vulnerable members of our society at this time. Please contact me at any time if you've any questions or need any clarification. Contact the Office of Public Health for Dublin, based at Dr Stevens Hospital, on 01 6352145 if you have any questions of a medical nature.

Schools have also been asked to make sure their contacts lists are up to date so that they can be shared with the HSE if they are needed for contact tracing, if there is a case within a school community. Please ensure we have your correct contact details on our Aladdin system.

We would also like to direct your attention to a child-friendly interview that Deputy Chief Medical Officer Dr Ronan Glynn did with RTE's new2day programme last week, that may also be a useful resource when talking about Covid-19 with children and students.

<https://www.rte.ie/news/coronavirus/2020/0306/1120692-news2day-coronavirus/>

Junior Infants Cathal	Cathal.ogorman@griffithbarracks.ie
Junior Infants Cian	Cian.ocarroll@griffithbarracks.ie
Senior Infants Ruth	Ruth.obrien@griffithbarracks.ie
Senior Infants Claire	Claire.graham@griffithbarracks.ie
1 st Class Anne Marie	Annemarie.ridge@griffithbarracks.ie
2 nd Class Jenny	Jenny.mccrohan@griffithbarracks.ie
2 nd Class Anita	Anita.dermody@griffithbarracks.ie
3 rd Class Derek	Derek.tiernan@griffithbarracks.ie
4 th Class Eoin	Eoin.rochford@griffithbarracks.ie
5 th Class Sabina	Sabina.carthy@griffithbarracks.ie
6 th Class Aisling	Aisling.egan@griffithbarracks.ie

SEN Cora	Cora.flynn@griffithbarracks.ie
SEN Clare	Clare.dunne@griffithbarracks.ie
SEN Gina	Gina.fusco@griffithbarracks.ie
MIT Ben	Ben.doherty@griffithbarracks.ie

6th Class Musical - Save the Date

The Sixth Class musical "Porridge" has now been postponed and will take place on Thursday and Friday 14th and 15th May at 7.30pm in the school hall.



Seachtain na Gaeilge Irish Language week

Tá ríméad orm a bheith mar Príomhoide toisc go gcreidim go bhfuil sé an-tábhachtach an Ghaeilge a úsáid gach lá ar scoil. One of the great things about being Principal is getting to use Irish every day at school, something I think is very important.

A big thank you to all the children who were absolute stars and made a great effort to make such a great week. Among the events we had were:

- Radio Griffith Barracks - the children became broadcasters and made regular contributions in Irish over the week.
- Siopa – the children had a real life Irish language shop with personal shoppers from 6th class
- Siúlóid Gaeilge - It was wonderful to see and hear Irish being spoken and shared with our buddies in our Irish language walk.
- Damhsa Gaelach – There have been jigs and reels a plenty in the hall yesterday and today with dance teacher Rachel Gleeson.
- Seó Gaeilge – The children will get to perform a piece as Gaeilge.
- Irish Language Table Quiz in the hall.

Tomorrow is our *Lá Glas* where we all wear green or something green. It is always a great day of colour in the school. If you can wear something green tomorrow it would be great.





Parents Room

The Parents Room will reopen when the school reopens. Many thanks to everyone for their patience whilst we carried out works on this area of the Guardhouse to make it fully secure. Dave and Rita will continue to have their music classes in this area.

Patron Planting group

The Patron planting group focused on our roof terrace this week. We have some great plans for this space, and we got some advice from Landscape Architect and 6th class parent Jim Bloxom.

Board of Management Report

The Board of Management met this week. We worked on:

- Ensuring the building is safe and secure
- The financial reporting in the school
- The tender process for the new childcare provider is ongoing and the board are investigating each tender to make sure we get the best provider for our school. We will inform the school community once the process is complete and are being very thorough throughout the process.
- The Board will meet later in the month to finalise the in school childcare tender process.

Beir bua,

Eddie

Priomhóide