



Press Release
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Dublin Zoo Welcomes Giraffe Calf

This week sees the first sightings of the new Rothschild giraffe calf in Dublin Zoo. The female calf who stands tall at just under 2 metres and weighs 40kgs was born to mother Maeve on November 4th at 8.15pm but is only this week making her zoo debut. Due to the weather conditions over the past few weeks the new born giraffe has been kept in her spacious house to prevent her fragile legs slipping on the snow and ice.

The tenderfoot is yet to be named and Dublin Zoo is open to ideas. If fans have any suggestions of a name for the newest arrival, based on her African origin, send them to Dublin Zoo by post, email or their facebook page.

This is the first calf born to mother Maeve since she arrived to Dublin Zoo from Fota Wildlife Park in 2009. Following a period of adjustment when she arrived in the zoo, Maeve successfully bred with bull giraffe Robin and after a 15 month gestation period the new calf was born.

Helen Clarke-Bennet, team leader of the African Plains said, "The calf is doing very well and we are delighted to see her first-time mum is being very attentive and is nurturing her new born with great care. When the weather took a turn we had to keep her in from the snow as she is still very delicate and we didn't want to risk her falling on the ice."

The new giraffe calf can now be seen in the giraffe house in the African Savanna, along with the rest of the giraffe herd.

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