



Guardian Angels' National School - **Your** Parent Teacher Association Newsletter **November 2020**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WWW.GUARDIANANGELS.IE/INFO
[RMATION-FOR-PARENTS/SCHOOL-](http://WWW.GUARDIANANGELS.IE/INFO)
[CALENDAR-2015-2016/FEILIRE-](http://WWW.GUARDIANANGELS.IE/INFO)
SCOILE-2020-2021/

TERM 1:

Seasonal t-shirt decorating
– Date TBA

Christmas Holidays – school
closes December 22 at
12.10pm for Reds and
12.30pm for Blues
(including JI students)

TERM 2:

6 January – school reopens

If you have any queries or
questions for the PTA you
can contact us at:
ptaguardianangels@gmail.com

Welcome Back!

Mid-term and Halloween are behind us, we hope you all enjoyed the break. On the last day of term, the children came to school in Halloween costumes. It was a delight to see the smiling faces of the students as they arrived that morning. Our thanks to the teachers for all the fun and a little bit of normality in these strange times!



The annual Sponsored Walk successfully took place in-between the showers on the 16th October. The children all enjoyed being outside and managed to raise over €3,700! This is a phenomenal amount so well done to everyone and our gratitude to all the hard work that went into the fundraising. Thanks also to the teachers for braving the elements and working around all the guidelines to get all the children outdoors on one special day.



The Christmas card orders are all in. We hope you enjoyed seeing your children's work. These will be printed and returned in the coming weeks. Many thanks to all those involved in the time-consuming job of collation and printing.



Some of the money raised through your sponsorship and fund-raising efforts last year has been used to purchase new athletics kits for the school teams. The kits arrived this week and are proudly modelled here in hopeful anticipation of some upcoming training and sporting fixtures.



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Coming up in the next few weeks....

- Seasonal t-shirt decorating, date TBA

Each student will get a t-shirt to decorate and we ask for a donation of 3 euro per child. 1 euro will go towards the LauraLynn Children's Hospice, in lieu of the normal donations that cannot be collected this year. All the children will get a t-shirt and are asked to decorate them however they want - the theme does not have to be Christmas. They will then all wear their t-shirts on the last day of term and the teachers will pick a winner in each class.

As our annual St Vincent de Paul collection cannot take place at the carol service, we encourage parents to look out for similar collections in their local supermarkets instead. People are always so generous at the carol service; it would be a pity to miss out because we cannot gather as normal.

- 50th anniversary book

Massive thanks to everyone who has made a donation and for all the hard work behind the scenes to bring this to fruition. The book will be available for purchase in the coming weeks. A great way to commemorate an amazing 50 years of education in the community.



- Mrs Collins retiring

The PTA would like to add their message of thanks and best wishes to Mrs Collins on her upcoming retirement on December 22nd. Mrs Collins has always been a fantastic supporter of the PTA and has given her time so generously over the years. We echo Mr O'Neills message that she will be hugely missed by staff, pupils, parents, and the community, but we wish her the very best as she embarks on the next phase of her life.

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Other things of note...

- New post-primary school

There is a new post-primary school to be built on Newtownpark Avenue, and the Department of Education is currently inviting applications for patronage. This will directly affect the children at GANS, so should you wish to express a patronage preference, please follow this link, the closing date is 16th November 2020:

https://patronage.education.gov.ie/?mc_cid=8d87271987&mc_eid=0c592f9b08.

- Hi-Vis Clothing

With the darker mornings and evenings drawing in, a reminder for all children who come to school on bikes or scooters to use hi-vis clothing and lights to ensure they are fully visible. The Irish Road Safety Authority provides free high visibility items when they are in stock on their website: <https://www.rsaorders.ie/orders-online/>.

- Mindfulness

To support the big push on well-being throughout the school and in every classroom, there is a large bank of resources available through the National Parents Council for parents who wish to find out more about supporting general wellbeing in their children (<https://www.npc.ie/>). On the subject of mindfulness we suggest <https://www.stormbreak.org.uk>, with lots of practical tips and tricks for those who wish to practice together.

- Looking for ideas

Lastly, the PTA is putting a call out to parents. In light of COVID restrictions we are limited in how we can raise funds this year, and whilst we are highly cognisant of the challenges Covid 19 has brought for families, if anyone has any ideas for other ways to raise funds for the school could you please contact us at ptaguardianangels@gmail.com. All suggestions or ideas would be gratefully received.