



Guardian Angels' NS

Newsletter – June 2021

Incredible Edibles

Second Class has just finished their Agri Aware Incredible Edibles programme, a healthy eating initiative for primary school pupils. The programme encourages schools across the country to grow their own fruit and vegetables and learn about the importance of healthy eating. The school garden became a mini farm with carrots, lettuce, potatoes, strawberries, turnips and a variety of herbs planted and now thriving. There was a focus on healthy lunches, with advice on how to get '5 a day' every day. The children kept a scrapbook of all they learned and the programme proved such a success that we hope to take part again next year.

Fun Day 2021

Our annual Fun Day took place on Wednesday 16th June. Fun Day is always an absolute highlight of the school year, and the drizzle certainly didn't dampen spirits. It's a lovely way to mark the end of term and the children had great fun with giant outdoor games, a bouncy castle, inflatable obstacle course and a visit from the ice-cream van.

Booklists

Booklists and stationery requirements for the 2021/22 school year can be found in the '[Information for parents](#)' section of the school website. The fees and charges listed can be paid through Aladdin once the new school term starts. A reminder will be sent in September.

50th anniversary book

We have a limited number of 50th anniversary books still available. Filled with 50 years of memories, photos, stories and a history of Guardian Angels, it makes a great memento for current and past pupils. The cost is just €20 and is available by contacting Cathy in the office.

Covid restrictions

As another school year draws to a close, we'd like to take this opportunity to give our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support during what was, at times, another tumultuous year. We appreciate how difficult it has been for so many to juggle work and home commitments with home schooling and the anxiety of Covid. However, your incredible support, encouragement and engagement with staff and teachers throughout the year has been invaluable.

The resilience of our pupils continues to amaze us. Our girls and boys adapted so well and bounced back again and again with such good humour, regardless of the various restrictions and changes that Covid imposed. We are so proud of all they have achieved this year in such difficult circumstances.

As the country slowly re-opens, we hope that next year we can begin to return to what we used to consider 'normal'. It is our hope that we can again offer after-school activities and allow the children

to mix freely. We hope that the whole school can share start and finish times and that beloved annual events such as the Cake Sale, Nativity plays and Talent Show can return. It will be mid-August before the Department of Education issues guidelines for returning to school and what, if any, Covid restrictions will remain. As soon as we can, we will share any updates.

The class of 2021

Finally, we bid a very fond farewell to our lovely class of 2021. While we know how ready they are to move on, it is with very mixed emotions that we say goodbye. We hope their memories of GANS are good ones. We hope that they will remember the teachers, staff and SNAs who supported them along their way and helped them to read, write and learn; to cook and bake, to swim, be creative and to play and enjoy sports. We hope they'll remember how much fun they had on their school trips and tours, the annual arrival of Santa on a fire engine, the Halloween disco, visits from the ice-cream van, nature walks and sports days.

We know they have made friends for life at GANS but it is our hope that they move on with confidence and embrace everything that secondary school offers. We encourage them to stay active and try out different sports and activities. To welcome new friendships, hobbies and interests. We hope they retain their curiosity and a thirst for learning. We hope they stay kind.

It's not so long ago that they arrived here as nervous Junior Infants and it was with great joy that we watched them grow and develop over the last eight years into such wonderful young adults. As they begin the next exciting chapter of their lives, we hope they don't forget that their GANS family is still here – and that our door is always open.

New school year 2021/22

The summer break begins on Wednesday 30th June with the Red Group finishing at 12.10 and Blue Group at 12.30. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the new school year on Monday 30th August. In the meantime, we wish you all a healthy, happy - and hopefully sunny - summer break.