



## Guardian Angels' NS

### Newsletter – February 2022

#### School extension

After over five years of planning and numerous Covid-related delays, we are thrilled that work is finally underway on our much-needed school extension. The two-storey addition will provide one extra mainstream classroom and four special education rooms. The extra space and facilities will be an invaluable resource to our whole school community. On completion of the building works, we plan to remove the existing prefab classrooms and redevelop the Junior playground.

Ensuring the safety of the children remains our priority during the building works and while there is obviously some unavoidable noise and disruption, we are doing our utmost to keep it an absolute minimum during the school day. Although, for some of the younger members of our school community, the arrival of diggers to the school yard has caused a real stir of excitement and the construction team is being very closely watched and monitored during break times.

All going well, the project is scheduled to finish in the autumn. We'll share regular updates throughout, so keep an eye on Twitter to follow our progress.



#### School news

Following the recent general easing of Covid restrictions, we are now waiting for new guidance from the Department of Education on what we hope will be a further lifting of restrictions. We'll provide an update once received however, would like to remind parents and guardians to please continue to follow all current guidelines, to keep unwell children at home and to notify the school if a child tests positive for Covid-19 by antigen or PCR test. Hopefully, we will soon resume indoor after-school activities and will update as soon as we can.

We can't thank you enough for your ongoing support. While we're not quite through it yet, there is finally a sense of optimism in the air. We absolutely appreciate how inconvenient some of the restrictions have been (staggered start and finish times particularly) but by adhering to them we

have managed to keep the incidence of Covid within the school at an absolute minimum – and our doors open.

Please join us in welcoming Ms Bronagh Carr to our teaching staff. Ms Carr will work across our four junior classes. Ms Carr has been very warmly welcomed by her pupils already and we're delighted to have her join the team at Guardian Angels.

### Sacraments

We welcome confirmation from the Diocese of the following dates for our Second and Sixth Classes to celebrate their sacraments:

Sixth Class – Ceremony of Light: March 2nd at 19.30

Sixth Class – Confirmation: March 25th at 11.00

Second Class – Communion: May 14<sup>th</sup> at 11.00.

The children and their teachers are all very busy preparing for what we're sure will be very special family celebrations.

## SACRAMENTS

### Active school

Guardian Angels is very proud of its two Active School flags and we continue to encourage all our pupils to be as active as they can every day. Where possible, we hope that our pupils will walk, cycle or scoot to school and have installed extra bike and scooter racks so there's plenty of parking available. We strongly encourage all our pupils to have at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. We have hockey, athletics, soccer and GAA coaching happening across the school each week. Our Cycle Safely programme will resume in the coming weeks and 'Run a K a Day' and 'Drop Everything and Dance' continue to be two of the most popular activities in the school day.

Our girls' hockey team showed real skill and determination in their most recent game, winning 4-1 against Wesley. Well done girls – we're all so proud of your great performance and excellent teamwork.



### Cumann na mBunscol

The Cumann na mBunscol leagues resumed this week after a two-year hiatus. Guardian Angels have both a girls and boys team entered in the competitions. It was wonderful to see the players back playing team games. The girls started their campaign on Wednesday with a victory over St. Martin's, Brittas. The boys faced a stern test on Thursday against Johnstown BNS. They fought until the end but Johnstown prevailed. We're really looking forward to more games in the coming weeks and are very proud of all our teams in GANS. Well done everyone.

## Mid-term break

Just a reminder that the school will close at the normal time, on Friday 18th February for mid-term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 28th February.