



Guardian Angels' NS

Newsletter – May/June 2022

Trócaire

We're delighted to share that through the generosity of GANS families, this year's annual school collection for Trócaire raised an incredible €1,504.58. The money raised by GANS will go towards books and school supplies, agroecology training, sustainable gardens and business mentoring for families and communities in Zimbabwe.



Enrolments

To help us manage our waiting lists, we ask parents and guardians to kindly let us know if any pupil is not returning to Guardian Angels in September.

Covid restrictions – new term

It is our hope and intention to return to one start and finish time for the whole school when we return after the summer holidays. Therefore, unless there are any new restrictions imposed over the summer break, on our return to school on 30th August, we will start at 08:50 and end at 13:30 for Junior & Senior Infants and 14:30 for the rest of the school. As things return more and more to normal, we are confident that we can again offer a full schedule of after-school activities for the whole school and will confirm the schedule on our return in September.

2022/23 Booklists

Booklists and stationery requirements for the 2022/23 school year will be available on the website before the end of term.

Fun Day

Our annual Fun Day for the junior school (Infants-Second Class) took place on Wednesday 15th June. Fun Day is always an absolute highlight in the school calendar and a lovely way to celebrate the end of term. The weather was on our side and the children had tons of fun with giant outdoor games, a bouncy castle and an inflatable obstacle course. No Fun Day would be complete without a visit from the ice-cream van serving up 99s for the whole school.



Write a Book

We were delighted to take part in Blackrock Education Centre's 'Write a Book' project again this year. The project really got creative juices flowing and GANS submitted entries from across the whole school. With stories featuring everything from magic dragons and daring heists to haunted castles and thrilling space adventures, we're sure we've given the judging panel one very tough task.

Delphi

Guardian Angels made a triumphant post-Covid return to Delphi in early June. For three days our Sixth Classes took over the resort and made the most of every second. The sun shone as they climbed boulder walls, navigated an obstacle course through a bog and learned how to safely build and light campfires. Friendships were consolidated as they hiked, climbed, zip-lined and kayaked their way to utter exhaustion. Thanks as always to the brave GANS staff who accompanied them and our apologies to parents and guardians for the amount of bog water that had to be washed out of clothes on their return.

Athletics

Congratulations to all our brilliant athletes who competed in Santry Sports last month. It was a tremendous team effort from GANS, resulting in Anton taking home a bronze medal in the sprint. Thank you to all the staff who coordinated the teams and event and a very special thank you to Tim Chapman. Tim has been training various classes across the school all year and we are so grateful for his time and dedication to sports in our school.

Sports Day

After its Covid-induced hiatus, Sports Day also returned to GANS. First, Second and Third Classes had their sports day on Thursday 16th and Fourth, Fifth and Sixth had theirs on Friday 17th. Sports Day featured lots of events and activities to make sure there's something that suits everyone and all ages. This year the events included the 100m sprint, sack race, penalty shoot-out, javelin, 3-legged race, egg & spoon race and a tug-of-war.



Carpark

Yet again I'm afraid we must remind those using the Guardian Angels carpark that this carpark belongs to the church and the parish kindly allows our school to use it. We have also been asked to remind parents and guardians that the carpark at the back of the Pastoral Centre is for Pastoral Centre staff only. The carpark can get very busy at drop off and collection times and we ask you again, to please be patient and show consideration to the other users of the carpark.

Class tours

We are delighted to be able to take the children on class tours again. Junior & Senior Infants are going to Pine Forest, First Class went to the zoo, Second visited Lullymore Farm & Heritage Park, Third & Fourth Class took over Fort Lucan and Fifth are heading to Clara Lara. Our girls and boys are always on their best behaviour on trips, making us very proud when GANS goes on tour.

Van Gogh exhibition

First and Third Class recently visited and thoroughly enjoyed the Van Gogh exhibition in the RDS. The fully immersive experience featured a 20,000 square foot light and sound spectacular with two-storey projections of the artist's works.

The class of 2022

The end of every school year is always tinged with a little sadness as we prepare to say goodbye to our lovely Sixth Classes. They have had a very busy final few weeks and we look forward to celebrating their graduation on 28th June.

As our Sixth Classes enter their final weeks of primary school, we truly hope that they will fondly remember all the teachers, staff and SNAs who supported and encouraged them along their way. We hope their memories of GANS are good ones. We hope they'll remember how much fun they had during their primary school days and know that many of the friends they made at GANS are their friends for life.

We hope that they move on with the confidence to embrace all the opportunities that secondary school offers. We encourage them to stay active, to try out different sports and activities and to take care of their mental health. We gently remind them that followers on social media are not the same as the support and companionship of a real-life friendship. We hope they retain their curiosity and a thirst for learning. We hope they stay kind.

It really doesn't feel that long ago when they arrived here as nervous Junior Infants and it was with great pride that we watched them grow and blossom over the last eight years. We congratulate all of our Sixth Class pupils on their graduation. We know the class of 2022 is destined for greatness - and we are so grateful to have been included on this small part of their journey.



Final notes

The school calendar for 2022/23 has been shared with all classes and is available to view on the website.

It has been an incredibly busy year at GANS and staff and pupils alike were delighted to bid farewell to remote learning and return to the school in September. Thank you to all of our parents and guardians for your incredible support throughout the school year. We thank the PTA for their partnership and assistance to the school as well as their amazing fundraising skills!

A final thank you to the entire GANS team of teachers, SNAs and staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment throughout the year to providing a safe, caring and nurturing environment for all of our pupils.

The summer break begins at **12:10** for the Red Group and **12.15** for the Blue Group on Thursday 30th June. We wish you all a healthy, happy - and hopefully warm and sunny - summer break.

**HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!**