



## Guardian Angels' NS

### December 2022 Newsletter

#### Carol service

The carol service is always one of our absolute favourite events of the school year. After a two year Covid-induced break, we were delighted to see it return this year. We were especially pleased to share the event with so many of our friends and families. The children were very excited to see such a big turnout and we are so proud of them and how well they performed. They all sang beautifully and with such enthusiasm and joy. A special thank you to all the teachers and staff who gave so much of their time and energy in preparing for the carol service. The effort really paid off in an event that was so thoroughly enjoyed by all.



#### Solar panels

in 2020 Ms Harrghy's class were the proud winners of solar panels for the school, in a competition organised by Friends of the Earth. Having been long delayed by Covid restrictions, we were delighted to finally welcome Friends of the Earth to the school this month. They have delivered our solar panels and took the time to meet with Fourth Class and discuss all the different ways we can continue to help reduce the school's carbon footprint. At Guardian Angels, all pupils are involved in the Green Schools Programme across a wide range of initiatives. We have dedicated energy monitors who patrol the school to ensure no energy is wasted. Water watchers keep an eye on our taps and make sure they are never left running. We recycle, compost and have weekly clean-ups. Thermostats have been added to heaters and Mecon switches installed on toilets. Our 'switch it off' campaign – also run by the pupils – makes sure all lights and devices are switched off when not in use.

Friends of the Earth were so impressed by all the effort our GANS pupils make as part of the Green Schools Programme and we look forward to the panels being installed early in the new year.



### T-shirt competition

We can't wait to see the festive designs everyone comes up with for the annual T-shirt competition on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>. Pupils are encouraged to be as creative as they like, using any materials they choose or have at home. The only rule is that the T-shirts must have a Christmas theme. Each year the level of creativity (and ambition!) increases so spare a thought for the poor judges who have to choose just one design in each class for a prize.

### Finally...

The school will close early on Wednesday 21st December. All classes will finish at **XX**. We re-open on Thursday 5th January and after such a busy term, we know how ready the children are for a well-earned rest. We're also delighted to share that we received a special message from the North Pole to let us know that every single GANS pupil is on Santa's nice list (as expected) – so we hope it is a very special celebration this year, in all your homes. On behalf of all the teachers and staff at GANS, we wish you a very happy, healthy and peaceful break.



### Latest news from the PTA

#### Fundraising update

New interactive whiteboards have been ordered for three classrooms, two of these as a result of PTA fundraising so a huge thanks to everyone for their efforts this year. These whiteboards are invaluable for interactive learning and are very popular with the pupils and teachers alike so upgrading them is a fantastic achievement - thank you all again, it is great to see how your generous donations make a difference to the school.

### School warden update

Not much movement on the school warden situation on Stradbroom Road, the PTA is waiting to hear back from the council. We hope to have more detail in the new year.

### Feeder schools update

Unfortunately, we have not been successful in being added to the official feeder lists for Loreto Foxrock, CBC Monkstown, Loreto Dalkey or Newpark. All of the schools either have their own junior schools attached or have sufficient numbers of feeder schools already however they have stated that they look forward to continuing to welcome pupils from GANS - this is by no means a blocker to admission and some pupils do get admitted each year. Discussions will remain open with the new Educate Together on Newtownpark Avenue.