



Guardian Angels' NS

September 2022 Newsletter

Welcome

We were so delighted to re-open our doors on 30th August and to see so many happy faces as our girls and boys returned to school. We extend a very special welcome to our new Junior Infant classes as well as all the pupils who have joined our older classes. We are particularly impressed by how mature our Junior Infants are this year and how well and quickly they have settled-in to life at GANS. We wish all our staff and pupils a happy and successful year ahead.



Afterschool activities

With Covid restrictions lifted, we can once again offer a full range of afterschool activities for classes across the school. The full schedule can be viewed in the 'Information for parents' section of the website but with dance, art, Spanish classes and a wide variety of sports on offer, we're sure there's something to suit everyone.

Junior Infant admissions 2023

Applications for our Junior Infants 2023 class will be accepted from 1st October to 31st October 2022. Full details as well as an application form can be found in the Admissions section of www.guardianangels.ie. Please note that any applications received after the closing date of 31st October will be automatically placed on our waiting list. Application forms and any admissions queries can be sent to admissionsgans@gmail.com.

Being active

It's great to see so many of our girls and boys walking, cycling and scooting to school. We encourage all our pupils to be as active as possible and the protected cycle lane on Newtownpark Avenue certainly makes it a lot safer. As we start a new school year, we would just like to remind everyone to take a little

extra care when entering, exiting and driving through the carpark – we have some very small pedestrians walking through every day. We also remind those dropping and collecting children by car to please be considerate of each other. The car park can get very busy but please don't block each other in or park in the disabled access spaces, without a valid permit.



Pupil behaviour

We pride ourselves at Guardian Angels for the happy, kind and caring environment our pupils have nurtured. However, as we start each new school year, we like to remind all parents, guardians and pupils that everyone at our school is expected to show courtesy and respect – to all pupils, teachers, special needs assistants, staff and visitors to the school. **Bullying of any kind is not tolerated here.** Please note that pupils are not allowed to have a mobile phone switched on while on school grounds and please pay special attention to your child's use of the internet and social media.

Parent/staff communication

It is important that staff and parents/guardians keep in close communication with one another. There are many ways to do this, a note in the homework journal or an email or phone call to the school secretary. From time to time an issue may arise which you may wish to have addressed. When this happens, we resolve that this will be dealt with informally, quickly, and fairly. Positive and respectful communication is of high importance to our school. This not only extends to the children but to all the stakeholders e.g., the staff, parents/guardians, and the wider community. We are here to deal with any issue that may arise in an open and solution focussed manner. Again, we remind everyone that should you have an issue of concern, the best route to have it sorted is to discuss the matter with your child's teacher by appointment. We do not consider the use of inappropriate social media posts (including WhatsApp group chats) or anonymous letters as suitable communication. Please refer to the following policies - Parent/Staff Communication Policy and the Social Media Policy. These are both available on our website.

Book rental, fees and charges

Thank you to everyone who has paid through Aladdin to date. If you have not yet had a chance to pay, we would very much appreciate it if you could do so before 30th September. If you need any help setting up Aladdin, please visit 'Using Aladdin and paying online' in the 'Information for parents' section of the website. Should there ever be any difficulty in making a payment, do please contact the school, in full confidence.



Staff news

Please join us in welcoming our two new Third Class teachers – Ms Lynch and Mr O’Leary. Both teachers are settling-in well to Guardian Angels and have really enjoyed getting to know their two new classes. Sadly we had to say goodbye to Mr Quinn and our SNA Anne Molloy recently, who have both moved on to new posts.

Latest updates from our PTA

Annual General Meeting of the PTA

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) extends a warm welcome back to all pupils and staff - and especially to those who are new to our school community. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the PTA takes place by Zoom on Thursday 29th September and all parents and guardians are encouraged to attend. The AGM provides an overview of events organised by the PTA and a presentation of its annual accounts. Any motion that you would like considered should be emailed to ptaguardianangels@gmail.com by 23rd September. The PTA is seeking four new members to join its committee this year. For more information on the role, or a nomination form, please contact the PTA directly. To attend, please email ptaguardiaangels@gmail.com to arrange Zoom access. All new members will be seconded and welcomed at the AGM on 29th of September.

Join the PTA!



Traffic warden (lollipop lady)

Following the removal last year of the traffic warden at the Stradbrook Road junction, the PTA has been lobbying Dun Laoghaire County Council and local councillors to have the warden reinstated. Having been debated at a recent council meeting, the PTA is now waiting to meet with the council to discuss the issue and we will update you in due course.

Feeder secondary schools

Last year, the PTA conducted a feeder school survey to identify the top secondary schools that parents were interested in sending their children to. Mr Ó’Neill has since contacted the selected schools and we will update you as this progresses.

Uniform swap event

Thanks to everyone who donated uniforms for the recent uniform swap event and special thanks to Peter the school caretaker for organising the tables. We will hold another uniform swap event before the end of the school term.

Sponsored walk – 7th October

The PTA holds a number of sponsored events during the school year and the first event on our calendar is the sponsored walk, which takes place on 7th October. Sponsorship cards, kindly donated by Reeds

will be handed out in class. We look forward to the return of this popular event and many more events during the school year.

How to contact the PTA

You can reach out to a current PTA member through your class WhatsApp group or at ptaguardianangels@gmail.com.

