



## Guardian Angels' NS

Newsletter – March 2023

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge, the annual Irish language festival runs from 1-17 March and we love to support it every year at GANS. During Seachtain na Gaeilge, the whole school will get involved with games, puzzles, quizzes and movies as Gaeilge. A big thank you to Fifth and Sixth Class who have put a lot of thought and energy into planning some very special activities to play as Gaeilge with the younger classes. Thursday 16th March will be our annual Lá Glas, when GANS goes green to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

### Sacraments

Our Second and Sixth Classes have been very busy lately, getting ready to receive their sacraments. Do This in Memory masses have been held every month since November for Second Class and their First Confession was held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. First Holy Communion ceremonies will be held at 10.45 Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May. The Sixth Class Ceremony of Light will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April before Sixth Class celebrate their Confirmation on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 11am.

### Sports news

The Guardian Angels soccer team has had a fantastic start to their Leinster League campaign. Having championed Kill O'The Grange NS (5-1) and Our Lady's Clonskeagh (2-1) the team has five more matches to play - and we are rooting for them all the way. Our girls' hockey team were thrilled to return to playing after the long Covid break. Hollypark GNS just pipped them in a recent friendly, but their teamwork was excellent and they have clearly not forgotten any of their skills. The team is really enjoying playing together again and looking forward to their next challenge.

### Accord

Accord will make their annual visit to the school next week. Accord delivers a relationship programme to Fifth and Sixth Classes in schools across Ireland. The aim of the programme is to prepare children for physical and intellectual development, to encourage healthy, respectful relationships and to help develop a good sense of self and self-worth. A detailed overview of the programme that will be delivered to each class has been sent directly to parents and guardians, along with a consent form allowing their child to attend.

### Head lice

We've had quite a few cases of the dreaded head lice across the school recently. We urge all parents and guardians to please regularly check their children's hair and to treat lice as soon as detected. Head lice can spread quickly and easily within a classroom so children with long hair should always keep it tied back. The HSE has some useful advice on how to treat head lice at [hse.ie/conditions/head-lice-nits/](https://www.hse.ie/conditions/head-lice-nits/)

### Reporting an absence

A gentle reminder that if your child will be absent from school, the quickest way to let their teacher know is to contact them directly through 'Attendance Notes' on the Aladdin app. If you have any issues finding your way around Aladdin, please just let us know and we can share a user guide.

### Upcoming school closures

A reminder that the school will be closed on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March** for an in-service training day.

We are closed on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March** for St Patrick's Day.

As it's the end of our second term, we will close early, at 12.30, on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** for our Easter holidays. The school will re-open on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April for our summer term.

## Updates from the PTA

### Fundraising update

Thanks for the superb support we received at the recent quiz night. Everyone had great fun and we raised a total of €1362. Well done everyone.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Thanks to all who volunteered to help out at the book fair this week.

### Upcoming PTA fundraising event

We are very excited to bring you "A Fireside Chat with John Fogarty" on the 30<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm in the Wishing Well. John was appointed to the role of National Academy Forwards Coach in July 2019.

Appointed by Leinster as scrum coach in June 2015 after serving as an Elite Player Development coach with the IRFU for four years, John has also coached at Ireland Under-20 level and with Leinster 'A'. A former Heineken Cup winner with Leinster (2009), Fogarty also represented both Munster and Connacht at senior level and was capped for Ireland against New Zealand in 2010. We are honoured to have John speaking at this event and we hope you will join us on the night. There will be a raffle to win a signed rugby shirt on the night. Details on cost and how to book this event will follow in your class WhatsApp's groups.