

Newsletter

Guardian Angels' NS

Newsletter – November 2023

Parent/teacher meetings

Our parent/teacher meetings take place on 22nd and 23rd November and we are delighted that the meetings will be in person. Meetings can be booked directly through the Aladdin app.

Parent/teacher meetings offer a great opportunity to meet class teachers and discuss your child's progress. Parent/teacher meetings for our Junior Infant classes will take place in late January.

Climate Action Week

We are so proud of our GANS green campaigners who are always focused on ways to reduce our school's carbon footprint and combat climate change in any way they can. During the week we attended an excellent seminar on food waste hosted by An Taisce, undertook energy use surveys in school and at home, designed impactful posters to encourage climate action and litter-picked around our neighbourhood.



Active school

At Guardian Angels we encourage all our pupils to be as active as possible every day and are delighted to see so many of our girls and boys walking, cycling and scooting to school. Sixth Class recently finished its course of swimming lessons and it's now the turn of Fifth Class to take lessons in Newpark every Monday morning. Fifth Class will also shortly start the Cycle Safety course which teaches vital lessons in road awareness and cycle safety. We have GAA every week with Johnny Magee of Geraldine's P Moran GAA club, Jonathan Sharkey of Leinster Rugby teaches weekly tag rugby classes in the Rockies, Tim Chapman runs a weekly athletics class and Granada FC is here every Tuesday to give soccer lessons. In addition to regular PE lessons, these activities are vital in promoting an active lifestyle and creating healthy habits that we hope will continue long into the future.

Maths Week

Maths Week featured lots of games, puzzles riddles and challenges for all classes. Our older classes organised maths games with the younger classes and were a great help in making sure the whole school could take part and have fun during the week. Maths Week got everyone thinking about how maths affects every aspect of our lives and there are lots of great games and puzzles available all year round at www.mathsweek.ie



Mobile phones

You probably recently read that Minister for Education Norma Foley is actively discouraging parents from buying smart phones for primary school children. We support the minister's recommendation that parents delay giving a child a smart device for as long as possible. Our focus at GANS is on keeping our children safe online and we have worked extensively with Zeeko, the internet safety specialists to help educate our children about staying safe and protected online. Please note that pupils are not allowed to have a mobile phone switched on, while on school grounds. We'd like to gently remind all parents and guardians to please be aware - and vigilant - of your child's use of social media. Our school policy on social media use can be viewed online in the school policy section of the website. We regularly discuss the appropriate use of social media with our older classes and useful advice for parents on internet usage and safety can be found at www.webwise.ie.

Board of Management

The term of office of the current board ends on 30th November. A new board is being formed as we speak and will manage the school from December 2023 to November 2027. A summary of the proceedings of all BOM meetings is available to view on our website.

Finally...

We have to give our wonderful Infant teachers Ms Byrne, Ms Carr, Ms Sweeney, Ms Buckley and Ms Holst a very special mention for giving their classes such a lovely Halloween surprise!



Latest news from the PTA

Thanks to your support, we had some great events last term – and a huge thank you to everyone who volunteered and contributed their time and efforts to help fundraise for the school.

Sponsored walk

The sponsored walk is always one of our biggest fundraisers and we're delighted to share that this year we raised an incredible €8,201 in total! A huge thank you to everyone for such generous donations.

Halloween disco

The disco was a great success with fantastic costumes, lots of fun, dancing and €1,572 raised. A very special thank you to the DJ who donated her time and did such an amazing job entertaining the children.



Bake sale & Christmas jumper swap

Come along to the school Halla on 8th December for games, raffles and prizes for the best cake. Raffle tickets can be bought on Aladdin in the run-up and on the day itself. Full details to follow. After the success of the uniform and Halloween costume swap, we'll have a Christmas jumper swap on the day, where you can donate, swap or pick up a new Christmas jumper.

Christmas cards

Samples and order forms have arrived. Please note that the deadline for ordering cards is **17th November**. Cards can be ordered using the form provided or through Aladdin.

A note regarding the church carpark

We have all noticed the increase in traffic and parking, mainly due to the building works next door. It has been brought to our attention by the church that the clampers are going to make more regular checks. This is purely for your information and to make you aware that you could get clamped and fined if parked for any length of time without a ticket. This is out of the control of the school as the car park is owned and managed by the church.

To end on a cheerier note, wrap up warm and enjoy the run up to the festive season 😊