

# Newsletter

**April 2024**

## Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Emma in Sixth Class who won this year's Spelling Bee - and a massive well done to all the pupils who took part. We have excellent spellers at GANS, so it was a very stiff competition this year. Emma progressed to the Dublin County final of the Easons National Spelling Bee which was held in St Louise De Marillac National School. Fifty pupils represented 50 schools, from all over Dublin. All of GANS was rooting for Emma, who reached round five of seven - and made it to the last 15. We could not be prouder of Emma's great achievement and how well she represented Guardian Angels.



## Litter picking

Our annual litter picking day will be Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Fingers crossed for good weather as all classes will go out into the neighbourhood to pick up litter from around the school, Newtownpark Avenue and the Rockies. Our litter picking efforts are always appreciated by our neighbours and it makes us very proud to see our pupils taking responsibility for their local environment and doing such good work.

## Trócaire box collection

Trócaire boxes will be collected from the school on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**. Please ensure all boxes are returned by that date for collection by Trócaire. Please note that no Trócaire boxes will be accepted by the school after the 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

## Lost property

With the arrival of warmer weather the collection of lost hoodies, jumpers and coats is piling up fast. The school is getting calls and emails every day from parents looking for missing items. Please, please make sure all uniform items and coats are clearly labelled with your child's name. Without a name, it is impossible to find and return lost items to their rightful owner.

### Sam Maguire Cup

There was huge excitement in the school when our GAA coach Johnny Magee brought the Sam Maguire Cup to the school. All classes had a turn to view and hold the Sam and our thanks to Johnny for making this very special visit. With such super GAA stars in our school, we have no doubt many of them will lift that cup again!

### Garden update

We were delighted to recently welcome Michelle and Craig from Composting Ireland to the school. Craig helped us to set up an on-site composting system and Michelle planted potatoes, onions and various flower bulbs. We can't wait to see this fabulous garden grow.



### Science Fair

GANS is holding its first ever Science Fair on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Every class will be working on an exciting science project over the coming weeks. The projects and results will be on display in the hall for all classes to view. Parents/guardians will be invited to view the projects on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and more details will follow closer to the date.

### Junior Infants 2024/25

We look forward to welcoming the parents/guardians of our incoming Junior Infant class to an information evening, on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the school hall.

### Upcoming school closures

The school will be closed on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May** for the May bank holiday weekend.

The school will be closed on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May** to facilitate teacher in-service training on the new Primary Maths Curriculum.

We will be closed on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>** and **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** for the June bank holiday weekend.

Please note that the school will be used as a polling station in the European/local elections on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June**.

### New school year

We will return after the summer holidays on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August. The full 2024/25 school calendar will be shared as soon as it's confirmed.

## Latest news from the PTA

The last term is upon us and it has been a busy year with lots of fun and successful events.

The book swap was a great success, we had a fantastic range of books for all ages and it was also a good opportunity to recycle. Thank you to everyone who contributed and volunteered, and we hope the children picked up some good reads to add to their list.

There has been a huge response for the Readathon with over 1,100 books read. Well done to everyone and hope you enjoyed the extra reading time. There were also some great costumes for the final dress up day, very creative and fun. the money raised will be used to furnish and decorate reading cubbies throughout the school.

We still have sponsorship money coming in and Aladdin will remain open until the 19th of April for any final contributions.

In other great news, by the end of this school year all of the classrooms will be fitted with up-to-date Prometheon Boards, which have become an invaluable learning tool for the teachers and children. This has been achieved through the hardworking volunteers on your PTA over the past few years, contributions from the school and the support of the families and friends of GANS. Good work everyone and a fantastic achievement.

Date for the diary - the graduation party for 6th class will be held on the 26th of June, further details to follow. We will be looking for some volunteers for this event, so please contact your class rep or email us if you can help out.

Finally, if anyone would be interested in joining the PTA please contact your class rep or email [ptaguardianangels@gmail.com](mailto:ptaguardianangels@gmail.com). We meet once a month at 7.30pm for an hour to discuss events, ideas and any other topics or issues that have been raised. Outside of these meetings you can participate as much or as little as your time allows, everyone plays their part. It is a great way to get to know the parents, the school and see firsthand where the money raised is spent, as well as having a bit of fun along the way. If you cannot commit to joining the PTA, you can still volunteer at events as this help and support is always welcomed.

Thank you,

PTA

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