

# Newsletter

## March 2025

### Upcoming school closures

We are closed for St Patrick's Day on Monday 17 March. We close early at 12 on Friday 28 March for Bí Cineálta training on procedures to address and prevent bullying. On Friday 4 April we are closed for an in-service training day on the new maths curriculum. We close early for Easter holidays on Friday 11 April and return to school on Monday 28 April.

### Creative Schools Week

We held our Creative Schools Week from Monday 24 to Friday 28 February. Sponsored by the Arts Council of Ireland, Creative Schools Week encourages pupils to explore their creative side, through all forms of art, literature, photography music, cookery, theatre and dance. Creative challenges were set each day, and we were thrilled to see so many pupils sharing their projects and works of art through Padlet. We held art workshops, wrote stories, enjoyed shows at both the Pavilion and The Ark and welcomed author Alan Nolan and puppeteer Julie Rose McCormick to the school. The weather was on our side, so we went on lovely sunny nature walks to collect materials for our art. We hope the week has given pupils a taste of the many and varied outlets for their creativity, which we will continue to encourage them to explore throughout the school year.



### Science (STEM) Week

STEM Week took place the week of Monday 3 March and we enjoyed some brilliant activities. There were daily maths games on yard - organised by Fifth Class - that the whole school was involved with. TechWorks Marine visited and gave a fascinating insight into their work monitoring and investigating marine activity. Einstein Junior Science Club held us spellbound with exploding volcanoes and elephant toothpaste! Our science fair exhibited projects and experiments from every class, and we were delighted that so many parents/guardians were able to visit.



### Seachtain na Gaeilge

This week is Seachtain na Gaeilge at Guardian Angels. We had games, puzzles and quizzes as Gaeilge – all brilliantly organised and led by Fifth and Sixth Class. There was Irish dancing and singing in the Halla and all classes learned An Dreoilín. On Friday, GANS goes green for Lá Glas to celebrate St Patrick's Day.



### 2025/26 school year

If for any reason your child is not returning to GANS for the 2025/26 school year, can you please let us know as soon as possible, to help us manage our waiting lists.

### National Children's Choir

We're very much looking forward to the National Children's Choir (NCC) performance in the National Basketball Arena on Monday 31 March. Fourth and Fifth Class have been practicing since September and have enjoyed two cluster rehearsals with Hollypark GNS. At the performance in Tallaght, we will be singing with five other schools on what's sure to be a really enjoyable evening for all.

### Lost property

With the recent improvement in the weather, the number of coats, jackets, jumpers and hoodies without names is piling up fast. Please take a moment to label **EVERYTHING** that can be removed. We are unable to return lost items that have no name. As we don't have any spare storage space in the school, we are forced to send hundreds of mint-condition uniforms, coats

and jackets to charity shops and the recycling centre at the end of every school year. This is a huge amount of waste that we'd very much like to avoid as much as possible.

#### [Dún Laoghaire Mural Tour](#)

Sixth Class was treated to a brilliant mural tour around Dún Laoghaire with the excellent guide Germaine D'Alton. As it was such a gorgeous day, they really had no choice but to stop for ice cream.



#### [Communicating with the school](#)

If a parent/guardian has an issue to discuss, the first point of contact is always your child's teacher. All teachers can be contacted directly through Aladdin, using the 'noticeboard' function.

There are agreed procedures to handle parental complaints, and it is very important that we all adhere to those procedures. Almost all of the issues that crop up in schools can be solved, that is, if we all have patience, **make use of the proper channels** and show empathy and respect.

Discussions regarding school matters should remain within the official communication channels and not on social media or messaging groups, as this can sometimes lead to misunderstandings.

To notify the school of an absence, late arrival or early departure, please use 'attendance notes' on the Aladdin app. For more information or to view our communication policy and complaints procedure please [click here](#).



## Update from GANS PTA



#### [Dates for the diary](#)

- 24 March to 2 May – Readathon. Further details will follow over the coming weeks.
- 24-26 March – Scholastic Book Fair in the school. Please note you can use your World Book Day vouchers at the fair.
- 2-3 April – Book swap in the Halla. This is a great way to recycle children's books and encourage everyone to read.

- 2 May – Dress up day in the school. The children can dress up as their favourite book character to mark the last day of the Readathon

**Other points of note:**

The Table Quiz was a fantastic fun night with a great turnout and raised €1,650 for the school. A huge thank you to everyone who organised - and all those who turned up on the night to contribute and raise the funds.

Can we please remind everyone to read the latest school policies around mobile phone usage and discuss with your children. The policy can be [found here](#).

Smartwatches and other wearable technology **must be turned off** during school hours and kept in the pupil's school bag at all times.

Thank you on behalf of GANS PTA [www.guardianangels.ie/PTA](http://www.guardianangels.ie/PTA)