

Newsletter

January 2026

Happy new year!

Welcome to the new school term and we wish you all a very happy and healthy 2026. After a much-deserved break, it's great to see everyone return to school so rested, refreshed and ready for a busy new term.

Upcoming school closure

A reminder that the school is closed for St Brigid's Day on **Monday 2nd of February**.

On **Wednesday the 11th of February** we are closed for an in-service training day.

Our mid-term break is from **Thursday 19th and 20th of February** and we are closed for St Patrick's Day on **Monday 16th and 17th of March**.

Junior infant classes Parent/teacher meetings

Our parent/teacher meetings for Junior Infants take place on the **27th, 28th and 29th of January**. We are very grateful to you as parents and guardians for taking the time to attend. These meetings offer a great opportunity to meet class teachers and discuss your child's progress and any concerns you may have.

Grandparents' day

We will hold our Grandparents' Day on **Friday 30th of January**. Grandparents of our Junior & Senior Infants are invited to visit the school and view some of the excellent work and art that has kept our juniors so busy since September. We would love to hear any stories - or see photos - from grandparents, if any would like to tell us about their own school days.



School photos

Memory Lane will visit the school on **Friday 6th February**. On the day they'll take individual photos of our Junior Infants, our Junior Infants with older siblings and class photos of Senior Infants to Sixth Class. More details will follow closer to the day.

Hot School Meals

We are beginning the process of introducing Hot School Meals to GANS. This will be quite a long and work intensive journey as we will have to navigate complex tendering regulations, decide on the company that best suits our needs and install ovens in the building/construct outside pods. We hope to be ready to go in September. We will keep you updated in our monthly newsletter.

School Uniforms

We are pleased to see that more pupils are wearing the correct school uniform since we returned from holidays. Mr. Ó Néill and a member of the PTA will shortly meet our uniform suppliers to convey your thoughts to them.

Arrival

Please note that pupils **are not supervised before 08.35**. We still have a small number of students who arrive far too early. Please see our Safe Arrivals and Collection Policy.

Smartphones and devices

Following Christmas, it's always timely to bring up the issue of smart phones and other internet-capable devices. While these are useful tools that can provide hours of fun and learning, there are very real dangers associated with them. A gentle reminder that mobile phones are not permitted to be switched on while on school grounds. Please speak to your child about internet safety and their use of social media at home. The computers in the school have a blocking system which blocks all social media websites, to limit access to opportunities to engage in any inappropriate activity online. The consistent advice around social media sites is that they are not suitable for anyone under the age of 13. Our anti-cyber-bullying policy can be viewed on the GANS website and for practical advice on staying safe online you might find gov.ie/besafeonline useful.





Update from GANS PTA

Dates for the diary:

Thursday the 12th of February: Table Quiz in the The Wishing Well pub. This will take place at 8pm and a table of four will cost 40 Euro per team. Gather your friends and family for a great night out!

March/April (dates to be confirmed): Readathon and world book day. More details to follow but events will include a book swap in the school halla and more.....

Other points of note: The bake sale raised almost 5000 Euro and the 'Design a Card' initiative for the festive celebration cards raised 887.75 Euro. Many thanks again to all of those who helped and supported these initiatives. They were hugely successful. Everyone's time and effort is greatly appreciated and we look forward to seeing you at the table quiz!

Matched Giving Incentives for community initiatives and organisations. We are reaching out to the school community to ask if anyone has access to this type of incentive. We would be grateful if you would consider projects in GANS. Please contact the PTA if you can help ptaguardianangels@gmail.com

A reminder that the various school policies including use of mobile phones and social media can be found here at <https://www.guardianangels.ie/policies/>.

Thank you on behalf of GANS PTA <https://www.guardianangels.ie/pta/>,
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