

Newsletter

June 2026

Class of 2026

The end of each school year is always a special time, but it is also tinged with a little sadness as we prepared to say goodbye to our Sixth-Class pupils. Their Graduation Ceremony took place on Thursday, the 25th of June, and we very much looked forward to celebrating this important milestone with the students and their parents and guardians.

As they prepare to begin the next chapter of their educational journey, we hope they look back on their time in GANS with great fondness. We hope they will cherish the many memories they have made, the experiences they have shared, and the friendships they have formed over the years. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved and wish them every success, happiness, and fulfilment in the years ahead. They will always remain an important part of the GANS community.

Sports day

We enjoyed four fantastic Sports Days this month! Pupils took part in a range of events and activities. We were delighted to welcome so many parents, guardians, grandparents, and carers who joined us to support and cheer on the children.

Fun Day

We held our annual Fun Day on Wednesday the 10th of June. We had a bouncy castle, an inflatable obstacle course, and giant games for our junior classes to enjoy, as well as ice cream for the whole school. Fun Day certainly lived up to its name!



ADHD Ireland

We are delighted to announce that our school has been officially recognised as an ADHD Friendly Accredited School by ADHD Ireland. We look forward to raising our ADHD Friendly School flag in September and celebrating this achievement with our school community.



Delphi

A highlight of the year for our 6th Class pupils was their trip to Delphi. They enjoyed a fantastic few days, making great memories with their classmates and taking part in a range of exciting activities. The students were extremely well behaved throughout the trip and were a credit to the school. They were also lucky to enjoy amazing weather, unlike some previous years!



First Holy Communion/Confirmation 2025/26

If you want your child to make their First Holy Communion or Confirmation during the 2026/27 school year, please make sure you complete and return a registration form before Friday the 10th of July. Forms and details were sent on Aladdin. Please note the form needs to be returned directly to the parish office – parishoffice@newtownparkparish.com - not the school.

RNLI fundraiser- Active school week

As part of our Active School Week celebrations, we were delighted to welcome the RNLI Dún Laoghaire team to our school to deliver water safety workshops for our pupils. We would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to our fundraising efforts. Thanks to your generosity, we raised a total of € €1,396.00, which will be donated to the RNLI in support of their vital lifesaving work

Talent Show

We'd like to congratulate all our amazing talent show participants. We are so proud of all the talent, hard work, and confidence shown on the day. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the talent show such a fantastic event.



Pupils not returning

The new school year begins on Thursday the 27th of August. If for any reason your child is not returning after the summer, please let us know as soon as possible to help us manage our waiting lists.

Uniform

Next term, the Board of Management, staff and the PTA will give much thought to the matter of the school uniform. Any changes made will not come into effect before September 2027. In the meantime, the uniform rules remain the same: Infants – school tracksuit; First to Sixth Classes – school uniform every day except P.E. and sports days.

School Meals

Glanmore Foods has been selected as the provider of hot meals to GANS, following the procurement competition. They will begin installing the ovens shortly and hope to be up and running by September 1st. You will receive further information during the summer on the arrangements for ordering meals and other matters. Consequently, the Lunch Bag is ceasing its current association with us.

Voluntary contribution

The Board of Management wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to all those who have made a voluntary contribution to the school. Contributions are entirely voluntary and not in any way an expectation. All contributions are so appreciated and used for the benefit of all pupils. The payment portal on Aladdin will remain open until the end of June.

Dublin Youth Choir

The Dublin Youth Choir is seeking new members to join their choirs. It is not necessary to have music training/education to apply, and they really want to welcome singers from schools not yet represented in NYC. You can find more specific information on their website <https://www.dublinyouthchoir.com/the-choirs>.

Final notes

The school calendar for 2026/27 is available to view in the 'information for parents' section of the website. The first day of our new school term is Thursday the 27th of August. Stationery lists and fees and charges lists will be distributed shortly. We try very hard to keep our fees and charges for the school year as low as possible. We face extensive costs every school year and the fees cover pupil insurance for your child, art and craft materials, paper and stationery costs.

It has been another incredibly busy year at GANS and our sincere thanks to all parents and guardians for your continued support throughout the school year.

We also wish to say a very special thank you to our wonderful PTA for their ongoing partnership – as well as their amazing fundraising skills! A final thanks you to the entire GANS team of teachers, SNAs and staff for their hard work, dedication and commitment throughout the year.

Don't forget **we finish at 12.30** on Tuesday the 30th of June. We wish you all a healthy, happy – and hopefully warm and sunny – summer break.

This year, we say a fond farewell to Mr. Ó'Néill and Ms. Fahy as they retire from GANS. We would like to sincerely thank them for their outstanding service, dedication, and contribution to our school community over the years. Their impact on the lives of so many pupils and colleagues will not be forgotten. On behalf of the entire school community, we wish them good health, happiness, and many relaxing mornings with a cup of coffee, a good newspaper, and nowhere in particular to be. May they enjoy every minute of their well-earned retirement.



Update from GANS PTA



As Mr. O'Neill begins his well-deserved retirement, the PTA wants to express our deepest gratitude to him for his commitment to the school community over the past fourteen years. We are incredibly grateful for his years of service and wish him all the best in this next chapter!"

Updates: **Readathon** – final amount raised was over 2000 Euro

Uniform swap – Hopefully some managed to pick up some useful items. It is a great opportunity to clear out and recycle. Sixth class can drop any uniform items at the school on the last few days of term. Please ensure any items are clean and in good condition. We will hold another swap event in September when the new school year begins.

Volunteers – A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered at various events throughout the year. The help and contributions from the school community are key to the success of these events and very much appreciated.

PTA members- We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to those stepping down from the PTA this year. Those include John Morrison, Liz Spry and Jennifer Ingles. We really appreciate your huge effort and massive contributions over the years. You will be missed!

New PTA members – would you like to join the PTA? It is a great opportunity to get to know the school, parents, teachers and to have a say in how the funds are used for the benefit of the whole school community. If you would like to join please complete the **PTA volunteer form** and email it to the PTA or give to an existing member.

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

Matched Giving Incentives or 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

The link to the Smartphone Free Pledge is as follows for those who wish to sign it.
<https://smartphonefree.ie/sign-the-pledge/>

We wish you all a very happy summer break, and we will see you back in September.