

# Newsletter

June 2024

## Seomra Isabelle

We recently held a dedication ceremony of our new Infants' Room to the memory of our beloved former pupil Isabelle Taaffe. Isabelle's family was joined by some of her closest classmates for the unveiling of the new 'Seomra Isabelle' plaque. While memories of Isabelle will always be cherished by those at Guardian Angels who knew and loved her, it gives us great joy to permanently dedicate one of our rooms to her memory.



## Annual talent show

Our annual school talent show 'GANS Got Talent' took place on Friday 23rd. It's always a highlight of the year and as always, we were in awe of the tremendous talent on display. This year we had singers, dancers, bands, gymnasts and musicians performing. The judges had an incredibly tough job, but in the end awarded third place to Alice in Third Class for her stunning gymnastics display, Second went to last year's winner Sive (Sixth Class) for her beautiful singing and Andy in Third Class took first place for his piano recital that wowed us all. It can be very daunting to perform on a stage in front of such a big audience so a massive well done to all who took part – all stars in our eyes.

## Sixth Class graduation

The end of every school year is always tinged with sadness as we prepare to say goodbye to Sixth Class. We hope that they move on with the confidence to embrace all the opportunities that secondary school has to offer. We encourage them to stay active, to try out different sports and activities and to take good care of their mental health. We hope that they are kind to themselves and to others. We hope that they will always carry good memories of their years at Guardian Angels and know that many of the friends they made at GANS are their friends for life. We gently remind them that a follower count is not the same as the support and companionship of a real-life friendship. We hope they retain their curiosity and a thirst for learning. We have watched this group grow and blossom together over the last eight years. There's a big world out

there just waiting for them – and it gives us enormous pride to see them leave us as lovely, confident young adults with such bright futures ahead.

### Pupils not returning

The new school year begins on Thursday 29th August. If for any reason your child is not returning for the new school year, please let us know as soon as possible, to help us manage our waiting lists.

### Delphi

Sixth Class spent three nights at Delphi in late May and made the most of every second. They climbed boulder walls, navigated obstacle courses through the bog and learned how to safely build and light campfires. Friendships were consolidated as they hiked, abseiled and kayaked their way across the resort, ensuring the Delphi trip is one they'll always remember.



### Afterschool activities 2024/25

The afterschool activities schedule for next year is now confirmed. There is a wide range of activities available – from Spanish, chess and sport to Kung Fu, robotics and dance. To view the schedule, please [click here](#) or visit the 'information for parents' section of the website. If you have any questions, need more information about any of the activities available or want to book a place for September, please contact the provider directly.

### New uniform supplier

Following a recent merger, all Guardian Angels' NS uniform items will now be available from Uniformity in Sandyford. Please [click here](#) to visit their website and view or order stock. Please note that Junior and Senior Infants need the tracksuit uniform only.

### 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. To date, almost 200 families have contributed and the payment portal on Aladdin will remain open until the end of June.

### Social media

A reminder that we have moved our social media channel from X to Instagram. We hope you'll join us there (@guardianangelsns) to stay up-to-date with all our school news.

### Sports days & Fun Day

Despite the weather doing its best to dampen spirits and one postponement, we had three great sports days across the school. Well done to all who took part in the 100m sprint, sack race, penalty shoot-out, javelin, 3-legged race, egg & spoon race and a tug-of-war! Fun Day for Junior Infants to Second Class took place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. With a bouncy castle, inflatable obstacle course and giant games for our junior classes to enjoy - and ice-cream for the whole school – Fun Day certainly lived up to its name.



### Sacraments

A reminder that any child entering Second or Sixth Class who wishes to make their First Holy Communion or Confirmation during the 2024/25 school year, must return a completed registration form to the parish office.

### Final notes

The school calendar for 2024/25 has been shared and is available to view and download from the website. The first day of our new school term is Thursday 29th August. It has been an incredibly busy year at GANS and our sincere thanks to all parents and guardians for your support throughout the school year.

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

Don't forget **we finish at 12.30** on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. We wish you all a healthy, happy – and hopefully warm and sunny – summer break.

## Latest news from the PTA

It is hard to believe the end of the term is here already, but what a fantastic year it has been, with lots of achievements, activities and fundraising for the school.

This year the money raised has funded the last few interactive whiteboards, which are now installed in all the classrooms. This was an ongoing project and has taken a number of years to complete. Funds have also been used towards lots of other things such as the sensory garden, 6th class hoodies, organising the Halloween disco, sponsored walk, Readathon, quiz, goodie bags, and much more. We are now in discussions with the school to fund a new PA/lighting system for the Halla, setting up reading areas and upgrading some of the PE equipment. Watch this space....

Of course, none of this is possible without the help and support of the school community. A huge thank you to everyone who contributes their time volunteering, organising and donating to help improve the learning and social environment for the children. It is very much appreciated and we look forward to continuing support with more events and fundraising next year.

We are always looking for new members for the PTA so please contact your class rep or email [ptaguardianangels@gmail.com](mailto:ptaguardianangels@gmail.com). The nomination form is **here**. (add link)

Good luck to all who are moving on from GANS and we will see everyone else in the new school year. Have a lovely summer break and hopefully with a bit more sunshine ☀️

Thank you  
GANS PTA



**HAVE A GREAT  
SUMMER!**