



As we move into the brighter months, there's a real sense of energy across the ABC Grangegorman community, with lots happening for children, young people, and families. From school achievements and creative activities to supports and opportunities for parents, May is shaping up to be a busy and positive time.

This newsletter brings together updates, opportunities, and community highlights.

We hope you find something that's useful or of interest.

Dates for your diary: the upcoming ABC Grangegorman Consortium meeting will take place on the 18th of June from 2-4 pm in the Macro Centre

Stepping Up Transition Prog

The ABC Grangegorman Stepping Up Transition Programme resources were delivered to participating services across the community in May in preparation for this year's programme activities.

The programme was further developed with the support of a dedicated working group, whose collaboration and shared expertise helped shape the resources and overall programme. We would like to thank all members of the working group, along with participating services, for their continued support and engagement.

The Transition Programme continues to support children and families as they transition to primary school, helping to build confidence and positive experiences for the next stage of their journey



A sincere thank you to the members of the working group for their ongoing support, collaboration, and commitment throughout the development of the programme:

Lorraine Hession, Principal, Presentation Primary School

Síle McDonnell, Teacher, Paradise Place

Catherine Mangan, Manager, Tiny Toes

Denise Cunningham, Manager, Little Stars

Mark Cummins, Community Development Outreach Worker, Daughters of Charity

Amanda Delaney, Home School Community Liaison Officer, St. Gabriel's

Your input, experience, and dedication have been invaluable in helping to shape and strengthen the programme.





Aosóg are currently developing a sensory patio outside their centre.

Children have been involved from the start, taking part in pot painting and planting, with more activities planned over the coming weeks. Here are a few photos showing the early stages of the project.



Aosóg will run a Summer Programme from July to August for children aged 7–12 who may need additional support during school closures. Priority will be given to families with Tusla involvement and those living in emergency accommodation.

For more information, visit www.aosog.ie. Referral criteria and application forms are available by contacting info@aosog.ie or geraosog@gmail.com



Aosóg are recruiting a Project Worker (full-time, 39 hours) to support children aged 7–12 and their families.

Applicants should have a Level 7/8 qualification in Social Care, Youth Work, Education, or a related field, along with at least 2 years' experience working with children and families requiring additional support.

Salary starts at €40,851 (aligned with Project Worker pay scale). Garda vetting and references required.

Apply by 5pm, Tuesday 12th May by sending your CV and cover letter to geraosog@gmail.com or info@aosog.ie.

Interviews will take place the week beginning 25th May.

For more information, visit www.aosog.ie or contact Geraldine (Project Leader) on 8102122 (Tues–Thurs, 11am–1pm).

Doodle Den



Lots happening in Doodle Den this term. A big highlight was a visit from children's author and illustrator Tarsilla Crüse. Tarsilla gave a very lively and interactive reading of her book *A Little Birdie Told Me*. A former teacher, Tarsilla provided a lesson in plot, building suspense, and inferring meaning from illustrations, as well as a mini lesson on Irish birdlife- and this all through simply reading them a story! For the grown-ups, this was a fabulous demonstration of how to engage a child with the story and get the most out of reading a book together. (We had a great turnout of family members for this family session. Story time was followed up with making bird masks and then a fun "Bird-day party" dance. A lovely afternoon of learning the Doodle Den way- through stories and fun!





Early Talk Boost (ETB)

Children in Tiny Toes Community Crèche have been taking part in the Early Talk Boost programme since April 13th. This 9-week programme is designed for children aged 3 to 4 who may need extra support with talking and understanding language, helping to strengthen their communication skills in a fun and engaging way.

Throughout the programme, children participate in structured, play-based activities alongside the characters Jake and Tizzy. These activities are carefully planned to support key areas of language development, including listening and attention, building vocabulary, developing sentences and grammar, and early storytelling skills.

In addition to the activities in the preschool setting, children bring home a Jake and Tizzy book each week to share with their families. These books are familiar from the sessions and are designed to encourage repeated, interactive reading at home. By talking about the pictures, repeating key words, and expanding on what children say, families play an important role in reinforcing new vocabulary, supporting understanding, and encouraging children to use longer sentences and develop their storytelling skills



One Family

One Family provides both in-person and online courses designed to support parents who are parenting alone or navigating life after separation. These courses offer a safe and understanding space where parents can build confidence, develop practical skills, and connect with others in similar situations. Through a range of supportive and informative programmes, parents can access guidance on parenting, communication, personal development, and well-being. Whether attending in person or joining online, each course is tailored to meet the unique challenges and strengths of one-parent families. Courses include: Family Communication Parenting Teens <https://onefamily.ie/course/family-communication-parenting-teens-1/> ; Parents Under Pressure <https://onefamily.ie/course/parents-under-pressure/> ; Baby Massage <https://onefamily.ie/course/parents-under-pressure/> . Two new free online workshops are also available—see <https://onefamily.ie/courses/?category=workshops> for details. These courses and workshops are for parents parenting alone, sharing parenting, or separating.





UPDATESUPDATES

ST. GABRIEL'S NS APRIL 2026

Celebrating a Busy Term at St. Gabriel's NS

CREDIT UNION SCHOOLS QUIZ

Eight pupils from 4th-6th class proudly represented our school at the Credit Union Table Quiz in February at the Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown. Both teams performed brilliantly, finishing 7th and 10th out of 52 teams — an outstanding result in a very competitive event. They were a credit to our school, showing fantastic teamwork, knowledge, confidence, and sportsmanship throughout. To celebrate, the teams enjoyed a well-earned bowling trip and a visit to McDonald's.

A SPECIAL VISIT FROM THE LORD MAYOR

We were delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor, Dublin City Council representatives, and guests from Dublin Bus to speak about Kindness Heroes in our community. Sixth Class shared their work as Wellbeing Ambassadors, impressing the Lord Mayor so much that he invited them to visit the Mansion House — a proud and memorable moment for all.

FAI FUN

Two boys' teams and one girls' team proudly represented the school at the recent FAI 5-a-side tournament, showing great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship. Their skill and spirit were outstanding, and they did the school proud—the future is bright for these soccer stars! To celebrate, they enjoyed a special pizza party, recognizing their hard work and commitment. Well done to all involved!

GARDEN GROWTH

Our Heritage Council garden expert has visited three times so far, supporting the redevelopment of our school garden. On the latest visit, pupils identified native insects and their role as pollinators, planned a pollinator garden, mapped and measured a new area, chose plants for a "Bee Café," and practiced plant care — all while building teamwork and observation skills.

St Gabriel's NS
Cowper St
Dublin 7

Growth Through Education
Tel: 01-83 84 853

St. Gabriel's National School recently shared some fantastic updates from school life. Pupils achieved an excellent result in the Credit Union Schools Quiz, finishing 7th and 10th out of 52 teams at the Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown. The school garden project is also flourishing, with pupils helping to design a new pollinator-friendly "Bee Café" while learning about native insects and plant care. Students also took part in the FAI 5-a-side tournament, showing great teamwork and sportsmanship throughout. Another highlight was a special visit from the Lord Mayor, Dublin City Council representatives, and Dublin Bus guests, where Sixth Class pupils showcased their work as Wellbeing Ambassadors and received an invitation to the Mansion House.

We were delighted to visit Seven Dwarfs Playgroup and see the wonderful display of ABC Grangegorman supports proudly featured on their notice board!

Contact Us:

For more information on programmes and supports available in your area, please contact: eli@ncirl.ie.

To keep up to date throughout the year, please connect with us:
Website: <https://grangegormanabc.com>.
Instagram: [grangegormanabc](https://www.instagram.com/grangegormanabc).

