

## Interview Skills



Leaving Certs. recently spent a day working on their interview skills, in preparation for the forthcoming LCVF examinations. The course was funded by the KITE initiative and was delivered by Ian and Conal from NUI Maynooth. Students had lots of fun gaining experience and confidence in front of the camera and microphone.

## Home, School and Community



Frances Glancy and Mary Howe receive FETAC certificates from John Lawler, Chairperson of Athy Town Council, at the Adult Awards' ceremony in the Clanard Court Hotel.

## Home, School and Community Liaison

Bringing Parents 'Closer to Their Children's Learning' is one of the aims of Home, School, Community Liaison, as it has been proven to be one of the ways young people succeed better at school. This year, Mary McKenna, Art teacher, and our A3 class welcomed parents in to assist them with making their HallowE'en hats.



Parent, Maggie Kelly, and her son, James, work carefully on his hat, with Art teacher Ms. Mary McKenna.

## Fire Cadet Programme

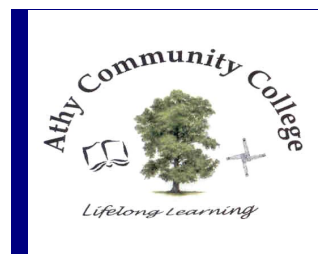


Fire Officer Ben Woodhouse spoke with some first year students to give them detail of the new Fire Cadet programme which is to be introduced at Athy Fire Station. Some 12 young people will be selected to participate in this programme which is a very exciting opportunity for students.

## Music Workshop



Shane Sullivan and Mickey Joe Harte, the former Eurovision contestant visited the school to promote a Music workshop which they will be holding in the town in July. Students were very interested.



# Athy Community College

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## Academic Awards



Photographed at the recent **Academic Awards** evening at Athy College were: Back (L to R) Richard Daly, Principal; Dr. Breda Sunderland, Deputy Principal; Mr Sean Ashe, CEO of Kildare VEC; Front (L to R) Niall Sunderland, Leaving Certificate Student of The Year 2008; Laima Liepinyte, Junior Certificate Student of The Year 2008 and Paddy Doyle Leaving Certificate Applied Student of The Year 2008. For more pictures and further details see inside.

## New School on Target



The building of our new school has got off to a flying start and is looking set to be completed on time, if not ahead of schedule. Almost four months down, and eight to go, and the construction becomes more visible. Athy College held an Information Evening in the Clanard Court hotel recently, where presentations were made to a large audience, on several aspects of the new building. Enrolments for future years were taken on the night.

## School Ski Trip '09



## Academic Scholarship Award

Congratulations to past pupil, Stephen Duggan, on being awarded **The Engineers Ireland South East Region Scholarship** for 2008/2009, by the Institute of Technology in Carlow, for having the most Leaving Cert points for his course. Stephen is a past pupil of Athy College, where he sat his Leaving Cert. in 2008. He is studying for a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Mechanical Engineering at the Institute of Technology, Carlow.

## Dail Na nÓg



Congratulations to 5th year students Daisy Delaney (seen here on right front row) and to Joshua Adido (on right back row), who were recently part of the Kildare Coh-mairle no nÓg team at **Dáil na nÓg**. The students were honoured to be two of the five representatives from Kildare.

## School Ski Trip to Königssee



School Tour—Feb 2009 – Skiing trip to Königssee, Germany.  
**Monday morning**, and 22 extremely eager students waved goodbye to family and friends as they set off on the school tour. In the very capable hands of Dignan coaches we arrived in plenty time to have a full Irish before we boarded the plane. Having landed safely in Munich, we were met by our driver, where we began our ascent up the mountains. At hotel Königssee we were met by Joseph, the hotel owner, and also by 2ft of snow!

**Tuesday morning** we were up early, full of anticipation for our first taste of skiing. After a hearty breakfast we headed to the slopes. We were kitted out in no time, and certainly didn't look very graceful as we plodded around in ski boots but complaints weren't heard over the noises of enthusiasm. Then the instructors took us through our paces. Stage one: standing still with one ski on, stage two: moving (skateboard style) with one ski, stage three: standing still with two skis on, stage four: moving with two skis. At this early phase of our tuition we learned that snow is great for falling on, lovely and soft! We were very thankful for the snow that fell the previous night. Following lunch we got the hang of staying upright, controlled movement wasn't working for everyone but it was only day one! Tuesday night we headed to bed early after the girls beat the boys in a game of charades.

**Wednesday morning** the sun shone, the weather was glorious. We were anxious to get going to see if we would remember all the things we had done the previous day, The shins objected a bit to the stiff boots but it was soon forgotten as we were side stepping up the slopes. Today we improved our steering and discovered Snow Plough—how to stop without throwing yourself on the ground! Again some people found their brakes worked better than others! Progress was being made and we were definitely able to stay upright for longer! We were divided into two groups with the less fearless heading off to more ambitious tasks—the chair lift! We were well and truly exhilarated when we headed back to the hotel after our session. After dinner we went bowling, in Austria! It was nice to be in Salzburg, home of the Sound of Music, even if it was just for a few hours. Following a competitive humming game (score was given as a draw but I'm not convinced) we headed off to bed.

**Thursday morning** and everyone was rearing to go again (well nearly everyone). The snow was falling again but as we would discover, this would be to our advantage. Then we had a go at skiing over bumps, not as easy as it sounds, needless to say falling was back on the agenda! After dinner swimming was on the agenda. A pretty amazing complex with 5 pools, one of them outdoors. Nothing like swimming in an outdoor pool when it's freezing outside and the snow is all around! Following a game of Who's Who, where the boys were once again beaten it was time for bed.



**Friday morning** and we were like professionals, we were togged out and ready to go in record breaking time. Not easy when the weather is against you. It was miserable and the jackets and gloves were really put to the test. Today we surprised ourselves with our ability to steer and brake at will. After some fun and games on the beginner slope the more advanced group were ready for the challenge of the cable car lift up to the next level. An hour and a half later and they returned, glowing with pride and all limbs intact, thankfully! On Friday evening swimming was on the agenda again as we were so impressed with the pool. A table quiz kept us entertained before bed tonight.

**Saturday morning** the advanced group were like greyhounds ready to be let out of the traps, they were hooked and wanted back on the slopes without delay. The teachers were choked with pride as they returned with tales of falling down and small children helping them up and handing them their skis! Credit where credit is due, our students were pretty spectacular on the slopes and managed to speed down in 8mins on their last run, much better than their first 90min attempt. The advanced group didn't have all the fun though, the other group were treated to a trip up to the highest point on Jenner mountain, the views were breathtaking, even if cable car travel is a little nerve-wracking! There were mixed emotions handing back the skiing equipment that evening, on one hand it was great not to have the weight of the boots to lug around but it did mean saying farewell to our experiences of a great sport. Following our dinner we headed off ice-skating and then back to the hotel to pack the suitcases.

**Sunday morning** and we weren't sorry to be having our last breakfast of cornflakes and bread rolls. On the trip back to the airport we visited Dachau Concentration Camp (seen here on right). Our guide showed us around and explained the conditions of the prisoners. The visit had a profound effect on the group. Following the visit we headed towards the airport and were homeward bound. By Ms. Deirdre Murphy.



## Academic Awards Recipients 2009



**Academic award recipients: First Year** - Class A1; Joint Second Place: Liam Cahill and Alanna Moran, First Place: Laura Rakhman-Kidd. Class A2; Second Place: Lisa Delaney, First Place: Eamon Murphy, A3; Second Place: Ope Lawal First Place: Aisling Knee. **Second Year** - Class B4; Joint Second Place: Leonie Love and Attila Nagy, First Place: Paul Potts. Class B5; Joint Second Place: Joel Akinola, Olivia Daly and Sam Johnson., First Place: Amy O'Keeffe. **Third Year** - Class C7; Second Place: Stephen Moore, Joint First Place: Robyn Brady and Shauna Hayden, Class C8; Second Place: Khanya Masebeni, Joint First Place: Samuel Akinola and Amy Keogh. **Fifth Year** - Class D10; Second Place: Darren O'Keeffe, Joint First Place: Joshua Adido and Paul McDonagh, Class D11; Second Place: Daisy Delaney First Place: Laima Liepinyte. Class D12; Second Place: Stephen Leonard First Place: Ian Leonard. **Sixth Year** - E14 Second Place: Martin Murphy First Place: John Whelan E15 Second Place: Allison Duggan First Place: Amma Adeosun E16 Second Place: Lynsey Donovan First Place: Graham O'Shaughnessy .

## World Maths Day

Congratulations to the students of B5 and A2, seen below, receiving their certificates for World Maths Day.



Athy College students were among over one million students from 160 countries all over the world who took part in World Maths Day on Mar 4th. This is one of the world's largest global educational events, aiming to lift numeracy standards in a fun way. Pupils log on and are pitted against other participants of similar ages from all around the globe. The students enjoyed competing and found it a fun way to learn.

## Oireachtas Workshop



All three local Dail deputies presented themselves to a group of students in Athy Community College as part of an Oireachtas workshop, which seeks to make government relevant to young people. TD's Jack Wall and Seán Ó Fearghaill and Minister Seán Power fielded questions from an eager bunch of student who had plenty to ask. The three politicians gave straight answers to sensitive questions on racism and employment and it was a learning experience for all.