

SAFER INTERNET DAY 2009



Safer Internet Day will be celebrated on 10th February, 2009 in an expected 65 countries across the globe. As in previous years, the day's celebrations will include local, national, and international events organised by a broad variety of organisations ranging from schools and youth clubs to industry, civil society and local and national government agencies. Safer Internet day takes place each year in February to promote safer and more responsible use of internet and mobile phone technologies, especially amongst children and young people. Actions planned in Ireland to mark the day: The Office for Internet Safety, the National Centre for Technology in Education, the National Parents Council (Primary), Childline, and the Hotline will host a joint Safer Internet Day event in Dublin to launch a TV and online awareness raising campaign focusing on the issue of cyberbullying. An online quiz quest competition for young people aged 10 to 15 years on both internet safety and different aspects of European culture is currently running. For further info. go to www.ncte.ie

Also check out www.webwise.ie. Webwise is the Irish Internet Safety Awareness Node managed by the NCTE and provides parents, teachers, and children with educational resources, advice and information about potential dangers on the Internet and empowers users to minimise or avoid these risks. Webwise shares best practice, information and resources with European partners through the European Commission's Insafe network.

Advice for safe Internet Use from the National Council for Technology Education:

Do know who can access your personal information – Assume that everything is public unless you are sure that it isn't.

Don't assume everyone you meet online is who they appear to be - Anyone can create a user profile pretending to be anyone else.

Don't post information that could be used to find you offline – without meaning to, you can give away information that could help someone to find you. Be careful of posting photos with things like car registration plates or identifiable landmarks in them.

Don't reply to messages that harass you or make you feel uncomfortable! - Even though you may really want to, this is exactly what cyberbullies want. They want to know that they've got you worried and upset. They are trying to mess with your head. They want to think that they are important by being able to get a reaction from you. Don't give them the pleasure.

JUNIOR GIRLS SOCCER

Portumna C.S. hosted the Junior Girls Soccer team from Mercy College, Ballinasloe, on Tuesday last in the second round of the Connacht league.

Portumna won the toss and played the advantage in the first half. However, Ballinasloe opened the scoring after just 5 minutes followed by a second 5 mins later.

The Portumna girls were finding it difficult to get a handle on the game while Ballinasloe piled on the pressure. Ballinasloe added a third goal after 20 minutes and just before half time, scored their fourth goal, which should have been disallowed for off-side, but the referee never blew the whistle, leaving the halftime score : Ballinasloe 4 – Portumna 0. Portumna started the 2nd half with new enthusiasm and, even against the advantage, managed to hold Ballinasloe scoreless throughout the period, leaving the final score Portumna 0 – Ballinasloe 4.

Well done girls for putting on such a brave display against a strong Ballinasloe side.



VISIT TO CHURCH OF IRELAND

The date is being finalised for the First Years visit to the Church of Ireland, Portumna. Details next week.

Fr. Abe.

C.A.O. DEADLINE

Reminder to Leaving Certificate students that the **CAO deadline** is rapidly approaching.

20th Jan. – Cost of Application is **€35**.

21st – 1st Feb. : Cost of Application is **€45**.

Also please note that your Mock CAO forms need to be given to Ms. Lyons a.s.a.p.!

NEW MAGAZINE

A group of TYs have undertaken to print a new school magazine as their mini company project. We want this updated magazine to be as interactive and student-focused as possible so it is up to you. Classes have already been asked for different articles but any extra material or ideas are welcome and can be dropped in the comment box left in the Social Area.

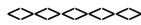


T.Y.



LOST & FOUND

A number of pencil cases, a wrapped Xmas present and a pair of glasses are still unclaimed in Anne's Office. And now a gum-shield was handed in.

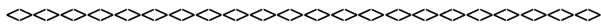


BURGERS & PIZZAS



On Wednesday, 21st Jan., there will be a 'specialist' team of cooks preparing Burgers and Pizzas which will go on sale (at reasonable prices) at 1.25pm in the Home Economics room. The money raised will go to a local charity. Please support.

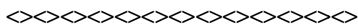
LCA1



SIGN OUT YOUTH CAFE

Sign Out Youth committee are holding their first meeting of 2009 in Sign Out next Monday 19th Jan at 4 pm. Plans for fun and exciting workshops for the coming year are on the agenda. If you are interested in having a say in the running of your youth cafe please come along. Membership open of all TY, 5th and 6th years. New members always welcome.

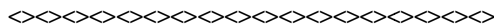
For further info contact 086 2051346.



C.P.R. COURSE

The TY students will be taking part in a CPR course, given by a team from Portiuncula Hospital, on Monday, 19th January, in the Gym from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm. The students will get the opportunity of becoming proficient in lifelong learning skills and will receive certificates for the course.

J. Coughlan



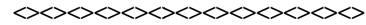
*"Time cools, time clarifies;
no mood can be maintained quite unaltered
through the course of hours."*

*"People rarely succeed at anything
unless they have fun doing it."*

JUNIOR RUGBY

Portumna Juniors will play Presentation College, Athenry, on Friday, 23rd January, in Portumna at 1.30 p.m. This is the second round of the Junior Cup campaign for Portumna C.S. Training will take place on Monday, 19th, At 4.00 pm sharp.

J. Coughlan.



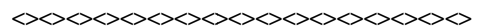
ATHLONE I.T.

"College Information Night" is an event taking place at Birr Library on Wednesday, 21st Jan., at 7 pm in which representatives from the Athlone Institute of Technology will give tips to college-bound students and their parents.

Lecturers from the 4 faculties and the School Liaison Officer will provide information on preparing for college, applying for courses through the CAO and application process for the higher education grant scheme.

The 4 faculties are: School of Engineering, School of Business Studies, School of Humanities & Hospitality Studies and the School of Science.

This event is free of charge and will be followed by an informal question and answer session.



DATES TO NOTE:

Mon. 19th Jan. : First year Retreat (all day).
TYs – CPR training in Gym : 9.30am - 1pm.

Tues. 27th Jan. : 2nd Year Retreat.

Thurs. 29th Jan. : Parent/Teacher meeting for parents of TY and 5th year students @ 4.15 pm.

Tues. 3rd Feb. : Open Night for incoming students.

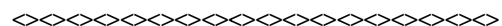
Mon. 16th – Fri. 20th Feb. : Mid Term Break

Mon. 23rd : Mock Exams begin for 3rd & 6th yrs.

23rd – 27th Feb. : Work Experience – 5th yrs.

Mon. 16th Mar. (full day) : Parent/Teacher meeting for parents of 1st and 2nd year students.
No school.

Tues. 17th Mar. – St. Patrick's Day – No school.



Events Diary: (17th – 23rd Jan.)

- Mon. 19th – First Year Retreat (all day) to Ballintubber Abbey and St. Annes, Portarlington.
- Mon. 19th – T.Y. CPR course @ 9.30 am.
- Fri. 23rd – Junior Rugby Vs Pres. Athenry in Portumna.

