

Science Week at Moate Community School

An array of Science based activities were taking place at Moate Community School recently during Science week; Nov 9th to 13th.

Dr Andy Fogarty who is a Science lecturer in the AIT talked to 1st year and Transition Year students. His talk on *The Environmental Effects of Pollution* enlightened both students and teachers of the effects of hormones on fish in the local rivers and lake waters. Dr Fogarty also highlighted the students on the importance of thinking about their career/subject choices. He held a captive audience and students responded with interesting questions.

Lunch time on Thursday, was spent with 6th Year Chemistry students entertaining 1st year students with some magical science demonstrations. These included an iodine soapy snake, how burning sugar is given an extra sparkle when given a boost of oxygen and how do you get the egg into a narrow rimmed bottle? Students realised that Science can be an exciting subject to study.



Enthusiastic 2nd year students took part in a Table Quiz on Friday. All questions were Science based, testing their knowledge of Physics, Chemistry and Biology as well as their general knowledge. There was close competition for first place but congratulations to the winning team of Padraig Fox, Deirdre Higgins and

Sorcha Galvin who all received prizes of music vouchers.

Two teams of 6th Year students from the school participated in the Science Quiz at the AIT, organised by the midlands branch of the Irish Science Teachers Association. Well done to Ruth Galvin, Therese Flynn, Shane Byrne, Jennifer Nally, Conor Doyle and Sinead Heavin for their participation. The quiz certainly tested their knowledge of the Leaving Certificate Science courses. It was generally agreed that it was a very worthwhile experience.

This year has seen an increase in numbers taking Science subjects at Moate Community School both at Junior and Senior level. This was due, in part, to such Science week activities and other Science based activities and talks which take place in the school.

