

1st Stoke Row Scouts Newsletter

www.1stStokeRowScouts.net



Summer term - 23 April to 9 July (half term - 28 May)
Cubs District Camp - 20 to 22 June
Cubs Family Evening at Stoke Row - 9 July



20 May 2008



The Scout Association have changed the Beaver Programme yet again - the third time in ten years! This means reorganising our programme and more paperwork!

This term the Beavers are carrying out the Outdoor and Fitness Challenge - as we are able to spend the whole term outside, we shall have no problem in completing these Badges! This term we welcomed John Higgins, Elias Madzar, Jessica Roberts, Ruby Sumeray and Archie Barribal - we have 22 Beavers, just for this term.

Eleanor, Holly, Louis, Tommy, Antonia and Bailey turned up smartly for St George's Day Parade and Tommy carried our Beaver standard. We have been tracking through our beautiful village and woods - one group set a trail of arrows, using natural things such as chalk, sticks, bark, grass, fir cones, stones etc., and the second group follow it 20 minutes later. So far, the second group have just about found the trail of the first group - the trick of the child at the back of the first group is to move or rub out the last arrow, so the group following them gets lost! We had a great evening playing in the woods, lighting a fire and cooking food near Tarka's house - marshmallows, cream crackers, bananas split in half with polka dots inside them, wrapped in silver foil then cooked in the fire for about 15 minutes - yummy! We shall be learning how to put up tents and discuss what to put in our backpack for a days hike, in readiness for the Beaver Fun Day and overnight Family Camp at Tarka's house on 28th June. Annie Allport has kindly offered to do a tennis evening with us before half term and Martin Hogan will organise cricket on the Recreation Ground.

Toby and Zach have gained their Hobby Badge. We shall be investing five new Beavers just after half term, and the six beavers leaving at the end of term - Toby, Tommy, Bailey, Jack, Louis and Benedict - are working on a personal challenge, to obtain their Chief Scout Bronze Award. Sadly, the Personal Challenge badge has been removed from our programme, so these will be the last Beavers to do one. This is a shame as this badge really did get the Beavers to achieve something - to improve at something they found hard, or to overcome a fear.

A big thank you to Wendy Reed, who, for the past five years, has bought flowers for planters at the Pavilion, organised planting with the Beavers, and nurtured them through the summer. We all appreciate the colour they give

to the Pavilion! Nicola Lee has kindly agreed to take over this job, with help from some other Beaver mums to water them - thank you mums!

We are sad to be losing our Vixen, Anne Turnbull, at the end of this term. She has been a fantastic leader and we have particularly appreciated her cooking and creative skills! So, we are on the lookout for a new Vixen. Please ring Julia Barry on 01491 680619 if you are interested in joining our team to help the Beavers continue having a fun and exciting time.



After half term, Cubs do not have to wear uniform (unless we say otherwise) but must wear their scarves, old clothes and trainers, as we will be spending as much time as possible outdoors. Also, to allow us extra time for our activities, and make the most of lighter evenings, we will be finishing at 8pm, rather than 7.45 pm.

There are one, or perhaps two, camps in prospect for the summer. We will be sending out information on these soon, but we will need LOTS of parental help, otherwise the camps simply will not happen!

This term, the Cubs have been learning about nature - they can all now tell the difference between a beech tree and a daisy! They have learned a little about St George, and lot about our local area. Everyone has been learning how to light a campfire (and toast marshmallows). We have also been practicing putting up tents. Ellie and Molly are both looking forward to being invested at the end of term.



We have one new scout this term making a total of 16.

We also now have 16 Scouts going to the Essex jamboree in July/August, where we will be part of the Canadian Timber Wolf sub-camp. We have plenty of activities at the jamboree, but as we get closer to the event I will let you know more about them.

This term we are mainly at the pavilion, but we do have two outside activities, wall climbing and canoeing, to make a welcome break from tent erecting and other usual scouting fun.