



Beavers have had a busy, non-stop term, and, as usual, always running out of time at the end of each meeting! On our last evening outside before half term, we made the most of a beautiful evening, playing with the shelters we made in the woods by Tarka's house during the Fun Day last summer. We invested Jasper Hall and William Hybert into our Colony. Welcome, Jasper and William, we wish you many happy years in the Stoke Row Scout Group.

Beavers are a hardy bunch! Despite the drizzle we celebrated Guy Fawkes with a camp fire, bonfire toffee, marshmallows and giant sparklers! Our Group Scout Leader joined us as chief fire wallah and several parents stayed to join in the fun - a great evening was had by all. We visited China - we played some Chinese games and ate delicious Chinese food; some of us even managed to use chopsticks! Towards the end of the term, we have been working on a top-secret gift for Christmas. We are looking forward to a music evening featuring instruments from a foreign country.

This term most Beavers will have earned their Promise and Global Challenges badges by the end of term. However, Callum and John attended the Remembrance Sunday Service at Checkendon Church, Edward attended the Service in Henley, and Jasper attempted to climb a mountain in the Lake District to attend a service, so all four Beavers have already completed their Promise Challenge before the end of term! Holly, Callum and Eleanor have earned their Hobby Activity Badge and William has earned his Animal Activity Badge. Joining In 1 Awards have been earned by Reuben, Kieran, Adam, Eleanor and Holly, as they celebrate their first year of being a member of the Stoke Row Scout Group. Well done Beavers!

The help of parents has been invaluable this term. We could not operate such a fun programme without your help. Thank you! In particular, thanks to the Hyberts, Sue Bloomer and the Higgins family who have helped for more than their fair share!

The Cubs have had a busy and fun time in recent weeks, working on various aspects of home and personal safety, juxtaposed with an exciting evening on Bonfire Night, when we watched some fireworks and cooked (just about!) shed-loads of sausages and marshmallows, and finally went home very tired, smelling extremely smoky, but feeling pleasantly full!

In addition, we have done some secret craft stuff, played lots of silly games, paraded on Remembrance Day at Checkendon Church, and did extremely well in a District Six-Aside Football tournament when our team (Matt, George, Will S, Will H, Hamish and Charlie C) came second out of loads of other local teams, and were beaten only by Goring (who had a 'semi-pro' team, including a county level player!). A huge well-done to them all!

Our term ends with a Christmas campfire (yes, we clearly have a thing about bonfires!) on 3 December, when we say farewell to five of our Cubs: Katie Mole, George Lee, Will Hyde, Conrad Sedwell and Seth Hall, who will hopefully be moving up to our thriving Scout Troop. We have really enjoyed having them in Cubs, and wish them a great time ahead!



The Scouts have 2 new members, making a total of 14 with about 3 to 4 more due to join later.

We are near completing the Global Challenge and Promise Challenge Badges, and are now starting to work towards the Pioneering Badge.

We hope that two, or maybe three, parents will be joining us as Assistant Scout Leaders in the New Year, but we still need a leader to take over on a permanent basis. If you are interested, please contact Barry at jb47mcgrath@yahoo.co.uk or Group Scout Leader Trevor Gibbons, telephone: 680921.