



## Summer term 2016 Newsletter

Welcome to our Summer term newsletter. Last term was another busy one of scheduled activity programmes, offsite activities and celebrations. We hope this newsletter will give you a flavour of what your children have been doing and let you know about the exciting things we have planned for this term.

### New Leaders / Section Assistants

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce some new leaders /assistants to you.



Colin and Sandra Eltringham are our 'Section Assistants' at Beavers and have been helping out for many months now. Welcome to the team.



Gary is our new 'Section Assistant' at Cubs. Gary has been helping out with Beavers for many months so it well known by our Beavers & Cubs .



David is our new 'Assistant Cub Leader' and again is well known to many of our children as he attends most of our offsite activities -as he is Grey Beavers husband!

Daniel and Andrew are our new 'Scout leaders'. They have been working with both the Beavers and Cubs for many months now and are raring to go with the Scouts.



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### **Update from Beavers**

Our Beaver colony goes from strength to strength and we now have 26 Beavers. They have been very busy learning new skills, earning badges and of course having lots and lots of fun. We have been concentrating on an indoor program of activities over the winter period and earning lots of badges, digital citizen and space badge to name a few. We are now looking forward to getting out and about with the children and we have lots planned. Both within the district and as a colony. Beaver scouting celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. We have already taken part in our trip to warwick castle with 1<sup>st</sup> aylesbury beavers and we look forward o lots of opportunities to celebrate this year. And get out and about.

Warwick Castle, Easter Bonnets, Pancake Day etc

### **Update from Cubs**

Our Cub section is growing and we now have 22 Cubs. During last term we welcomed some Cubs from Buckingham Park for a few months whilst they set up their own Cub Section, they were very welcome and we enjoyed having them all in fact they decided to stay and are now invested as berryfield cubs. Cubs this year celebrate 100 years of scouting

Cubs last term had a varied and fun programme that included planning for the summers activities and earning a number of badges , they too have earned their space and digital citizen badges . Its important that the children come every week if they can as often our weekly program contains elements of the challenge badges , so in effect they are earning badges with out realising it. If they miss a week then its often difficult to finish it up later. We have a number of activities planned this year in cubs and were going through changes with new leaders joining us as we go from strength to strength.

You will all be aware that we are proposing moving Cubs to a Monday evening. We will let you know very soon what the outcome was from our parent / carer consultation.

### **A quick hello from our new Scout Troop!**

April sees us welcome the Berryfield Bears to the scout group. These are exciting times and although we have a small number transferring from our cubs it is very likely that we will have many others wanting to come to our happy group. Its important that the children feel comfortable and settled as scouts before we open up our doors to lots of other children so we will be concentrating on the fundamentals of scouting with our youngsters over the

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summer and offer them opportunities to camp together and make the troop their own. September will see a further group of children move up from cubs, and with the addition of a troop hoody they will really be recognised as scouts. We intend to be out and about often.

September will see the scouts times change, as mentioned we are gathering the parents consultation letters and a formal notification is yet to follow however if agreed scouts will continue to follow beavers on Tuesdays but from 730pm until 9 pm bringing it in line with other troops in the town/county.

### **Easter Bonnet competition from Hobbycraft**

As you can see the beavers and cubs worked hard on their entries and I am pleased to report that cubs came 2<sup>nd</sup> and beavers 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to all who went and voted. I am told it was very close for first place. We look forward to Hobbycraft contacting us shortly to be invited to visit in uniform to collect our prizes and have photos taken.

Thinking hats on for next year please. I hear lots of scouts and brownies were disappointed at not being able to take part this year. Likely to be far more entries next year.



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### **Congratulations for Chief Scout Bronze Awards**

We would like to say a big congratulations to those Beavers and Cubs who have recently received their Chief Scout Bronze award. These awards are a real recognition of the children's commitment to Scouting and we were all very proud to attend a District ceremony where they were given their award. We are looking forward to attending many more ceremonies as more of our Beavers and Cub achieve these awards.



Congratulations to Isabella Mercer Allan, Elliot Rayner, Archie Umpleby Turner, Harry Cornes and Kuba Ribeck.

We are working closely with all our children who are looking forward to completing their bronze and silver awards over the coming months. We look forward to them receiving their county presentation this autumn.

### **Parent helpers**

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the parents / carers who support us to deliver a wide and varied programme of activities. This help ranges from being on the Executive & Fundraising Committees, accompanying our members on outings, attending camps, through to helping during a scheduled activity evening and even helping with the washing up at the end of a session. We welcome and encourage parents and carers to get involved and most really enjoy themselves and ask to help again!

As the Summer term beings we will be asking, once again, for parent helpers in both the Beavers and Cub meetings. We ask that all parents / carers help out by doing one evening each – that way it isn't a big ask for anyone. There will be a rota available in the corridor for you to sign up, so please please put your name down.

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We would also welcome support from those parents / carers who would be interested and able to help out with some of our offsite activities. In order to be a parent helper in this capacity we would require you to be DBS checked – so please speak to Grey Beaver or Arkela if you would like more information. We particularly need parent support for our offsite Beaver activities.

### **We need a new “Group Treasurer”**

With David becoming Assistant Cub Leader, we now need someone else to take on the role of Group Treasurer. This would involve the day to day running of the groups accounts , monitoring the bank account and gathering and transferring money into the group account.

If you think you might be able to help support the Group by taking on this role please get in touch with David or Celia at [1stberryfieldsscouts@gmail.com](mailto:1stberryfieldsscouts@gmail.com) and they can tell you more.

### **Fundraising**

Our fundraising activities have been growing in pace thanks to Sarah Deyes who has taken over organising our fundraising activities. So far we have raised over £200 from our 1st of the month fundraising initiatives. We have recently been awarded a grant of £1,000 from the Bucks Community Chest and we have submitted another application to the Heart of Bucks Foundation for camping equipment for our new Scout Troop.

If you are interested in helping out with any fundraising activities or have any suggestions or fundraising ideas then please get in touch with Sarah by emailing her at [1stberryfieldsscouts@gmail.com](mailto:1stberryfieldsscouts@gmail.com)

### **Gift Aid**

Gift Aid is a fantastic way of us gaining a little bit extra without you having to pay any more. We have already received a gift aid payment of £800 and are expecting another payment very soon. If you are able to Gift Aid your subscription payments and haven't already filled in a Gift Aid form then please ask for a form when you drop off or pick up from Beavers / Cubs.

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