



**1st Nuneaton
(Attleborough)**

April Newsletter 2022

scouts.org.uk/join

#SkillsForLife

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GSL's Report

Ragley here we come!!!

Plans are progressing well for County Camp, a huge thank you to George (Skip) who is heading this up with his camp team, it is a monumental task. Applications are now closed as we had to submit our numbers last weekend, we are now well over the 100 mark, plus day visitors! We now need to ensure all our parent volunteers clear a Scouting DBS, allocate tents ect.

Viv has been doing a brilliant job as membership secretary , but unfortunately our waiting list has grown way too big, and we are now redirecting would be members to other groups in the area. To maximise our capacity, we do have several opportunities for existing parents to help us. All sections would relish the extra support, but especially Monday Beavers and Cubs, Wednesday Scouts and Explorers and Thursday Beavers. So please, if you can help out, please talk to me or your child's section leaders , it is great fun, it is so rewarding, it will look great on your CV, and we supply all of the training. You don't need to be a superhero and it doesn't have to be every week (but I warn you, it is infectious).

Having recently lost several leaders due to work and family commitments, we said a sad goodbye to Jay and Sherrie at Thursday Beavers, thank you so much for all you have done over the last couple of years, it really is appreciated. We had to have another shuffle of the team, Julie (Malak) has moved over from Mondays to Thursdays, and new starter mum Alana has joined us, thank you both so much, the Beavers are loving it.

At our most recent leaders meeting we had a review of our Covid precautions, we were hoping to change , but in light of recent case numbers, we will be keeping to all of our current precautions, these include keeping the top car park clear of parents vehicles for parents to collect children safely. Parents are asked only to come in to the building when invited please. We will also continue with regular sanitizer gel, disinfectant spraying of all equipment and touch points after each meeting.

And please, if your child cannot attend school due to illness (Covid or otherwise) please do not bring them to Scouts!

Now the clocks have gone back, we can now try and get back out doors a bit more, so please ensure your child is suitably dressed for the outdoors, not just the 100m sprint from Bull Street car park ie a coat with their name in it..!

Mick Judd (Baloo)

Monday Beavers

It's been another quarter of fun filled learning, trying out new things, having adventures, crafting like crazy and quite a bit of eating....!!

Since our last news update, we've been doing our Space Activity, Communicator Activity and Builder Activity badges – as well as working towards our Personal and Skills challenge Awards. Fantastic effort as always and super well done to all of our Beavers for working so hard (AND having so much fun whilst doing all that work...!) on achieving these badges. So proud of all our Monday Beavers.



We started 2022 with a New Year party, to make up for the Christmas one which we missed – and we had a great time with glow stick musical games and a long awaited 'Secret Santa' !

We learned about all things communication for our Communicator badge – amongst other things we are all now brilliant coders (and de-coders...!), we made name plaques using morse code symbols, practiced sign language and played games to help us communicate with others.

Then, we took ourselves off to outer space..... We made A LOT of mess - but - that is the best part of Beavers right ?!!! We have learned about (and made) stars and planets - even a very entertaining song and film to help us remember them ! We also made edible star constellations which were delicious and didn't last very long....!



We squeezed in Chinese New Year – this year is the year of the tiger, so we crafted tiger masks, lanterns and money envelopes (chocolate coins more popular than real ones...!!). We then sampled some typical Chinese food and finished the evening stuffed full of noodles!



Our builder Activity badge started with a visit from Wilmot Dixon and we had an amazing presentation all about the world of construction. Lots and lots of fantastic questions from our inquisitive little minds ! The Beavers were then set a task to construct a solid but tall tower – the results from our amazing Beaver imaginations were brilliant (no doubt the jelly bean element helped a lot !!) and we had a great evening! Pancake day was here before we knew it (even more eating...!!) – we worked up an appetite by playing a few pancake related games, made mini chefs hats and then of course, the pancakes themselves..! More messy but delicious fun!



Finally, we crafted our hearts out again for Mother's day – a celebration for not just Mums but anyone special we want to spoil – the pics though have been top secret – just to make sure there was an element of surprise... Mums and special people everywhere – we hope you liked what we did...!!

We've said goodbye to three Beavers who are now having new fun and adventures in Cubs and we have welcomed three new Beavers who have been looking forward to joining us. Your adventures are just beginning ! We are also delighted to have had Matthew from Explorers join us as a Young Leader – the children have chosen Hawkeye as his Beaver name and we can't imagine Monday Nights without you now ! Next on our agenda is completing our Disability Awareness badge, our Outdoors and Adventure challenges and of course more super crafting for Easter, St George's Day and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Our fun adventures just don't stop !

We are also VERY excited at our opportunity to be part of GetIn Camp 2022... watch this space for updates on what will be awesome adventures and experiences for all !

Thank you as always for all the support from our parent / carer group – it is the best help we have to make our learning adventures with the children possible and is hugely appreciated.

With our very best wishes

Monday Leader Team x

Tuesday Scouts

During first quarter of 2022, we set about brushing up our skills in preparation for the nicer weather and doing things on a bigger scale.

So, concentrating on knots and pioneering the Troop learnt a square and shear lashing using them to join wooden poles together. However, there is no point in learning these skills without then putting them into practise! We got the Scouts to make a sedan chair using staves and the folding chairs in the HQ.

Continuing the pioneering theme, we got large lollipop sticks and made different types of catapults. The Troop started by following the same design,



then given the opportunity to design and build one of their own design. The results were varied and we will see how well they will work when using the large pioneering poles in the summer.

As I am sure virtually every section did on pancake week, we also made pancakes. Hopefully though the Scouts took the skills up a level, cooking them on hiking stoves. It took us longer than we thought and had to carry it over two weeks. It is fair to say that week one was a greater success than week two. I think we can put it down to the pancake mix rather than

the Scouts cooking ability given that they all managed to get a nice pancake on week one!

Following what had been an intense few weeks, we had a games evening however linking it into disability awareness. The scouts had to write their names with their normal writing hand, their non-writing hand and their foot. Although a challenge for them all you could still make out their names in all three scenarios.

Joining Mother's Day and part of the artist badge together, the Scouts had the opportunity to paint a Mother's Day gift on canvas. As you can see, we have some Rembrandts on our hands as well as what the Scouts assured me was impressive art. They say art is in the eye of the beholder! I know all the Mums will be happy to have received a homemade gift.

We are looking forward to getting out and about in the lighter evenings starting with an egg hunt around the local area.



This quarter we have had to say goodbye to Joshua who has moved to Explorers. We have also lent Rusty (Dave) to Wednesday scouts to support them.

Tuesday Night Scout Leaders

Explorers

Hi all from the Explorer Unit.

We have had a busy time and started the quarter trying to come up with adverts for Scouting to place on social media. I don't think they quite grasped the concept first time around so we may have to try it again.

Cooking for a tenner was a lot more successful and both groups came up with good menus. We basically sent them to the Co-op with £10 per group to create a meal to feed everyone in the group (4 or 5 in each). They then had to cook and clear up afterwards. Meatballs and spaghetti were done by one group and burger and 'chips' were done by the others.

Having covered the syllabus to the Emergency Aid stage 4 badge and having the HQ to ourselves one evening they were put through their paces to ensure that they had learned enough to be able to cope with an emergency situation and this completed their badge. I have to say that, apart from one or two not realising the danger of a kettle and an upturned chair, their knowledge was good and I would be confident to have them treat me.

Two consecutive weeks of 'celebrations' saw us learning about Robbie Burns and eating haggis, followed by making jam-jar lanterns and trying Chinese food. Another food related celebration during the quarter was Shrove Tuesday on Ash Wednesday. We couldn't let the occasion go by without making pancakes! These unit members do favour their stomachs.

A failed attempt to learn crochet and make squares for baby blankets for the hospital will be reattempted some time in the future and I will have the squares started for them to complete rather than them having to learn lots of different stitches and techniques in one evening. Strangely enough, when we recently planned the next quarter's programme this activity didn't feature.

In preparation for the District NIKE competition the unit was split into two groups and given a route to follow in the dark. Both groups did the same route but in opposite directions. The group led by James did very well and completed the route in goods time. Although the second group went a little wrong, they did sort it out and found the correct route again. However, unfortunately, this put them back timewise and we had to go out and collect them.

NIKE itself (a 10km hike at night) was not quite so successful and both teams had to be taken back by car to the finishing point. In their defence though they were the last two teams to leave and were around 3.5 hours later leaving than the first team so were tired before they even started.

There was an exciting evening spent at ACE Karting in Hartshill and overall, James won the evening. One to repeat in the future, I think.

We again, had a Pub Games Night where they played darts, snooker/pool and cards. This time we also had alcohol free beer and lager and crisps and nuts.

The Unit ran a quiz and games night for the Wednesday Scout troop and this went very well with the team with the name 'Something Sensible' being the quiz winners.

Babs, Kerrie and the unit

Wednesday Scouts

Hi Everybody,

Due to Chief having to take some time out for his studies and Exams, we have welcomed Dave (Rusty) on a temporary move from Tuesday Scouts, Thank you Dave, it's really appreciated mate. Good luck with the exams, Chief come back soon!!

The troop has had a really varied programme through the dark nights but we are looking forward to the lighter evenings.

Way back in January, we had an evening 10 pin bowling which was our belated Christmas treat, very load but great fun. Knots and pioneering followed where Scouts learned knots, then put them to use by building a crude Sedan chair to carry a team member around an outdoor course(damp grass, soft landing).

Nona came down for an evening and brought a stack of percussion instruments, very noisy, great fun but some people have little rhythm (Mick) Thank you Nona.

Dave gave us a very insightful talk about his travels, his pets and his wildlife interests, bringing his hissing cockroach and Gecko as well as some of his artefacts from his world travels, a very interesting evening with lots of interesting questions for him to answer.

A pancake cooking and scoffing evening towards the chef badge, saw the start of the Easter period, Plus we held a massive Lego challenge night (teamwork, communication and resourcefulness) where the troop attempted to build a theme park with roller coasters etc, followed by a marble run challenge.

We held a Scout sized classic board games night, giant Kerplunk took some working out, but the big Hungry Hippo's (Scouts on Skateboards grabbing ball pool balls) was a hilarious spectacle.

As the nicer weather and lighter evenings arrived we had an Easter Navigation exercise, no one got totally lost... well maybe a little bit..but we all got chocolate!

We recently shared a visit from guide dogs with the Explorers, it was a total cuteness overload, (the Labradors not the Explorers), Thank you to Di and her team for giving us an insight into the methods and costs of providing their training

We said a fond goodbye as Rogan, Krystal and Ella moved up to Explorers, and we recently welcome Jude up from Monday Cubs, we hope you all have a fantastic time in your new sections.

Next Quarter we will be working on our Master at Arms badge, learning about various forms of shooting and how to run a safe range, we are hoping for a visit to a live range as well as using air rifles.

As I mentioned earlier, with Chief taking some time out, we are really glad to have also had an offer from Gar (a former leader) to come and help Wednesday Troop out on a temporary basis over the Summer, but we will also be looking to start a parent rota, that way, we can keep closures to a minimum

Many thanks,

Mick Tom and Dave (Baloo, Chief and Rusty)

Thursday Beavers

Thursday Beavers have enjoyed some fantastic new adventures, tried out lots of new learning, played some amazing games and are 'back in the spotlight' with a new and amazing Leader team...!! Welcome to Malak – who has moved from Monday Beavers to look after our Thursday Beavers, and to Alana (recently named 'Sunshine' by our children). You're going to love it !!!

The children have been having a brilliant time and have worked very hard on earning some new badges.

We have earned our Communicator and Air Activities badges – as well as lots of credits towards our Creative and Skills challenges. Super well done to all Thursday Beavers for working so hard – it's a brilliant achievement.

Amongst other things, Thursday Beavers have also celebrated Chinese New Year – Tiger masks, lanterns, and money envelopes (with chocolate coins of course !!) were beautifully crafted and enjoyed by all.



We've completed sensory experiments, made slime and made armpit fudge as part of our experiments badge.

We've donned mini chef hats and enjoyed everything pancake related for Pancake Day - and sooooo much more besides - including learning about secret codes, making Morse code name plaques and discovering how to do challenges without all of the senses we take for granted.

We also crafted like crazy for Mother's Day – not just for Mums – but for anyone special to us – another lovely evening and we hope every recipient enjoyed what the children made for you.

We are looking forward to completing our Disability Awareness and Experiments badges in the coming weeks - YES, those old CD / DVD's will finally be pulled out of our cupboard and transformed into hover crafts...!!

We are going to start our Animal Care badge and have all sorts of crafting fun and challenges to look forward to as we head towards Easter, St Georges Day and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - just watch this space !

Finally, we wish a fond farewell to Tic Tac – she has enjoyed every minute of helping Thursday Beavers since last year, and we know she will miss them – but it's time for her to go back to Monday Beavers. With our new additions to the Thursday Leader Team we will ensure that Thursday Beavers continues to grow and be full of fabulous and fun filled adventure for all our children.

With best wishes and thanks for all parent / carer group support – it's hugely appreciated.

Thursday Leader Team.



Thursday Cubs

This quarter we have been looking at lots of different badges. We started the off the quarter with the Personal Challenge. Oh my ! Such difficult tasks were set, no screens, keep bedroom tidy, Help around the house and to do as asked when asked. But everyone achieved their goals! We have also looked at Personal Safety and Road Safety. We all learned how many different types of crossings there were, did a traffic sign quiz and how to be safe around and in a car. Personal safety we made codes of conduct around different situations each six having a different danger, such as farm yards, canals/rivers etc....

We then had an evening where the Cubs made cards for the Queen, these are to be sent to Buckingham Palace towards the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, there was glitter everywhere!

Collectors and Hobbies badge has also one we have been looking at, from cycling to Fishing. We had two weeks where we learned about the Cubs collections Rocks, Barbie and teddy bears, Pokemon Cards and Lego Minifigures to name a few, we were surprised by how knowledgeable the Cubs were about their hobbies and also that one of our Cubs plays in an Aston Villa team. Such an interesting couple of weeks.

Next we have covered the Scientist badge, Kim's bottle rocket was a great success, even though Kim ended up soaked. The Cubs made a compass, learned about a simple electrical circuit, (thank you Faux), how things were alkaline, acid and neutral using litmus paper to check various everyday things. We made Grass seed heads, these grew really well (most of them anyway)

We have been joined by Josh who is our Young Leader and the Cubs chose "Bagheera" as his Cub name

We have also managed to fit in a trip to Red Kangaroo which was great fun and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We also went to watch Gang show and very much enjoyed it, a massive "BRAVO" to both Floyd and Bagheera who were in the show and looked like they were having the best time.

If all this wasn't enough we made decorated picture frames for Mothers day with a special message for MUM.



Friday Beavers

Hello and what a start to 2022! Friday Beavers kicked off the new year with their Builder's badge. The meeting was all based around marbles: each lodge were given equipment and the task to design a marble run and to see how far they could get their marbles. It was very competitive but they all did fantastic. They finished the meeting by making their own individual, miniature marble runs and taking them home for their families to enjoy the fun.

We were extremely lucky to have our special guest Chris attend to teach us about space, constellations and earth so we could complete our space badge.

Thank you Chris for coming to join us.



We decided we would do our new Money badge. To show how saving money can help you buy bigger items, at the beginning of the meeting every Beaver was given ONE sweet treat and we explained that it is entirely their decision whether they eat their treat now, or later, but if they decide to wait and save their treat they will be rewarded with a second at the end of the night. Even though some were tempted all of our Beavers chose to save their sweets. The beavers learnt about the history of money, credit cards and when and how our currency evolved. We continued the evening with a trading post. This is where the beavers split off into 2 teams and do activities to earn money. The team with the most money wins. Let's just say it got very competitive!

We have celebrated Chinese New Year, Pancake Day, Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday this quarter. We have tried foods from afar, played games and done some lovely crafts to celebrate these special occasions.

We have started our Navigators badge and learnt about compass points, how a compass works and made our own compass using a cork, needle, a dish of water and a magnet. We are now looking forward to putting those skills in to action next quarter and doing our hike.



Our last badge this quarter was the Air Activities badge where we built and flew airplanes, learnt how to write and decipher codes in the phonetic alphabet and talked about our flying experience. We also played airplane Top Trumps where we found out which airplane was the most expensive, oldest, fastest and lots more facts.

We were lucky enough to secure a visit with our Nuneaton and Bedworth Mayor Rob Tromans and his wife the Mayoress Mandy. What a fantastic visit! The Beavers got an insight to see what it's like to be a councillor and had a tour of the famous Mayors Parlour. They even got treated to juice and biscuits in the conference room. The Beavers were so smart and well behaved - we were super proud.

Thank you once again to the Mayor and Mayoress for a lovely visit.

The Gang show was finally back after 2 years and it was a pleasure to see some of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in the show. It was a brilliant show: the dedication of the young people and leaders was amazing.

Wishing you all the best,

Keeo, Badger, Foxy, Mouse and Ringtail.



Friday Cubs

Thank you to to our Cub Parents for your patience and understanding for the meetings due to leader shortage that were cancelled this term.

The Cubs this term have learnt how to tie a figure of eight knot and reef knot and how to lash pieces of wood together to make a something. We asked them to make a working catapult.

To be fair they found this difficult as they couldn't do the lashings tight enough but they gave it a really good try so should give themselves a pat on the back the time ran away with us so couldn't complete them.

Cubs have done their first aid badge so can put a sling on and place a person in the recovery position.

We do love our challenges evenings. Setting the cubs 10 various tasks to complete

Phonetic Alpabet, cub history quiz, they all enjoyed this evening especially as they had cream eggs for prizes.

After all the hard work this term we decided to have a games night with a make the best plane competition

The design and decoration on the planes was amazing, some crashed some went through hoops

Oh and a very well done to Paul who did Grand Howl for the first time

YIS

Sue