

Bampton Beaver Scout Colony

Annual Report 2019

Over the past year we have had the excitement & joy of seeing children join Beavers and grown & develop their characters & skills; going from quiet and not saying a word for the first few weeks to becoming cheeky, mischievous, respected, great leaders and team workers.

The Chief Scout Bronze Award is a 2 year programme and the highest award a Beaver can obtain, the Challenge Awards that make it up also create the programme each term. Since the AGM last year we have presented 7 awards: 2018 – Jonah Kettleborough & Ollie Floyd-Cottrell, 2019 – Hugo Lathwell, Gil Pestaille, William Mitchell, Noah Moorhouse, Zach Woodfield. Zach is also the only Beaver to complete this award in 6 months, as he started Beavers in February this year.

September 2018 involved outdoor games, making mud creatures & Dens, the English traditions of Cheese Rolling & Welly Wanging and testing their skills on a human board game around the hall (the remnants of which you may still see stuck to the floor). In December two annual events took place - the older Beavers & Lodge Leaders Sleepover with the one-handed teamwork challenge, this one was to make a sandwich and the annual Christmas Card delivery, which we coupled with a mini beast hunt down the Packhorse Lane where many unaware bugs were found to be looked in on from interested & excited Beavers.



2019 has been a year of change, learning different ways of approaching tasks and adaptation.

In January we visited Exeter Powerchair (wheelchair) training session, similar to football but the sport is for those who already use a powered wheelchair and the ball is 2/3 times the size. The Beavers had a go in the powerchairs and their own mini training session.



They also worked together to transfer and adapt the equipment from one chair to another for a team member.

The following week to continue the theme of alternative forms of mobility, we held a wheelchair races meeting, with Eddie showing how to control the wheelchair and move in different directions, I've been clamoured with requests for repeating this activity, as everyone enjoyed the challenge of it.

We welcomed Dan Rayner as our new Assistant Leader in March, where he ran his first meeting making water filters.



Towards Easter we started to prepare for the St. George's Day play where our Beavers turn into sheep & princesses – challenges were met here too as a couple of them took part in the narrative of the play in front of the church congregation.



Spring & Summer bring the lighter evenings and more opportunities for outdoor use – camping, lighting fires, river dipping, hikes, outdoor trips, wide games.

We visited the The Grove Nursing Home where the Beavers put on a variety performance with acts of their choosing and sang happy birthday to a resident who had their birthday that day, and at the end of the term we said goodbye to Cheetah (Ben Kettleborough) who had started helping with our section as a Scout and been with us for 3 years.



Last week, we had a late evening meeting with a hike & BBQ at the end followed by our older Beavers sleepover where the one-handed challenge was to wrap a pass-the-parcel – they also had the reward of playing it afterwards. The remainder of the year will see 4 more Beavers gain their Chief Scout Bronze Award and move up to Cubs, the adventure continues....

Malak (Beaver Scout Leader)