

## Beaver annual Report 2014

We have had another busy year at Beavers. We have increased our numbers to 20 young people in order to try and reduce the pressure for places on the waiting list which continues to be very full. We are very fortunate to have two young leaders Amy and Grady Beckett working with us which helps with the increased numbers. We are very proud of Amy for being chosen to go to the World scout jamboree in Japan next year and we will be looking to doing some fundraising for her over the coming months. Hopefully you will support us as much as you can.

In the Autumn term we had a wet walk up at Greenham before the nights drew in and looked at autumn and particularly scarecrows. We had a very successful music evening where the boys brought along their musical instruments and we had a small concert. We were really impressed with the talent at Beavers. Maybe in the future we could have a talent evening.

During the term we covered themes such as **weather around the world**, **The poppy**, **cooperative games** and **aeroplanes**. We worked towards the **Air activities badge** and for this we had an trip to **The Army flying museum** at Middle wallop. It was a great day and we had an excellent guide who made the trip very relevant for the beavers. There was lots of trying on helmets and old army uniform which was hilarious as all far too big for the beavers!. The boys got to sit and play in a Lynx helicopter which I think was the highlight.

The spring term seemed to focus on food quite heavily, which always seems to delight both beavers and leaders. To start with we focussed on looking at scouting around the world and looked particularly at , Italy .This contributed to the **Global and Friendship challenge badges**. We learnt what it was like to be a beaver there, to say some words in Italian and we made pizza. We also celebrated Chinese New Year with more eating and making activities. We had a traditional Pancake day race which of course involved eating pancakes at the end ! Towards the end of the term had a chocolate evening where we learnt about Fair-trade and where chocolate comes from. To finish the term we had a great Easter egg hunt and the boys proved very good at solving clues and working as a team. The boys planted sunflower seeds in March and we look forward to seeing the photos of what they look like now.

Each term we link with the cubs so the beavers are familiar with the leaders which ensures a smooth transition when the time comes to move up to cubs. We usually do outdoor activities and in the autumn term it was the famous chip walk and in March we were up at Greenham in the dark trying to do some geocaching. Later this summer we are joining the cubs for a BBQ and games up at Snelmore.

This term has seen the scout association create nine new activity badges for beavers. One of these is the **space badge**, a very popular topic with the beavers. Generally, the activity badges can be done by beavers at home but we do occasionally cover them during our weekly meetings. If you are planning to do a badge at home lways check the programme to see which badges we plan to cover to save an overlap.

This term we have already achieved the **Health and Fitness badge** and we are currently working on the **Space Badge**. Grady our young leader has organised some excellent evenings for the boys. I am not sure who has been having more fun. We have created a human solar system, learnt about the planets and played some great games. Coming up we have a scavenger hunt and an evening looking at tents and camping in preparation for our group camp this autumn.

Nearly all our beavers achieve the **Chief Scout Bronze award** which indicates consistent attendance as we cover all areas during the meetings.

We are looking forward to another busy, fun filled year.