

Scouts

13th Wimbledon Scout Group & St Saviour's ESU



13th Wimbledon Scout Group and St Saviour's Explorer Scout Unit Newsletter, September 2022

After two years of going from no indoor or outdoor activities to various levels of restricted activities, restrictions were finally lifted in April and the Scout Group has been making the most of it.

June saw the **Scouts** fully involved in the St Saviour's Family Fun Day, running side shows where youngsters and their parents could splat rats, spin wheels and pelt victims with wet sponges. They also ran a competition for various age groups to see who could make the best sunflowers.



St Saviour's Family Fun Day

Their summer camp was at Thorington near Colchester where they visited the castle, kayaked on the River Colne, rowed on the river Stour in 'Constable country', and swam in the sea at Clacton.



Constable country, Flatford Mill and the River Stour

Colchester castle

The **Cubs'** programme had a strong gardening theme which incorporated a clear up of the grounds along the north side of the church and the construction of some vertical planters using pallets. Unfortunately, the extreme weather meant the flowers they had planted did not survive.

They also visited the Merton Council Chamber guest of Merton councillor and London Assembly member, Hina Bokhari. There they learnt about the workings of the Council and suggested issues that they thought the council ought to address.

Their enthusiastic football team got through to the semi-finals of the district cub football competition and parents Nick Harper and Stuart Macleod, both rugby coaches, provided tuition on their favoured sport.



Cubs gardening



Cubs taking over the Council Chamber



Cubs take up a defensive position

The **Beavers** made good use of the outdoors including sailing paper boats on Beverley Brook and participating in had their own district sports. They finished the term with a traditional water fight on St Saviour's lawn. They also made giant catapults and then fired them at Skip. Fortunately, they never quite mastered the skill of firing them accurately saving skip the humiliation of being cascaded with rubber balls.

Beaver Bobby Bacon showed it was never too young to make a difference. When his sister accidentally broke her fingers, he applied the first aid skills he had learnt in a Beaver meeting to make a sling out of his scout scarf so she could be taken to hospital. Well done Bobby!



Beaver catapults



Water fights on the parched lawn

The **Cubs and Scouts** performed well in the district sports winning the Troop and Group trophies and coming second in the overall Cub competition.

Fifty **Scouts, Cubs, and Beavers** came together for the annual Group Camp at Walton Firs. The Cubs enjoyed crate stacking, the assault course and archery while the Scouts had a wide game to develop their navigation skills on Oxshott Heath. The Beavers enjoyed frolicking around in the woods on their very first Beaver camp. All three sections came together for a wide game and campfire.

The event was followed by a family BBQ, provided by the Explorers, and a brief AGM and feedback on the year's activities from the leaders.



Sporting triumphs



Group camp

The **Explorers** also had a very active and varied term which included water skiing, lawn bowls, a sausage roll masterclass and yoga. They also ran an Activity Day at Walton Firs for Cricket Green School for pupils with special needs, the first they have been able to run for three years, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone. In August they participated in camp run by the Wimbledon and Wandle that Kingston Scout districts. Over 100 Explorer Scouts participated which included a visit to Portsmouth dockyard, water skiing, It's a Knockout and a hiking competition. It was considered a very successful camp and plans are now being made to take part in a similar district camp next year, likely date August 13th to the 19th.



Cricket Green School Activity Day



SSESU go water skiing

Reminder about subs

Subs for the Autumn 2022 term are due by the end of September. **A reminder that they have now increased to £37 per term or £100 for the year if paid in advance.** This is to help cover the increased contribution we make to the church for the use of the hall in view of the rising energy costs. If you paid for this term before May 20th, when this increase was announced, then you do not need to pay the extra until your next payment is due.

If any family is facing financial hardship that affects their ability to pay for subs, uniforms, camps or other activities, please have a word with Skip or your section leader. We do not wish any member of the Group to miss out on Scouting simply due to money.

Please make payments online to:

Account Name: 13th Wimbledon Scout Group

Sort Code: 30-91-35

Account Number: 03230034

Bank: Lloyds

Reference -

Please provide as a reference: 'Subs' then 'B/C/S' depending on section then surname e.g., SubsBSmith would be subs paid for a beaver surname 'Smith'.

NB bank details for Explorer subs are different.

And finally...

I tried to steal spaghetti from the shop, but the female guard saw me and I could not get pasta.

Cheers

Skip