

## **Tales from the Scout Hut**

The term is now well underway. Last month the Beavers were working on their Air Activity Badge which involved making and flying paper aeroplanes. There has also been food involved, with an evening of pizza making and making cakes for Hallowe'en. We have welcomed two new Leaders at Beavers. Chloe, who has stepped up from being a Young Leader with Beavers since she was 14, as well as being a Beaver, Cub, Scout and Explorer at the group! Joseph has also joined, who was an Explorer Scout. Both joined the adult leadership team as soon as they turned 18 which is fantastic for the group.

At Cubs they christened the newly refurbished fire pit in the back garden and had a misty and atmospheric hike to Ickham. They've also had a great evening at Canterbury Golf Club having a golf lesson which they all enjoyed, and they have celebrated Diwali.

In September we held our first Saturday meeting for Scouts and Explorers. The Scouts got through a whole host of activities in the five hours – playing games, holding a Patrol Forum, made and cooked lunch and did some geocaching around the village. Meanwhile the Explorers worked really hard in the back garden to clear the fire pit area and build some new benches using scaffold boards and old tyres (many thanks to Horizon Motor Group in Wingham for the donation of the tyres). An old washing machine drum, donated by one of the Cub Leaders, is doing service to contain the fires. The Explorers have created a fantastic area which has already been used by themselves and the Cub Pack. At the end of the first Saturday, we held a slide show of our Jamboree camp for parents. We are looking forward to our next meetings which include a day at Betteshanger Woods.

The annual District Operation St George competition for Scouts was held at the end of September. In teams the Scouts go around various bases where there are different activities to be undertaken. This year it was hosted by Ash Scout Group, who provided a great evening which ended with hot dogs, hot chocolate and fabulous cakes. Our team didn't win but had a good time trying so a big well done to Alana, James, Jack, Emma and Jessica for taking part.

The group has been out and about with some of our Leaders supporting a number of local events. The group was pleased to support the opening of the new Play Area and MUGA at the recreation ground in September. We have also had leaders attend Aylesham Carnival to support the District Team at that event, and Babs will be helping to mentor new leaders at the new Scout group that is being formed in Aylesham next month. At our District AGM in Deal, the District was awarded The Growth and Development Award by Kent Scouts which is a great achievement by the whole District. Wingham Scout Group was awarded the actual trophy as we had shown the most growth by an individual group over the previous year. Matthew and I would like to extend our thanks to all our leaders and the committee, who have helped to make this continued growth possible.

