

End of Term Report

Written by Ian Mitchell - Last Updated Saturday, 06 August 2011 09:57

Wow, another year over, where does the time go. This year has been a brilliant year for our Troop, with regular activities such as the annual ice skating trip to some new ones like the 'Have a go, Gang show'. This year we also grew in numbers, and next term the Troop will start term with over 30 Scouts. I will come onto next year in a moment though. As the troop has grown so much in this year, I thought I would refresh ourselves of some of the great things the Scouts have done this year by choosing the best from Each Month:

- Scouts cooking a curry night (Sept)
- Making Life size robots from recyclables (Oct)
- Escape from Colditz Night Hike (Nov)
- Paint a Christmas pottery decoration (Dec)
- Ice Skating (Jan)
- Have a go Gang Show (Feb)
- Part 3 of the St Peters way Walk (Mar)
- Forrester weekend Camp (Apr)
- Orienteering around the Meadows (May)
- Car Mechanic badge (June)
- Crystal Maze (Jul)
- Summer Camp (Aug)

Ok, so summer camp wasn't quite in August, but it was close enough and was so enjoyable that it had two months worth of fun in one week. That reminds me I must say a massive thank you to Claire, Neil, John, Gareth and both Matts for being such great supports throughout the week. Their support, involvement and leadership made the week as successful as it could be. Whilst on a thanking spree regarding camp I should also thank all of the Scouts for being model Scouts, on several occasions I recieved reports from the campsite and other troops about how well behaved and disciplined our Scouts were. Well done guys. apart from the Scout who was frog marched into the showers to have a wash by his parents I hope we managed to return all of Scouts home, a bit wiser, a bit bigger, a bit happier and a bit more confident. Regaling their parents and relatives with stories of daring adventures and excitement. Jack, one of our PLs has produced a YouTube video of camp, which I think you will all agree shows the fun time they all had. Here it is:

Just in case you are wondering, the wood construction in the film was a 4 hour pioneering project we gave the Scouts to build a draw bridge across a ditch. It worked brilliantly as you can see. The other fun stuff we did at camp was hiking, archery, grass sledging, orienteering, wide games, camp fire (with dodgy singing and songs), mountain bike riding, visiting a nearby town, swimming, low ropes, whittling, building fires and most importantly making new friendships and

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remaking old ones.

We took 22 Scouts to camp this year and next year we want to up that to 25. I suspect that won't be hard as next year is one of our big camps at the Essex International Jamboree. Information on this will be coming out at the beginning of term as we need to prepare quite a long way in advance. Next terms programme will also be published shortly and the Patrol Leaders (who do a fantastic job through the PL Council we hold every week after Scouts, helping us tune the programme to best we can make it) have requested an old school style programme covering off all those things we used to do in the olden days.

Having written this blog, I think I have answered my own question at the beginning, in that time flies by when you are having fun. Have a great summer break and see you back on 9th September 2011.