Welcome to Beavers!!!

This letter is for all parents of new children joining our Beaver Colony. This leaflet aims to give you more information about the Beaver Scouts, so that your child can get the most out of it! Scouting is an international movement with a worldwide membership of 28 million members from all different faiths, cultures and backgrounds. For more information on the National and International Scout organisations check out www.scouts.org.uk. For more information on Beaver Scouts go to www.beaverscout.co.uk

The Beaver Colony

The Beaver Colony that your son or daughter is joining is led by a Beaver Scout Leader and other volunteers who give their time freely and will have undergone special training to help them do an effective job. They will also have undergone a vetting procedure prior to being allowed to take part with the Colony’s activities.

The Colony has simple ceremonies that the Beaver take part in to start and end their evenings as well as other special events. One of these includes the time that your child becomes an official member of the Scout Association, by taking part in his investiture. At this time the Beavers are asked to make a promise (see below). The parents are generally invited to this ceremony that normally takes place between 4 and 6 weeks after joining the colony.

What do Beavers do?

Beavers will have a great deal of fun whilst in the colony, taking part in many activities and outings, which will be communicated to you via the termly programme. They will also have the opportunity to gain a limited number of awards in the colony. These are given in recognition of taking part in specific activities and the effort they have made.

The Beaver Scout Promise

I promise to do my best
to be kind and helpful
and to love God.

The colony details

Beavers meet from 5pm to 6pm on a Friday normally at Scout hut or Camp Site.

What do I have to pay?

During the settling in period we ask for 50p per week to cover activity costs. If your son or daughter decides to stay then they will be invested and you will be required to pay full subs and capitation which covers weekly expenses, hut overheads and central costs of the Scout Movement. This is £40 per year, which is payable by Standing Order (please complete the Standing Order form and Gift Aid form). We also ask for a one off payment of £5 at the time of investiture to cover the cost of the scarf and badges plus any badges that they may earn during their time as a Beaver.

What does my child need to bring?

Nothing at first! After a few weeks you will need to purchase a uniform from the Scout Shop or Osbournes Toy shop. The uniform consists of a turquoise Beaver Sweatshirt and a turquoise polo shirt for warmer weather. At the time of investiture the Beaver will be presented with their own Group scarf, woggle and badges (County, District, Group name, plus of course the purple Scout Membership Award badge).

Check out the www.scoutbase.org.uk/library/hqdocs/badges/beaver-index.htm for the badge requirements that you can work with your child on at home.
**Beaver Record Card**

There is a Beaver Record Card that you are required to complete for your Beaver. Please ensure that you return this the following week with a small photo attached. The record card is very important as it contains your contact details as well as details of any special dietary requirements, allergies or special needs.

**Parental Rota**

We do need parents’ help at many of the Beaver meetings, sometimes more than others. There is a Beaver Notice Board (on the left as you enter the Scout Hut from the car park) and this has the Parental Rota for each term that you can use to sign yourself up. We expect parents to help at one meeting per term as a minimum. You are required to get CRB checked in advance – you can pick up the form at a Beaver meeting.

If you would like to get more involved in helping to run Beavers, do let us know. It is very rewarding and great fun and you get to wear a uniform!

**Dropping off and picking up your child**

The safety of all the children is of the utmost importance. We therefore insist that each child is brought into the Scout Hut by an adult and also leaves with an adult. Under no circumstances must a child be dropped off in the car park, nor will they be permitted to leave the Hut unaccompanied. Please re-enforce this message to your child.

**Contact Details**

Jo Jacques - Beaver Scout Leader  
☎: 0786 2287725  
Email: pickalily@ymail.com  
Postal address: 103 The High Street Sharnbrook

Geoff Venn - Group Scout Leader  
☎: 07917-027224

**Reminder – What you need to do now...**

- Complete and return the Beaver record Card (including a small photo) to the Beaver Leader as soon as possible.
- Complete and return the Subs Standing Order and Gift Aid forms once you are happy that your child will continue to be a Beaver. These should be sent to the Treasurer at the address stated on the Subscription Payments letter.
- Ask for a CRB form.

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