

Thor Colony Newsletter - Autumn 2010

On Thursday 7th October 16 Beavers, 3 leaders and 2 parents set off from the Scout hut in convoy to Birkenhead Fire Station. When we arrived the boys were split into 2 groups. They were able to try on the breathing apparatus, were shown the cutters / spreaders, how the water hydrant worked, and best of all they all had a go at squirting water, some got a little wet. At the end of the evening they were taken into the mess room for a drink of orange. After thanking the Firemen we all returned to the Scout hut.

The following week Thursday 14th October we went to visit the Kailish Buddhist Meditation Centre. This was part of our Promise and Global Challenges. When we arrived, Jane and Gakyi (a monk) were waiting on the steps to welcome us all. We were taken inside the Centre and shown where to hang our coats and place our shoes; you don't wear shoes in the Meditation Room.



Every one was told to pick up a mat and cushion and find a space, they sat in rows on their mats with the cushion against their backs. Jane sat on a platform at the front and showed the Beavers how to sit in the correct position; she then talked them through the correct meditation procedure. The Beavers were shown and told about the different statues and figures. This was a very interesting evening and the Beavers never stop asking questions. Some of the Beavers sat on the platform like the Buddha figure. Gakyi showed them how to wear the monks robe by giving them all a blanket.



On Thursday 21st October, we talked about who we could pray for and how we start and finish prayers. Then the Beavers went into small groups with an adult and wrote their own prayer and we made our own prayer tree. At the end of each meeting they find theirs and read it out. This was our last night before half term we said our goodbyes to James Crammond and Matthew McGurk as they move on to Cubs. Red lodge were presented with Lodge of the Month and David Burdon with Beaver of the Month.

Friday 5th November was the Group Firework party and it was a very enjoyable night with plenty of Fireworks. There were hotdogs and a Barbeque, plus every child's favourite Glow Sticks and sweets. The Weather was kind for us in the end after such a wet day.

On Thursday 11th November we welcomed 3 new Beavers:- Finley, Isaac and Joshua. We talked about the meaning of Remembrance Day and made our own Poppies. At the close of our meeting we held a minutes silence with our Poppy. David Walker and Isaac Wright were presented with their 1 year 'Joining In' award and William Fennah and Ronan Conroy received their Friendship Challenge badge.

Thursday 18th & 25th November the Beavers made and painted Salt Dough Christmas tree decorations. At the end of the evening Ronan Conroy was presented with his Animal Friend activity badge, Sam Maxwell with his Imagination activity badge and Joseph Cross with his Creative Challenge.

On Thursday 2nd December was our last meeting at the Scout hut due to the Scout post. At this meeting we talked about different types of birds and how we should feed them during the winter months. Each Beaver made their own Bird feeder to hang in their garden, there was bird seed everywhere!! Sam Maxwell received his stage 2 Swimmer badge.

On Saturday 4th December we attended the District Beaver Carol service and party at St Andrews Church West Kirby. This was a Christingle service with a difference, each Beaver and Leader made their own, plus we used 4 very surprised adults to come and form the human Christingle:- putting on orange t shirts, red tinsel was then draped around them and they held 4 large cocktail sticks and 4 large sweets and 1 very large candle was placed in their midst. The service finished off with a party, in the Church hall ending with a visit from Father Christmas.



The following week we met on Monday 6th December with a visit to the Potting Shed studio. Ismay colony joined us for this visit. Each Beaver painted small characters or pencil pots. The Leaders a week later returned to collect the finished articles, after they had been glazed. Pictures of us at the Potting Shed are shown below

On Thursday 16th December Thor and Ismay colonies joined together for a Bowling night at Bromborough Bowl, enjoyed by all.

