

## **Beavers New Starter Information**

Welcome to Beavers!

This short note is designed to answer some of your questions about First Swallowfield Beavers.

### **When and Where?**

Beavers happens every Monday night in term time, from 5.30pm to 6.45pm, except for Bank Holidays. It takes place at Swallowfield Village Hall.

From time to time we have outings – you will always be notified in advance of these.

### **What do we Wear?**

When you first join, jeans, t-shirt and trainers are fine. Bring your coat in case we go outside.

When you've been coming to Beavers for a little while (usually after half a term of attendance) you will be 'invested' and say your Promise. This means that you will be an Official Beaver, and will be given a scarf and woggle (the plastic ring that goes around your scarf), plus a set of badges. You will need to buy a Beavers sweatshirt – these are pale blue, and can be purchased from Jacksons or the Scout Shop.

If you wish, you can buy a 1<sup>st</sup> Swallowfield T-Shirt from the group. These cost £6 each, and can be worn before and after you are invested, and when you go to Cubs.

### **Do my parents have to help?**

Yes! But only a couple of times a term, at most. Because of the law about how many children we are allowed to have for each adult, we need to have two parent helpers each week if we are to be able to have a good sized Beaver group.

A termly schedule will be provided, letting your parents know their dates for helping. If you have a little brother or sister, they are welcome to come too provided your parents are responsible for looking after them. Your parents can swap dates with other mums and dads if their allocated date is not convenient, but it's important that we always have our two helpers!

### **Are there rules?**

Only a couple. Be polite and helpful to the leaders and other helpers, and listen when other people are speaking. Don't fight or be mean to other Beavers. Don't do anything that will put anyone or any property in danger. That's about it! We'll give you a form to fill in to make sure you understand these rules, and understand what will happen if you break them.

### **When do I go to Cubs?**

You will be able to start Cubs after your 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, when Paul Harrington (the Cub

leader) takes in his next lot of Cubs. There is an official ceremony called 'swimming up' to mark your move from Beavers to Cubs. We will tell you when this will happen, so don't worry that you have been forgotten!

**How much does it cost?**

As a group, we have to pay for things like hire of the hall, materials for crafts, and other things. These are paid for by the termly subs that each Beaver, Cub and Scout pays. The amount goes up as you get older, with Beavers paying the least. Some times we will do a trip or an activity that costs more money than we can afford to pay for out of the subs, and you will need to pay extra for these – we will always let you know in advance. For Beavers, you need to pay £30 at the start of each term.

Please also make sure your parents fill in and return a GiftAid form. This will enable us to get some extra money from the Government each time your parents pay your subs, so we have more to spend on fun activities.