

CONTACT

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BUSY BEAVERS

This is the 52nd Beavers own web page. On here you will be able to find the current term's programme; the Leaders Who's Who; details on trips and activities (with relevant consent forms); jokes from Log Chew time (when beavers have opportunity to tell everyone a joke, if new it will be put here and the Beaver achieve extra lodge points) and other interesting information can be found. There is also a link for badges that the Beavers can work on at home.



GET INVOLVED

All the adult leaders and administrators are trained volunteers - they give their time, without payment, to organise and run the Group and its activities because they believe that Scouting changes lives and helps children to fulfil their full potential.

If you have a hobby, skill or interest that you would like to share with us, to be involved by helping at your child's section meetings, by being a member of our Exec Committee, or in any other way, please speak to your section leader or email our Group Scout Leader on gsl@52ndReadingScoutGroup.org.uk – it's very rewarding and can also be a lot of fun!



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DO YOU REMEMBER ...

... what it was like to be six? Every day was a new adventure and fun and friends were what mattered most. Well in Scouting, we still believe that.

Beaver Scouts are the first section in the Scouting family in the UK and have been part of Scouting since 1982.

Boys and girls in Beavers enjoy playing games, going on visits, getting to know other people, discovering the worlds of science, nature and technology, caring, responding to the needs of others in their local, national and international communities, and best of all, they get to go on a sleepover – often for the very first time.

52ND READING

52nd Reading Scout Group is one of several Groups in Reading Central District and over a hundred Groups in Berkshire. It was started in 1925, is based at Reading Scout & Guide Headquarters in Northcourt Avenue, and over the years, we have grown to become a thriving and dynamic Group numbering over 120 youth and adult members.

The Group is split into three main sections: Beavers (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts (10½-14) and is partnered with Explorers (14-18) – so your child can enjoy many years of Scouting with us!

THE BEAVER COLONY

Our Beaver Colony is the youngest section in the Group with up to 24 Beavers organised into Lodges, each named after a British wild animal

Normal sessions are Thursdays during term-time from 5.30pm to 6.45pm and start promptly with Register and "Log Chew" – so would appreciate all Beavers arriving in good time. We have to have a minimum number of adult leaders present at each session so please do not leave your Beavers without checking that it is ok to do so.

We have a Parent Rota to ensure we have adequate help and can run the session safely for your children; all families are asked to sign up for one session a term. Duties include helping with activities, making squash, taking photos or clearing up.

Before every session, our leaders are busy setting up, so if you have anything to discuss, please speak to Koko or one of the other adult leaders at the end of the evening.

GETTING STARTED

Your section leader will let you know when to bring your child along for their first taster session at Beavers - all they need to do is turn up, have fun, get to make new friends and begin to get a feel for what we're all about and the way things are run.

We will ask you to complete a Young Persons Information Form so that we have all the information we need about your child and any specific requirements he or she may have. Please let us know immediately if any of these details change.

Scouting at 52nd Reading is great value for money and we aim to make it as affordable as possible.

Each term there is a subscription fee to pay – this covers the weekly meeting costs, overheads and the national membership fee we pay to The Scout Association. There is normally an extra charge for adventurous activities, trips and sleepovers.

We would never want any of our Scouts to miss out, so if you are having difficulty paying the subscription or an activity fee, please speak to your section leader and we will see what we can do to help.

UNIFORM

Your section leader will tell you when your child is ready to make their Beaver Scout Promise and be invested into the Colony. This is normally between four and six weeks after joining.

At this time you will need to buy the Beavers uniform turquoise sweatshirt and scarlet 52nd scarf (necker). You will also need a purple Group polo shirt, which you buy via the Beaver Leaders.



The sweatshirt and necker can be bought at the Scout Shop, next door to our meeting hall - please give a copy of the receipt to your section leader as we can claim back 10% to benefit the Group.

At the investiture ceremony, your child will be presented a woggle and a set of badges to show that they are now a full member of the 52nd Reading Beaver Colony.

During their time in Beavers, your child will gain many more badges – please make sure these are sewn on straight away as shown.

Full Beaver uniform should be worn to all meetings and activities unless told otherwise.

PROGRAMME

We design each term's programme to help the Beavers have a balanced range of activities and work towards achieving a number of the Challenge and Activity Badges. The programme will be sent out before the first session of each term.

Each Lodge now has a Captain, who, with their Lieutenant, looks after their lodge members - helping them with activities and to answer questions. We award points to lodges and individual Beavers for good behaviour, making an effort and joining in. At the end of each term, members of the lodge with the most points gain the lodge badge for their uniform.

The Leaders award the Millennium Trophy (now awarded for over 15 years) to the Beaver who has achieved the most during the term.

TRIPS & VISITS

Some activities will take place away from the Scout Hut or require other specific parental consent. In these cases you will be asked to complete an electronic consent form so that we know whether or not your Beaver will be joining in. This only takes a few minutes to complete, and we need to receive both Yes and No replies as soon as possible to help us plan the event. If attending and payment is required, this should be brought to the next meeting.

LIFTS & SHARING

To reduce the number of cars travelling and from Beaver sessions, we ask that, wherever possible, you arrange to share lifts with other parents.

It is especially important when the activity is away from the Scout Hut, that you ensure you know where we are meeting and arrive on time. It is very difficult to have to contact or wait for late-comers and may even mean that we can't complete the activity or finish on time.

BEHAVIOUR

Our aim is to help all of our Beavers to learn and develop in an enjoyable and productive environment and expect them to do their best to abide by the Beaver Scout Promise. We aim to deal with any misbehaviour appropriately and immediately, and will only escalate to you if necessary.