

Puma Cub Scouts

Annual Report 2016/2017

Sadly this is my last AGM report for Pumas, but I'm delighted to say that the Pack has been able to remain active due to Annie McDermott, David Milnes and John Wheals stepping forward as leaders. Huge thanks have to go to Richard Best for arranging help from the district to provide support for the new Leadership team.

Last year Cubs celebrated their 100th Birthday. As a district we gathered at Waingels College, to participate in different activities run by all the different Packs. As a group, Wargrave provided the science element of the day, and I dread to think how many volcanoes we created over the course of the day. I do know that I and the other leaders smelt very strongly of vinegar by the end! The Cubs that attended all enjoyed themselves at the varied activities, from rifle shooting and archery to human hungry hippos and learning about recycling. Thank you to all the members of the district that organised the Funday, and huge thanks to Richard whose bright idea it was!

Family Camp was a little bit wet this year (especially if you leave your raincoat at work!), however some brave souls attended and participated in the activities provided. We even gained a new Cub as she enjoyed herself so much! Luckily the sun came out to dry the majority of the tents on the Sunday.

Cub Camp was yet again another highlight of our year, this time the Cubs had to prepare a fire and cook their lunch of sausages, most of the Cubs were quite good at this task, once they understood that sausages need to be cooked for longer than 30 seconds!! Much fun was had when they had to make camouflage nets for themselves and then hide in the surrounding woods. Some are better at hiding than others, the clue to catching them is to wait for them to talk, most trees/bushes etc. remain silent at all times, not true for the average Cub!

As part of the Astronomy badge we were lucky to have a visit from Maidenhead Astronomy Club, Pumas were exceptionally lucky as the group were able to set their telescopes up outside and allow us to view the moon and several stars. I expect that your child has been able to show off their new found knowledge to you.

We have also been visited by a Guide Dog, Kashmir, her owner Jenny and another representative of the Guide Dog association. Sandra told us all about the training of Guide Dogs and Jenny told us about the effect that owning a Guide Dog has had on her life. Kashmir was the perfect guest and put up with lots of cuddles and fusses from the Cubs. I was so proud of the Cubs during this visit as they behaved perfectly and asked really sensible questions.

Thank you to Grace Atkinson, Charlie Lancaster and Jos Wheals who have been helping out as part of their Duke of Edinburgh awards. Young leaders are a really important element, the Cubs look up to them and really appreciate the time that they have given up to help support them.

Huge thanks to all the parents who have been roped into helping with all the different activities over the year. The Leaders and I couldn't run the varied programme without your support.

Finally, thank you to all the parents, children, other Leaders and members of the Exec for all your help, friendship and support over the last seven years. I'm not sure what I'm going to do with my free time!

Fiona