

EXPLORERS



Banderlogs

Explorer Unit AGM Report 2023-2024

Summer 2023

- Explorers have enjoyed hiking in new areas of countryside around Alton and learning orienteering and map work at the same time. We also challenged them with an orienteering course at Alice Holt but on bikes. An interesting evening.
- The Explorers also took part in a joint pioneering challenge with the Lions pack showing them skills and various lashings to make tripods.
- We celebrated the coronation of King Charles with a themed campfire and BBQ at the Den.
- We played wide games, always a favourite. Also, a rounders match on the Butts which showed potential with some of the Explorers and leaders.
- They took interest in learning wood craft skills.
- For the pioneering badge the Explorers learnt about the need for anchors and pulley systems when used for different pioneering projects with this culminating in testing each style of anchor under load.
- The Kayak Camp was a fun weekend based near Pulborough where the Explorers learnt camping and cooking skills, rifles, kayaking on the river Arun in challenging conditions as well as a great hike on the Sunday.
- Finally for the last evening we had a campfire where we gave presentations and said goodbye to two Explorers and leader Graeme Robinson (a big thank you)



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Autumn 2023

- We started with a Nautical theme evening for the Explorer badge work and a roundup of the Kayak Camp which was enjoyed by the Explorers.
- We tackled understanding Leadership and outlining the role Explorers make in planning what they do in Explorers and thinking ahead considering their future study and careers.
- Hiking is always a good evening to be had with the group! We did three local hikes this term.
- Wide Games in Chawton woods.
- Pumpkin carving is a creative art, and the Explorers didn't disappoint especially considering the weather that evening.
- We took part in County Kudu a challenging night hike with events with a very respectable position against the competition.
- International MasterChef was legendary as the Explorers planned and executed their choice of cuisine from all around the world in the Den...apologies for the smoke alarm! This was overseen by a local chef giving wisdom and cooking tips where required!
- Chippy Seek to King Fishers ...if we don't catch the Explorers, we buy the chips!
- Our final evening was a social time enjoying a 'Christmas Curry' together in the town.

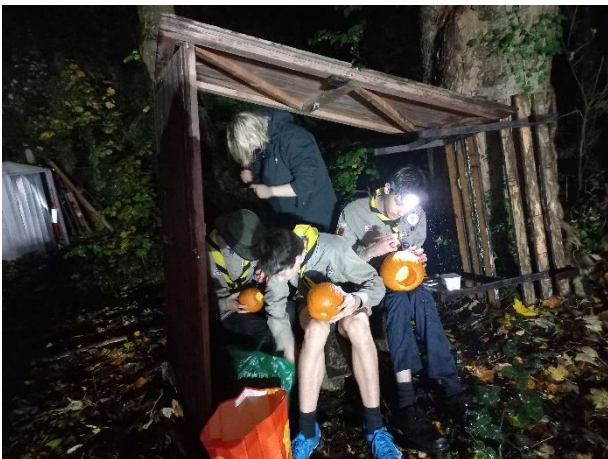


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Spring 2024

- Challenges, an evening of challenging the Explorers in things scouty.
- Survival badge learning continued with looking at making water safe, how to find the right direction and finding food in 'survival' situation.
- Games nights
- The Explorers had a great Easter egg trail as they tracked the leader (Bunny) with VHF radios in a search of the elusive eggs!
- Cosmic Pancakes was a celebration of pancake day with the weirdest pancakes known to Explorers ... very bizarre!
- Something else.
- Hiking around Holybourne we invested Jamie as a leader on a lovely crisp evening
- Explorer led evening was cooking! Their choice.
- Wide games in the outback.
- In this term we said goodbye to four of our oldest Explorers.



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Summer 2024

- Camp fire. With new Explorers joining us we went up the bank for a chat and had fun lighting fires in different ways with different stuff.
- Ski Wednesday. The long-awaited Ski Wednesday happened at the Guildford slope where the Explorers put on a splendid performance of beginners skiing. Real snow next time!
- Starting different types of fires. As we have a new Explorer with restricted mobility, we built them all outside the Den and then moved them up the bank for lighting.
- The Explorers designed their own mini catapults, then went 'large' catapults outside!
- Hiking from Kingsley. Great route, not great for hay fever sufferers!
- Explorer led evening of new, old and random games.



The Banderlogs Leadership team consists of Carl Payne, Jamie Kilner-Smith and myself, with the support of Steven Boardman from District.

Thanks to all the 3rd Alton leaders, Matt & Anna and to all the committee members and parents for their support over this year. Thanks also to the Explorers for fun times in scouting!

Best regards

Chris Duncan