



1st Fressingfield Scout Group

Yoxford and Peasenhall School Sections



7th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Scouting at Yoxford and Peasenhall Primary School

We are delighted that we are able to begin our Scouting at Yoxford and Peasenhall again this term. The Risk Assessment has been approved by the Trust board and also been approved nationally by the Scout Association themselves. We will begin our programme on Friday 11th September, and we ask that your child comes dressed in appropriate outdoor clothes and footwear to avoid changing in school.

Scout Programme: During the summer term, we have worked hard to develop the scout programme for the coming year, making meaningful links with our school curriculum. Whilst we recognise that they are separate entities, we wanted to ensure that they complimented each other to maximise the impact of what we are doing. For example, where the science topic is Space, we will be working on the Space badge, or where we are looking at Keeping Safe in our PSHE, we will be working towards the Fire Safety Badge and the Road Safety Badge. An overview of our program is attached which shows the scout and curriculum links for the year, and also attached is a copy of the programme for this term.

Cubs and Beavers Groupings: We have also reviewed the structure of the afternoon. From now on, the Cubs and Beavers will stay with the same adult for the afternoon, rather than swapping leaders. Mrs Sutton will be leading the Beavers, supported by Mrs Flaherty and myself, and Mr Hopkinson will be leading the Cubs, supported by Mrs Rose and Miss Felton. For the time being we are not permitted to have our parents volunteers but we hope we can review this very soon. Both the Cubs and the Beavers will all come together to raise the flag at 1.10pm and will come back together at the end of the afternoon. We hope that this revised structure will allow more time for activities to be completed, and provide different opportunities for badges and activities within each section.

Investing new members: We have several pupils that need to be 'invested' and make their promise. We will be doing this on **Friday October 9th**, and we hope to be joined by Mr Aalders-Dunthorne, who is not only our CEO, but is also the Group Scout Leader for First Fressingfield Scouts. We will be discussing the Scout promises with the children before then, and I will get further information about these nearer the time. As the Beavers reach their 8th birthday they will then move up the Cub group at the start of the following term, so Beavers who are 8 in the autumn term will move up in January.

Volunteers: As our school is growing, we are very aware that our Cubs and Beavers sections are getting very large. Therefore we are really keen to take on more Scout leaders. If you are interested

Never giving less than our best

Yoxford and Peasenhall Primary School, High Street, Yoxford, Suffolk. IP17 3EU

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in becoming a scout leader, or know a local person who you think would be very interested in getting involved, please speak to one of the adults and we can support you with that. If you want to get involved but don't want to take on a leadership role, then we would still welcome your contribution. Please get in touch.

Uniform: We would really like to see all our cubs and beavers in their uniform. Wearing a uniform not only helps them feel part of a group, and it distinguishes between being a Scout and being part of the school. The uniform consists of a sweatshirt that you can sew badges on and a coloured scarf or 'necker' to represent your local group. Each child receives their 'necker' when they are invested and they should be wearing that every week. We acknowledge that buying the sweatshirts is an additional cost on top of your school uniform so we are going to introduce a 'loan' system. The school is going to purchase the jumpers and if you would like one, then you would give us a deposit of £10. When your child has grown out of their jumper or changed sections, they can swap it for different jumper in the school office. When your child leaves in Year 6 you can either keep the jumper, or you can return it and get your £10 deposit back. Our only request is that when fastening badges to your sweatshirt you sew them on rather than using badge glue so that they can be removed before you return them to the office. We will let you know once the new sweatshirts have arrived. If you have one that your child has already outgrown of, you can simply swap it for a bigger one, and we will include yours in the loan system.

Fundraising request: As you will Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne is the Group Scout Leader at Fressingfield and he has been leading a fundraising campaign to secure a new HQ. The Scout Group has secured around £280 000 in funding and pledges and now just need an additional £80,000 to ensure that we have the facility in place for the start of the Spring Term. The Scout Group's fundraising activities obviously stalled 6 months ago with covid-19 and the majority of grants now are focused on direct covid-19 projects. Members of the scout group have recently started several fundraising efforts including Andrew's contribution of '6 marathons in the month of September' that's a total of 157.2miles. Andrew is seeking financial support and (or sharing on your social media to reach as many potential donors as possible). He has pledged to run a total of 157.2 miles in 30 days. On the 30th September he will be completing an actual marathon distance, running from the site of the proposed Scout building in Fressingfield to the Scout County HQ, Eaton Vale, Norwich. If you would like to find out more information about the project, or support Andrew's pledge financially, then please visit the link below.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/andrew-aalders-dunthorne-aka-skip?fbclid=IwAR2HA2Z4kgGbGlqn6tpC-EU0PJqS04vIXpWsNc8UJBJFqPjdoSX1znh3Spc>

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If you would like to find out more about what 1st Fressingfield Scout group get up to then here is the link to their newsletter

<https://www.1stfressingfieldscouts.org.uk/latest-news>

Key dates:

11th September – start Scouting again at Yoxford and Peasenhall

9th October 2020 – Investiture of new scouts to our sections

28th-30th May 2021 - **Group Camp** (tbc) – we really hope some of you will be able to join with other scouts from 1st Fressingfield for an action packed weekend of fun, friendship and adventure.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of scouting, and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes
Gail Jerman

Academy Headteacher

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