



# Annual review

## 1<sup>st</sup> Haddenham

### Beaver scouts.

2021-2022.

In December 2021 Haddenham Beavers said a fond farewell to Tim Barker as leader. Jo Gothard had been helping in sessions for the previous term and was happy to take over as Beaver leader ready for January 2022.

In January 2022 the Beavers began sessions back in the Baptist church with their new leader-Jo. There were fourteen beavers at the start of term, and a very busy waiting list. Jo made the decision to utilise the “Online Scout Manager” app and website to aid her in the planning and day to day management of the colony which meant most of the information is now digital.

Jo, with much appreciated help from Jane Reeves and Debbie Kerridge had planned an exciting term of indoor activities for the beavers to enjoy. We had decided to ask for two parent helpers every session and set up a WhatsApp group to help communicate with the parents and carers.

The Term began with a “show and tell” session, where the beavers brought in some of their favourite presents from Christmas. It was lovely to see them share their toys and talk about their experiences of Christmas. We finished off with some games that were chosen to help the beavers get to know each other better.

The term continued with some badge-based sessions, where the Beavers worked hard over two sessions to earn their communication badge.

We were lucky enough to be able to borrow a huge amount of Lego from Robert Arkenstall Primary School one evening, which the Beavers had enormous fun with. They used paper to design Lego vehicles, then built,

tested, then rebuilt lots of very different cars. At the end of the session, they were all rewarded with their Builder badge.

Unfortunately, covid meant that the Beavers missed out on the Chinese New Year activities that were planned for the start of February, but there is always next year!

Fortunately, we only missed one session of Beavers due to covid and were back the very next week messing about with science. An evening of super fun experiments and the Beavers had all earned another badge!

Shrove Tuesday might not have fallen on a Beaver evening, but we thought it was only fair to have a little treat, so a pancake buffet seemed like a good idea, to have alongside nerf gun target practice. Goggles, nerfs, pancakes, syrup and sprinkles turned out to be a great combination, and the Beavers asked if we could do this every week!

The beavers continued their fun packed term with seed planting, sensory bottles, St Patricks day games, baking VERY green biscuits, Mother's Day papercrafts, and we finished the term outside at the orchard with an animal based easter hunt. No badges were awarded, but they did all get an Easter egg.

Summer term 2022, and the Beavers are back outside and they have another leader...Jo has managed to persuade her husband (Andrew) to come and help out, so he will be assistant Beaver Leader. For this term we are meeting at the recreation ground. We have so far been quite active, having a go at cricket, and football. The beavers have made a start at their Stage 1 Air activities badge, and their faith badge. Paper aeroplanes, and kites were made one session, and we were lucky enough to be given a tour of the church, including a trip halfway up the church tower in another session. We have plenty of fun filled sessions left this term, including pond dipping, bug and butterfly catching, campfires and a pizza party to end it all.

We briefly went up to 16 Beavers at the start of term, after a few went up to cubs, and even more were invited to join from the waiting list. We are now back to 14 beavers. We have been helped each week by our young leader Izzy, and have been assisted by two parents each week, sometimes more, as parents chose to stay and get involved.

