

Pack Alert

December 2012



Summary

In the last month, the Pack reflected on Remembrance Day and visited the War Museum. We invested 16 new Cubs in a special ceremony. We also learned about knots and earned the Disability Awareness badge. We started training for the First Aider badge.

On Saturday, November 17th, the Pack went on a hike at Jack Pine Trail. During the hike, we discussed maps and how to orient them according to the terrain, with the help of the sun and compass. We also talked about the Beaver and its environment. It was a great afternoon. Thanks to those who came.

Visit at City Hall

On Thursday, December 20th, the Pack will go visit City Hall, instead of the regular meeting. This is a special way to mark the end of 2012, since this will be the last meeting before the holidays.

The Pack will meet at the information desk of Ottawa City Hall, located at 110 Laurier Avenue, at 7PM. Pick up is at 8:30PM and at the same place as drop-off.

Cubs have to wear their full uniform, including necker and woggle, for this visit.

Meeting Arrival

Starting with the regular meeting on December 6th, a new arrival procedure will be in effect. The opening ceremony will begin at 7PM. Cubs that are late for the opening will have to wait in the vestibule until the ceremony is completed.

These changes are implemented to maximize the amount of time we can dedicate to the program. We also recognize that it is important to end at 8:30PM since this is already a late time for the younger Cubs.

Lately, the meetings have been starting late because a stream of arriving Cubs keeps delaying the start of the meeting. We wish to start the meetings punctually so that the program can be covered and still finish on time.

Pet Badge

Cubs that were present on October 18th, for the meeting on Pet Care, have the ability to complete the Pet Care Badge by taking care of a pet for two months. To complete the badge, Cubs should look after their pet, feeding it, brushing it and walking it. At the completion of the two months, parents can sign off this requirement in the Cub handbook. At that point, Cubs can bring their handbook to the meeting and receive their badge.

Nature Studies

We are encouraging Cubs to perform some nature studies on their own. By the end of January, Cubs should have picked their favourite mammal, preferably one that is found in Canada, and learned about it. The intent is to have Cubs able to answer questions about animals that can be found while we are hiking or camping. A guide sheet to help direct Cubs in their research is attached with this newsletter.

Knots

This year, we are introducing a graduated program to learn knots. With this approach, Cubs are expected to have mastered a number of knots by the end of the year. First year Cubs, born in 2004, are expecting to learn level 1 knots. Second year Cubs (2003) must learn level 1 and level 2 knots. Similarly, third year Cubs (2002) are to learn the three levels.

Cubs were given a sheet describing which knots are included in each level. We will continue to practice these knots during our activities. However, if Cubs wish to practice at home, they can visit this web site for help: <http://www.animatedknots.com/>.

Important Dates

Here are some dates that you might want to put in your calendar:

- Last Pack meeting in 2012 will be on December 20th (Hike)
- First Pack meeting in 2013 will be on January 10th (School)
- Polar Day, Saturday January 19th, 2013
- Winter Camp will be from Friday, February 1st, 2013 to Sunday, February 3rd, 2013.

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