

1st HENLLYS TUESDAY BEAVER COLONY

AGM 2018-2019

May 2018

Deaf Awareness Week – to learn about Deaf Awareness week, we had a visit from a BSL interpreter and learnt how to sign the Beaver Promise as well as our names.

Jamboree on the Trail - A group walk was arranged around part of the Henllys Circular Walk. The terrain included roads, hills and woods full of bluebells.

Tree spirits –According to the Woodland Trust, woods are said to be home to nature spirits, elves and fairies. Beavers had a fun evening creating their own tree spirits, making faces out of clay, twigs and other natural materials that are then stuck onto trees.

June

Tredegar House fun day- Henllys Beavers were invited by Newport Scouts for a day of activities at Tredegar House. A great day with lots of activities including pond dipping, camp fire songs, roasting marshmallows and making shelters.

Pond dipping HLNR - Another fun evening thanks to the HLNR team who helped the Beavers find all sorts of interesting water bugs and a rare newt.

July

USA Independence Day – Activities about American Independence Day which included food tasting.

Outdoor Games – Our usual summer evening spent playing water games went down a splash!!

Gwent Area hike and picnic – A great day spent at Llandegfedd Reservoir learning lots of scouting skills like following trails, making things out of natural materials and playing lots of games . We enjoyed our picnic lunch and making Beaver friends from other parts of the County.

September

Welcome back – A joint evening spent with Wednesday Colony making toilet roll beavers, playing games and creating our own Colony Code of Conduct.

Sleepover – On Sept 7, we met at West Pontnewydd Scout hut and prepared for a one night indoor sleepover. Beavers had great fun doing lots of scouting activities like outdoor cooking and camp fire. We completed the Cook Activity badge by learning about food safety as well as making our own lunch.

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Air activities badge – Two evenings spent learning about flight. Great fun making and flying paper aeroplanes and helicopters.

October

Autumn – Beavers created some lovely pictures using natural materials as well as some fabulous leaf rubbings.

HLNR balsam bashing – At the start of October we met up with Chris from Henllys Local Nature Reserve who showed us how to deal with the Himalayan balsam that grows on the HLNR. Himalayan balsam is a relative of the busy Lizzie, but grows much taller and is a major weed problem on riverbanks and waste land, but can also invade gardens. It grows rapidly and spreads quickly so keeping it under control is a constant job for the HLNR volunteers. It was a tough job for Beavers, as the weed has to be pulled out with its root to stop it spreading, so well done to everyone.

Poppies – In preparation for the Cwmbrian Remembrance Parade, we joined up with the Wednesday Colony for a craft activity making poppies.

Ringos (*Pontypool Ski Slope*) – Just as the nights were drawing in, we managed to fit in a visit to Pontypool ski slope where the beavers enjoyed an evening using the giant rubber rings to slide down the ski slope. A few exhausted Beavers by the end, as they also had to pull the rings back up again!!

November

Remembrance parade. - In the morning, a circular march around old Cwmbrian stopping at the Cenotaph for the placing of the various wreaths. Thank you to everyone for making the effort to attend in the rain. In the afternoon, a local service at Henllys Village Hall, a little bit drier here. Well done to everyone who attended both services.

December

Torfaen District Beavers movie night – On the evening of 7 December, Beavers from all over Torfaen met up at Pontnewydd Primary school, to watch “Polar Express” and feast on popcorn and crisps. There was even a pre-Christmas visit from the very busy man in red!

Panto – Both Colonies enjoyed a Sunday afternoon at the Congress Theatre to watch “Dick Whittington”, ice cream was a big hit too.

Beaver hunt - The Beavers from both Henllys colonies enjoyed an evening under the Christmas lights at Cwmbrian Shopping Centre to look for our Beaver Mascot who had found his way into the Trespass shop and got locked in for the night!!

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District Christingle

A lovely evening at Llanyravon Church, where Cubs and Beavers sang lots of Christmas songs and carols holding onto their lighted Christingles. Thanks to mums and dads for helping with the singing and eating the mince pies afterwards.

January 2019

We were working on Skills and Teamwork Challenge badges this month including problem solving and team games.

February

Activities this month were based on the themes of Chinese New Year, Good friend day and the birthday of our founder Baden Powell.

March

British science week – We tried a few experiments this week as part of our Experiment badge.

Visit to Cwmbran Library - For World Book Day Beavers dressed in costumes of characters from their favourite books for our visit to the library. To gain our Book Reader badges, we learnt all about looking after books and making a Harry Potter bookmark. –Magic !!

Pets at home visit.- Beavers enjoyed an evening learning about the hamsters and guinea pigs and feeding the fish. As a special Easter treat, we saw some baby chicks.

April

Fire station visit - Interesting visit to Cwmbran fire station Beavers learned what to do in an emergency and how to prevent fires in the home. The series stuff was followed by climbing all over the fire engines and squirting water from the hose reels.

Easter egg hunt

Due to the lighter evenings, Beavers from both colonies were able to enjoy an Easter egg hunt at Blaen Bran community woodland. Lots of excitement and we found the eggs.