



# 1<sup>st</sup> Fressingfield Scout Group

## Yoxford and Peasenhall and Middleton School Sections

7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

### Scouting at Middleton

The scouting provision at Middleton has been running for a whole year now, and like everything, it is important that we review and reflect on the provision we are offering, to ensure it is the best it can be. We see Scouts as integral element of our curriculum offer and we have developed our programme to ensure that it is embedded within our core curriculum whilst also complimenting and enhancing the curriculum. You will see from the programme that comes with this letter, that we have referenced the broader curriculum links that the programme covers, and also the Learning Pi characteristics that are being developed through the scout provision. Throughout the year, there will be some badges that are not specifically linked to the curriculum, but they will still have clear objectives and learning outcomes. When planning, the leaders refer to the expectations for each badge and incorporate these into the sessions.

As part of review of the provision, we have also looked at the timings of the sessions. We are fully aware that a whole morning of scouts was taking up a large chunk of the school day, so we have moved it to an afternoon, and we have also shortened the sessions. Therefore, the children are now having an hour a week with our scout leaders and this is on a Wednesday afternoon. Mr Hopkinson will be leading the Cubs sections, supported by Mrs Sutton and then they swap over with Mrs Sutton leading the Beavers, while Mr Hopkinson supports the group. The groups are small so the activities can be very focused with clear outcomes linked to our curriculum, but also following the fundamentals of Scouting and their values, which link very closely to our Learning Pi.

This timetable changes has allowed part of Friday morning to be in classroom. We are restricted when we have the PE team on site so there will be a part of the morning where the children have PE, but the remainder will be in class with a Literacy/Numeracy focused. There are several strands to the PE and Outdoor Learning curriculum including 'outdoor and adventurous', and this aspect of the curriculum is covered throughout the year within the scout programme, which is in addition to the PE timetabled slot.

We are very keen to promote the uniform associated with Cubs and Beavers, and would really like to see all our cubs and beavers (and adult leaders) in their uniform every week. Wearing a uniform not only helps them feel part of a group, but it distinguishes between being a Scout and being part of the school. However, we appreciate that you are also buying our school uniform and conscious of the cost of this. Therefore, we have in place a loan system, which has been very successful at Yoxford and Peasenhall. The school have purchased a number of Beaver and Cub jumpers in a range of sizes and these are available from the school office.

*Never giving less than our best*

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

Email: [officeyoxford@yoxvalley.org](mailto:officeyoxford@yoxvalley.org)

Tel: 01728 668291

Middleton Primary School, Rectory Road, Middleton, Suffolk. IP17 3NW

Email: [officemiddleton@yoxvalley.org](mailto:officemiddleton@yoxvalley.org)

Tel: 01728 648251

Southwold Primary School, Cumberland Road, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6JP

Email: [admin@southwoldprimaryschool.org](mailto:admin@southwoldprimaryschool.org)

Tel: 01502 723137



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If you would like to 'loan' one of our jumpers, then please pay £10 via Arbor and we will send home the relevant jumper as soon as they arrive.

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. Just a reminder, that in line with traditional 'out of hours' scouting, if the young person does not have the uniform/jumper, they won't be given the badges.

When the pupils are 'invested' into the scout family, they will each be given a necker which they need to wear every week. It would be advisable to write or sew their name/initials on them so if they get misplaced they are easier to identify.

We hope that you can see the benefits and understand the rationale behind the changes we have made to this provision at Middleton. The Education system is not static, but is very dynamic, and what works well at one setting, may not work as well at another. We have reflected on that and made changes we feel will give better outcomes for our pupils.

Best wishes

Gail Jerman,  
Academy Head and Assistant Scout Leader

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