

8th Blackford Salaam Newsletter

Issue 2

December 2009

Update

We have had a great term. All 3 sections have enjoyed a variety of different activities, learning new skills and had great excursions and events. Read more for detailed info.

Section Availability

All three sections have spaces available in them. Please let family and friends know that we have spaces available for:

Beavers	6 - 8 ½ year old
Cubs	8-½ - 10-½ year old
Scouts	10 ½ - 14 year old

Explorers Sections

Brother Abid will be heading up the new Explorer section in 2010. Watch this space...

Holidays

The Scout groups last visit to Southside in 2009 will be on 11th December. We will start back on 8th January 2010

Dec. 25 to Jan 1 - Winter Break

Enjoy your holidays!

Jan. 8 – Sections Resume

Scouts return to another term of challenges, adventures and exploring!



Charities Week fundraiser... page 2

Parental Help

The 8th Blackford Salaam Scout Group does not have a very healthy bank balance at the moment, primarily due to parents not paying fees from last year and this year. Please keep the group finances healthy by paying your fees regularly and on time. Donations are also most welcome. The fees are: £15 per term or £40 for 2009/10 year.

Parent Wanted

Blackford Scout District is looking for one parent from each Scout group to join their 'Appointments Committee'. This involves a 2 hour training session and you will have to meet about twice a year at the most. If any parent would like to volunteer please contact Zahid.

GRANTS

Our group is looking for a parent to help us apply for grants. There are many grants available for young people. We have sadly been lacking in taking advantage of these. If you have any experience in applying for funding and would like to help, please contact us.

GSL SPEAKS

Scouting is an experience I wish had available to me when I was young. It opens up so many opportunities to have fun, to learn and to develop yourself. The young people involved in scouting probably don't appreciate the 'development' they are experiencing, but it will become very apparent as they grow up and make their way in life. Scouting experience is a major bonus for any CV. When applying for limited university places, this apparently innocuous experience could prove vital in securing that vital university place.

Young people who have grown up in scouting are so much more confident and articulate. They do stand out from the crowd. So, it would be a shame if any young person would want to leave scouting. It seems that once some young people reach the age of 11 or 12 they are drawn away into 'hanging out' with their friends or vegetating in front of the TV. It's a phase many young people their age go through. They are quickly bored and would rather seek excitement in their games consoles. This is the stage where parents can have a positive input, into encouraging their children to persevere in Scouts. Once they get over this 'bored' stage they progress onto being young adults and continue to gain all the benefits scouting offers older boys and girls.

As a scout group we are doing our utmost to provide our Scouts with exciting activities that will not only be learning experiences but also great fun. We hope our present batch of Scouts will be around to experience all this.

Zahid Ali

Fundraising

Charity week was taking place nationwide and the need for scouts to be involved was dominated by our determination to make a difference in the lives of orphans in the UK and worldwide. In regard to this 8th Blackford Salaam Scout group decided to host a fundraiser for the community in order to pursue this will and make significant money to help these unfortunate orphans. The fundraiser was tailored to everyone's need with stalls of food, cakes and tea, henna, fun activities and much more. Our sheer determination resulted in the night ending with a successful raised outcome of £1000.02. This is all thanks to our leaders and cubs, beavers and scout troops.



Hadith Reminder

Anas (ra), a companion of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) reported that when the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) migrated from Makkah to Madinah, the people of Madinah used to have two festivals. On those two days they had carnivals and festivity. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) asked the Ansaar (the Muslims of Madinah) about it. They replied that before Islam they used to have carnivals on those two joyous days. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told them: 'Instead of those two days, Allah has appointed two other days which are better, the days of **Eid-al-Fitr** and **Eid-al-Adha**.' (Collection of Imam Abu Dawood and Nasai)

Section News

Beavers

Beavers had a great term learning new things and trying out different activities. They have discovered new facts about themes like seasons, science and Hajj. They also developed their creativity by making badges for the Charities week fundraiser.

Some sad news, our stick insect died in July. He enjoyed spending time with many of the beavers and visiting their homes. He will be missed dearly.

Some exciting trips to look forward to in the new term, including a visit to the Insect and Butterfly world and also the Camera Obscura.

Cubs

The main highlight for Cubs this term, was walk up Arthur's Seat. We enjoyed the challenging climb after which we were treated to some delicious warm hot chocolate and yummy biscuits. Of course the most thrilling part was using the torches for navigation in the dark.

Throughout the term we have enjoyed engaging in many different topics including bullying and road safety. We are also working towards our faith badge for which we have been learning about different faiths.

Some things to look forward to... Cub camp and also the writing workshop in preparation for the Young Muslims Writer Award.

Scouts

Dec 4 - John Muir Award

Scouts had a visitor from the John Muir Award. The John Muir Award is an environmental award scheme focused on wild places. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment, in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration.

The Award is open to all, and is the educational initiative of the John Muir Trust. Four Challenges are at the heart of each John Muir Award; discover - explore - conserve - share. Some Scouts have keenly participated to join hundreds around the country to make that little change to make the world a better place.

<http://www.jmt.org/jmaward-home.asp>

Dec 11 - Young Muslim Writers Award

Zareen Taj is initiating training sessions for Cubs and Scouts to explore their literary skills and compete in the Young Muslim Writers Award 2010.

<http://www.muslimwritersawards.co.uk/>

Dec. 18 - Winter Camp 2009

Cubs Leader Ibrahim Bahemia is leading the winter camp for Cubs and Scouts in Bonaly this year. Bonaly is a convenient venue for a winter camp for its proximity to Edinburgh and indoor accommodation. This will be a weekend camp with loads of exciting indoor and outdoor activities to challenge and enthuse all ages. To ensure the camp is a success and enjoyable for all, parents must make sure their children come with **complete kits** and enough **warm winter clothes**.

For more information visit <http://www.bonaly.org.uk/>

Scouts Corner

Riddle

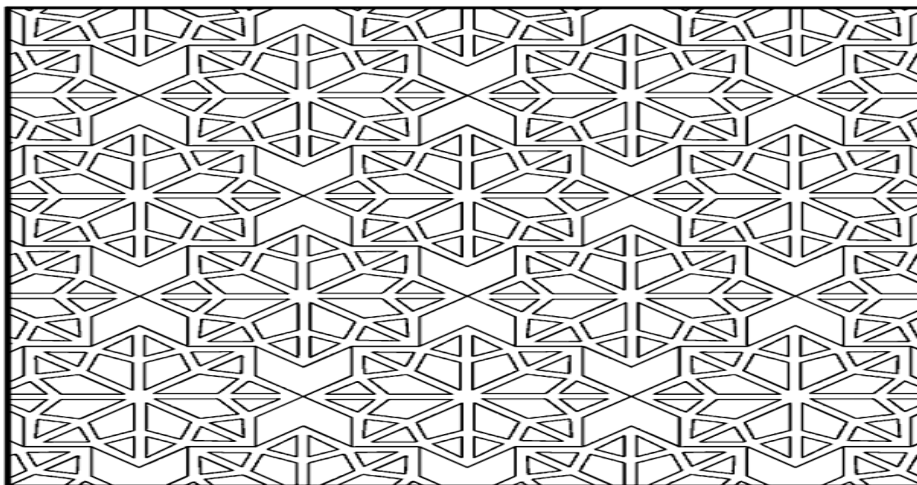
1. What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, and has a bed but never sleeps??

2. What is full of holes but still holds water?

3. Jack:
"When I add 6 times my age 6 years from now to 7 times my age 7 years from now, I get 14 times my current age. How old will I be 3 years from now?"

4. There is a number that is 2 times the sum of its digits. What is this number?

Colouring fun!!!!



Scout Wordsearch

S I I N T R A E U N A L B F
L M S N O G N O I T C E S A
G N I K O O C O U N T R Y I
N N C H A L L E N G E C A T
C F I I G D X D M V U I C H
A A U L N C V I A B C L T S
M I G N I L I E S B A L I I
P I N T M A B E N R A I V V
I A I T M V S O C T A K I C
N N B S I I O H E G U S T V
G R M A W V E U L T E R I C
G N I T S R E R O L P X E W
N L L C Y U I B A D G E S U
M A C C N S C O U T S Y C O

Beavers	Scouts	Cubs
Explorers	camping	section
adventure	activities	skill
fun	exciting	badges
swimming	archery	sailing
climbing	abseiling	challenge
faith	country	cooking
survival		

Riddle
Answer:

1. A river
2. A sponge
3. 88
4. 18