

EASTER CAMP

The 57th Episkopi Cubs held their Easter camp once again at the Scout Campsite located in Happy Valley. It was decided to base the camp on an Olympic theme due to the games being held this summer. 21 boys attended in all, and I think everyone (including the leaders!) had a wonderful time.

The camp began on Good Friday, the 17th March, with the formal investitures of four boys who have recently joined the pack. Following the formalities and the usual camp briefings it was time to get started with the fun. Thanks to the good weather and some excellent team spirit showed by the boys, all the tents were put up well with minimal assistance from the leaders. After that piece of hard work, we all settled down for a hearty meal. Then it was time to make a flag to represent each tent at our own Olympics the following day.

The Friday evening concluded with a night hike around the valley. Due to some very tired cubs (and leaders!) we could not proceed as planned so the hike was cut short, although some of us did carry on a little further. Bedtime came and at around half past midnight I think the last of the leaders got to sleep. Soon afterwards the first leaders were awakened by restless cubs!! Quite normal for the first night of a cub camp really.

Some weary faces emerged on Saturday morning, but everyone was still smiling! To commemorate Easter we had a competition for decorating eggs. There were some very commendable efforts, but it would be unfair to name anyone individually. The competition was judged by our new Assistant District Commissioner who came down to have a look at the camp. Due to the lovely weather, it was time for a quick dip in the sea, for the cubs anyway! On the way to the beach we stopped to chat to the American Scouts who were visiting from Nicosia. Truly international Saturday afternoon saw us parade to the athletics stadium flags and all, ready for the Cub Olympics. The tents were called Africa, Asia, Europe and America to add to the theme. The Olympics went very well, despite a drastic cooling in the afternoon. There were three purposes to the Olympics. First to find our team for the District athletics, secondly to complete the Athlete badges, but most of all to have lots of fun. A visit from the ice-cream van was much needed though! The events were very well competed and we saw a lot of sportmanship. An exciting conclusion in both the high jump and long jump must warrant a special mention not forgetting of course, the photo finish in an extremely fast skipping race. Once the results were together, all of the boys had gained a least one of the three stages of the badge.



The cubs in the sea, carefully supervised by Akela!

To conclude the Olympics, we thought a barbecue would be appropriate and fortunately the weather had picked up. Then it was on to my personal favourite part of camp, the infamous campfire. At the fire we presented medals to all those who finished in the top three of any event. Then it was time for an hour of sing song around the fire. I'm not sure if we called it a day because the boys were tired or because Akela lost his voice! But this night the leaders got enough sleep as the boys were out straight away.

Sunday morning was always going to be brief. The Kean football saw to that! Unfortunately we had the odd shower at first, so the boys were unable to take the tents down because they were wet. It was a good job really, because time was at a premium. Then at last, it was time to lower the flag and present all the badges gained, about 35 in all! Apologies to any team managers in the Kean league for any tired legs, but we were only having fun!!!

Akela, (Russ Pearce)