



1st St Benedict's Cubs

Kings Road, Bedfordview

We, St Benedict's Cubs, Pledge to NEVER use a plastic straw again!

A little about our pledge:

Towards the end of last term, our Cubs took a pledge not use plastic straws again. In a world where the first plastic item ever made has not yet decomposed – can we really afford to be using single use plastic items? We urge you to help your sons keep this pledge, it will be important for their future – please see additional information at the end of the newsletter.

ADVANCEMENTS

Well done to the following cubs who have completed the following Challenge Badges this term :

Silver Wolf Awareness Challenge: Aston Deagrela

Silver Wolf Aptitude Challenge: Jordan Savadier, Diego Ramos

Silver Wolf Outdoor Challenge: Diego Ramos, Colby Lundberg, Declan Smith, Nathan Grobbelaar, Benjamin Deftereos, Declan Reynolds, Mason Sinclair, Callum Hertenberger, Cristiano Thomaz, Reuban Koegelenberg

Silver Wolf Community Challenge: Aston Deagrela

Gold Wolf Awareness Challenge: Joshua Perry

Gold Wolf Outdoor Challenge: Nicolas Stiff, Christopher Williams, Bradley Anderson

Silver Wolf: Jordan Savadier

Gold Wolf: Joshua Perry

Upcoming Events

7 Sep

Cubs Starts for Term 3

7 Oct

Community Service – Horwoods Farm

12 Oct

District Gala

3 Nov

Leaping Wolf Ceremony

16 Nov

Community Project

23 Nov

Prize Giving & AGM

TBC

Sixer Council (TBC)

Community Outing

Joint Pack Day Camp

Leaping Wolf

Well Done to **Joshua Perry** for achieving his Leaping Wolf Challenge.

This is the highest challenge for a cub and takes a lot of work over a long period of time to achieve.



Term 2 Report

It has been another busy term and one that was enjoyed by all the cubs!

Kontiki Always a well enjoyed event and this year the weather played along! We had 15 cubs attend this Regional event. The theme was "Middle Earth". St Benedict's helped 1st Bedfordview with their base of "Dragon's Eye" made from pebbles. If your son hasn't attended a Kontiki as yet, we encourage you to attend next year – the theme will be "Minions" and promises to be an afternoon of family fun!



District Night Hike

What a fun event! First – thank you to all the parents for their amazing support and help with arranging and volunteering for this event. We can officially declare it a huge success! With a total of just less than 170 cubs and siblings from the district (33 cubs were ours plus an additional 15 siblings), it was a busy evening. The theme was Global Trotter, bases included American hot dogs, Chinese Chopsticks, English Croquet, Hawaiian Lays, Mexican Hats, Bridges over the Nile and Rafting the Amazon. We look forward to hosting the next one in 2020!



Huddle Park Walk

A pack outing to Huddle Park on the 20th of July, proved to be very exciting! Who would have thought are littlest cubs could move so fast, enjoying running parts of the trail. We did not get to see too many birds (we were a little too noisy), but enjoyed following the 5km trail, eating our snacks and just enjoyed being surrounded by nature! We nearly had a full house, with 34 cubs attending the outing.



Mandela Day – Community Service (iThembalami Veggie Garden)

Something a little different was organised this year, and what a wonderful and exciting idea it was – a vegetable garden at iThembalami. This was a district event, and each pack was given a time slot to plant vegetables and learn a little about the centre and about gardening. We had 14 cubs attend - and boy did they work hard! Well done to each of you! We are hoping to arrange visit slots to iThembalami to help with harvesting and replanting etc over the coming months – this will be especially aimed at our Gold Wolves who would like to complete community gardening for their Leaping Wolf Badge



District Cycle Rally (Charity: SPCA)

A first time event for our district – and we hosted it! Yah! We held the Cycle Rally at Raven's Park on the 5 Aug, with around 70 cubs and siblings from are District attending! 14 boys from our Pack attended and 12 earned their cycling badges on the Day! We are very thankful for the help and support offered from Complete Cyclist in Bedfordview – who also gave up their time and supplies to ensure that all cubs bikes were safe and roadworthy! Also a big thanks to parents for riding, marshalling, selling, documenting, teaching and supporting our cubs on the day! I do believe they loved it. The Germiston SPCA were truly grateful for the trailer load of Pet supplies and food!



Term 3 2018

Once again, there are lots of fun events to look forward to

Community Service 7 Oct 2018

As part of our National Cub Challenge Programme (Plastic – Not so Fantastic), our District has arranged for us to run a recycling initiative for the Horward's Market on the 7th Oct. We will be given a time slot where we can attend the Market to collect recycling from vendors and visitors. (Which means parents can enjoy the market for an hour or so too!)

District Gala 12 Oct 2018

This event will be hosted by Kengray Pack. We have had lots of fun at the gala in previous years – your son does not need to be a good or even a fast swimmer as this is not an ordinary gala! There are usually lots of fun events, like a tube race, a puzzle race, a relay type race – so please come and join in the fun! Further details will follow as soon as we have them!

Community Outreach Outing TBC

We would like to do a visit to an outreach group – but we have not as yet finalised this. As soon as we have dates – we will let you know!

Joint Pack Day Camp TBC

We are planning to hold a joint Pack (with 1st Bedfordview) Day Camp. This will be for the Silver wolves only and allows to experience camp activities (including a camp fire) without sleeping over! Date TBC

Prize Giving & AGM 23 Nov 2018

A special time to acknowledge each of our cubs individually for something that they are good at or have done well at this year! A time to say thank you to our committee and volunteers for their hard work through the year and a time for a little celebration! Please save the date, It's usually in the evening. We will send out further details closer to the time!

Thank You!

Thank you to Lise Kuhle who came out to chat to us about her company (Eco Smart) that uses other people's waste items and turns them into something fantastic! Thank you for sharing you knowledge, time and the special gifts that each cub received!



Welcome to New Cubs!

Alec Vosloo, Didi Thloubatla, Eielul Aia and Samuel Philipson who were invested last term

GOOD-BYE

Joshua Perry who has turned 11 and so must move on from Cubs. We wish him well and hope that we see you at scouts!

Visit Our Website!

www.benniescubs.co.za

introduction:

Single-use plastic items are destroying habitats and ecosystems all over the world. Items like plastic shopping bags, drinking straws and plastic water bottles are made to only be used once – but when you throw it away, it stays in nature for thousands of years.

"Every single piece of plastic that has ever been made still exists today. This problem isn't going away unless we challenge ourselves to change it."

This year, Cubs are challenged to be friends of nature and learn about the dangers of disposable plastic items, take action to find out about environmentally friendly alternatives and rethink their relationship with single-use plastic.

This challenge is set to Leaders by SCOUTS South Africa in collaboration with the Two Oceans Aquarium.

why is plastic bad for the environment?

Plastic is great stuff. You can mould it into any shape you want, it is cheap and it is durable. The problem is that it is being used to make disposable items which will actually last thousands of years in our environment. Other than being ugly, what's so bad about this?

- Plastic kills at least 1 million seabirds a year.
- It kills at least 100 000 seals, dolphins and whales a year.
- 83% of all **tap water** contains micro-plastic pollution.
- 90% of all seabirds have consumed plastic – in 1960 that was just 5%.

Plastic does not biodegrade – nature has no way of getting rid of it. It just breaks into smaller and smaller pieces that we can't see anymore. These tiny pieces are called micro-plastic and they can affect even the smallest animals in nature.

"Plastic never breaks down. It only breaks up!"

how much plastic waste is there?

Surely the one chip packet you litter, or bottle of water you drink can't be that bad... can it? All these small plastic items add up to a huge problem!

These plastic particles affect every part of our oceans. It's contaminated the darkest reaches of the Mariana Trench, over 10km deep. It becomes frozen into icebergs and Arctic sea ice. Plastic is even affecting volcanoes, creating new rocks that are going to scar our world for millions of years.

- **There are 51 trillion pieces of plastic in the ocean – that's more than 500 times the number of stars in the galaxy!**
- 8 million tons of plastic dumped in the ocean every year.
- Half of all plastic is used only once and then thrown away!
- Every year, we throw away enough plastic to go around the world 4 times!
- Less than 5% of plastic is recycled.
- Every minute, 1 million shopping bags are used and then thrown away.
- **South African's alone use 8 billion shopping bags a year – that's 160 bags per person!**
- Globally, more than 100 billion single-use cups are used a year.
- Hundreds of billions of plastic straws are used each year – the USA alone throws out half a billion a day!
- More than 100 million disposable bottles are consumed every day. Considering that South Africa is a water-stressed nation, three litres wasted for every one litre bottled is not a fact we are comfortable with.
- 40 billion plastic knives, forks and spoons are used a year – none of these can be recycled.

why is plastic litter bad for humans?

When plastic floats in the ocean, it gathers bits of toxic chemicals that are only toxic when they are in a large amount. The smallest sea animals - like plankton - eat these bits of plastic, and they absorb the toxic chemicals which get more and more concentrated. Bigger animals then eat these small ones and these toxins move up the food chain. Guess who is on top of this chain? We are - and our pollution is affecting us!

"Because we are at the top of the food chain, we get the biggest amount of these toxins!"

