

The story of our year

Brassington Brownies Annual Report 2012

This year included a wide range of activities, focusing on health and sport with the Olympics, and celebrations such as the Diamond Jubilee. The Brownies worked and played in groups throughout the year, and the Sixers and Seconds learnt how to lead and work with their Sixes. Following the Girlguiding UK motto 'Girls in the lead', the Brownies not only planned and chose activities, but at one of our regular 'Brownies Take Over' evenings the sixes ran the night, choosing to have a chocolate fountain with fruit dips, run a pick the box game, do manicures, and play bingo.



We explored the out of doors, environmental issues and wildlife, making bird pudding and doing the Big Garden Bird Watch towards the Wildlife Explorer badge. We held a Rabbit evening for our Rabbit Six, and Midsummer Madness included a campfire outdoors with singing, toasting marshmallows and making toast. We had a Teddy Bears picnic with our bears, and an Owl challenge night. We worked for Friend to Animals badges, visiting the Pets at Home store to find out about looking after pets, learning about camouflage and endangered animals. We gave service to the village, planting bulbs and plants in several places, including tubs at the village hall.

We worked on Brownie Traditions, World Guiding and Healthy Heart badges. The Brownie Traditions badge included learning the National Anthem, drawing the Union Flag, and finding out what Tawny Owl used to keep in her pockets when she was a Brownie. For the Healthy Heart badge the girls learnt about nutrition, recording how many fruit and veg. they ate a day, making a food mosaic, a healthy packed lunch, how to keep their heart healthy, taking their pulse before and after exercise, and finding out about asthma, medicines, and allergies.



We had a sporting theme throughout the year, doing all three of the 'On Your Marks' badges: Values, Sport, and Culture. We had a Going Going Gone auction, where the girls made bids for values including ending world poverty, and having a good job. Brownies designed mottos and a sports kit, played games about rules, made a sporting graffiti wall, watched the Olympic torch relay and made their own torches, made Poi and did a Maori dance,

designed mascots and tried street theatre, and held a mini Olympics.

Our Pack Holiday at Glenbrook was on the theme of the Olympics, our opening ceremony including the athletes' oath. We tried out lots of sports and activities, doing bouldering, archery, the black hole, the adventure course, football, as well as 'dressage', 'synchronised swimming' and 'gymnastics', making cards, Olympic rings bags, and bead mascots. Our meals were from the Sixes countries: UK; Switzerland; Mexico and India, and included tacos and guacamole.



We were very excited to go to the European Figure Skating Championships in Sheffield, where the Brownies watched some brilliant skaters, cheering them all on with cardboard clappers, and getting very worried about one who hurt himself.

Brassington Brownies joined in with District Events including Thinking Day, where we hosted Brazil, made Vaca Preta (Coke Floats), asked for them in Portuguese (per favore), and tried Carnival dances. The District Craft Day in December was a huge success with the girls, who went away laden with things they has made, including Christmas wreaths, silk paintings, bags and boxes, iced Christmas trees and lots of other crafts.



We tried the performing arts through acting, dancing and singing, and had a go at other arts and crafts throughout the year.

We used our cooking skills to bake and decorate biscuits for the patients on Cubley Ward at Kingsway Hospital.

At our Hogwarts evening in November we turned the village hall into Hogwarts School, and the Brownies had lessons like 'Care of Magical Creatures' where they made fluffy cats, they visited Diagon Alley and tried Bertie Botts Every Flavour Beans (including pencil shaving and baby wipes flavours), were sorted into their houses, and played Quidditch on brooms.

Brownies celebrated festivals and events including Carnival, St Georges Day (with traditional English games), Mothering Sunday, and Christmas. Snowy Owl helped us celebrate a French Christmas this year, finding a Queen for the night with a

bean in a special pastry, learning French words and making and decorating Buche de Noel.



The Queens Diamond Jubilee was celebrated with a party and entertainment for parents and families, and the Brownies learnt how to be hostesses.

For Harvest we made vegetable soup and mixed and baked our own bread.

It was a great year!

Leaders: Wendy Slater, Louisa Perkins, June Baldwin