

The story of our year

Brassington Brownies Annual Report 2013

This year included a wide range of activities, focusing on brownie skills and world awareness. The Brownies worked and played in groups throughout the year, and the Sixers and Seconds learnt how to lead and work with their Sixes.

We explored the out of doors, environmental issues and wildlife. We gave service to the village, planting bulbs and plants in several places, including tubs at the village hall. We celebrated Earth Day by reducing, reusing and recycling. Our camp sleepover was themed around shipwreck, with the Brownies having to meet challenges on desert islands, and being joined by Brailsford Brownies for a campfire.

We worked on Brownie Skills, learning some traditional skills like washing and ironing clothes, lighting candles, and sewing on buttons to make snake sock puppets, which we used to do puppet shows for the Chinese New Year of the Snake. We also did the Fire Safety badge, learning how to stop drop and roll, home safety, how to prevent fires, and making fire escape plans

In the middle of snowy weather we had a special themed Harry Potter day, where we were sorted into houses, played Quidditch, made wands and Pygmy Puffs, learned about the stars, made potions, and played games.

Our world focus started with the GAT (Global Action Theme) badges of 'Every Mothers life and health is precious' and 'Together we can save children's lives', which involved finding out about disease and threats to health, had a 'values' auction, and celebrated mothers. Mothers day and Hina Matsuri (Japanese Dolls Day) also coincided with International Women's Day, and we make gifts and cards, and talked about votes for women, and how important Mums are.

We learned about Aapti, a girl in India through the Girls in Action: In her shoes badge, making chapattis, playing games, dividing food fairly and unfairly, making bead bracelets, and learning about India. We filled shoeboxes, which went to Zambia.

Our Rolls Royce Science badge included 'all about me' finger print painting, and air powered car, a pinhole viewer, and making a compass, as well as a talk from a woman scientist working at a safety research centre.

We joined the district for an Indian Wedding evening, and finished the summer with a performance evening and an Indian dance party and mehendi painting.

Our Pack Holiday at the Children's Inn was a Hogwarts weekend, where Brownies grew magic lollipops from chocolate buttons, made giant squid, hunted for Scabbers the rat, tried lots of different lessons, and made owls, dolls house items and glass painting in school clubs. We had a school feast, and a World Quidditch tournament.

In the autumn we had a very exciting event, when Tawny Owl got married. The Brownies helped to decorate the Village Hall with butterflies for her reception, made an honour guard at the wedding, and had their own wedding reception on the Monday after.

Brassington Brownies joined in with District and Area Events including Water Revels (where we came 4th), Thinking Day, Craft days, and the District Brownie Quiz, which we won!

We collected Sainsbury's Active kids vouchers and the Brownies chose body balls, a black-out tent, balance tracks and other fitness equipment. We also had a green token collection in Waitrose. We were joined by young leaders Parrot and Puffin in the autumn, so it was a great year!

Brownie Leaders: Wendy Slater, Louisa Brotherhood, June Baldwin