

Happy New Year

You'll be used to getting a programme at this point in the term, but this term is a bit different. We're letting the scouts use their first week back to plan what they want to do for the rest of the term. That means the programme will come out at a later date. Until then you can assume that we will be at the hall at the usual time in uniform **with a coat**. I don't care how short the walk from your door to the car and the car to the hall; It's winter and you need a coat for some of our activities.

Now, on with the stuff you need to know.

1. **Subs:** £25 per term. Due the first week back each term, so that was this week, unless you are reading this later. Either way, PAY UP!
2. **Uniform:** It's uniform every week unless we specifically tell you it isn't. **Uniform includes navy blue activity trousers.** These don't have to be the official Scout Association ones. Any old blue outdoor type, activity trousers will do. They are also great for other scouting activities. Jeans are never allowed. Your choice of footwear should be appropriate for activities that are likely to take you outdoors without much notice. *We strongly recommend that Ugg boots (or similar) are not worn to Scouts. Similarly Crocs aren't great scouting footwear. Both those footwear brands and their many imitators tend to perform very poorly in bad weather and wet grass and are definitely not suitable for a night of running around.* Trainers are great, but maybe avoid your best ones.
3. **Kiplin:** DON'T DROP CHILDREN ON THE DANGEROUS BUSY ROAD OUTSIDE THE GATES. Please drive into the field but drive and park responsibly.

Some things that are coming up:

- Winter Camp at Gibside Stables, 26th-28th February. There is a separate letter with info about this.
- The Brass Monkey hiking competition will be running on Saturday February 13th, again, separate letters will be available about this.

So that's that for now. If you have any questions, come and see Anthony, Dan, Darren or Gavin at the start or end of a troop night, or give us a call (or drop us an email) using the details on the website: bartonscouts.co.uk.

Anthony, Dan, Darren and Gavin