



January 2010

Dear Parent/Carer

**1st BRAINTREE SCOUT GROUP**  
**WELCOME BACK**

Welcome back – I hope that you all had a merry Christmas and a happy new year. I know that there are some exciting programmes planned for the next term, with a number of weekend activities planned for all sections, starting with a visit to the pantomime for Cubs and Beavers in the next couple of weeks. Also, any Scout who attends all the camps organised during the year will spend the best part of a month on nights away experiences! Please have a look at the events page on our web site – [www.1stbraintree.org.uk](http://www.1stbraintree.org.uk) for details. Letters will follow for all events in good time.

Please note that subs are now due for this term at £30, unless you are paying using the standing order facility, where payments will continue automatically. If you would like to pay by standing order, please let your section leader know, who will provide you with the relevant details. If you have previously had alternative arrangements with your section leader for payment of subs, this will need to be reviewed.

If you are a taxpayer and have not currently completed a **Gift Aid** form, please speak to me or your section leader. A signature on a form will enable us to claim back a substantial amount of tax, which will go into group funds to help improve the premises and the programme.

Our Thursday evening Cub Scout and Scout sections, started last term will continue. I would like to formally welcome **Paul Greenhead** to the leadership team, who has taken charge of the Thursday evening Scout section, somewhat relieving my burden. We also hope to be welcoming a new assistant leader to the Thursday Scout section early in the new year. I am currently looking to set up a parent rota to assist with the Thursday Cub Scout section from 6.00 – 7.30pm. If anyone would like to get involved on one or two evenings per term, please let me know.

Please note that both Beaver colonies and both Cub packs are currently full and are operating waiting lists. If you have other family or friends who would like to join now or in the near future, please let me or the relevant leader know. Please note that anyone due to move on between sections, at the ages of 8 ½ and 10 ½ is automatically included on waiting lists.

Please note that the **Sainsbury's Active Kids** scheme starts again on 17<sup>th</sup> February and we will again be collecting vouchers to add to those banked from last year. We will also be registering for the Tesco scheme, when this is announced. Please collect vouchers and hand them to your section leader for collation. We hope to be able to exceed the 5,600 Sainsbury vouchers we collected last year.

I trust that the Young People will enjoy their Scouting this term and I look forward to seeing lots of smiling faces. As ever, the programme cannot be delivered without the leaders and helpers, who are all volunteers. If you are able to spare any time to assist in any section (we currently have section meetings every evening of the week except Tuesday), or if you would like to help out in the maintenance of the hut or any other way, please let me know.

Yours faithfully

Steve Denton  
Group Scout Leader – 1<sup>st</sup> Braintree Scout Group

Please reply to:  
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