

**MARCHAM SCHOOL PTA NEWS**

Last September saw a new PTA committee start their first year together. The new chairperson, treasurer and secretary have been fantastically supported by both existing and new committee members.

We would like to thank everybody for supporting the events that we have held over the last year. Without the help of staff, parents and children we would not have had such a successful year. We have also enjoyed working with other village groups – the WI and the church. We hope to involve others in future events.

The events held over the last year include

- the ladies pampering evening,
- school discos,
- bingo
- and of course the Christmas Fayre
- and Summer Fête.

The PTA has helped to fund coach trips and the residential break away for years 5/6. We have also provided money to help set up a pond and wildlife area, to buy new reading books, to provide shoe bags for all pupils and to buy digital cameras for the school. We bought lollies for sports day and funded the leavers evening out. We provided the gazebo to provide shelter outside the old swimming pool area. We have also provided extra funds to each classroom at the start of each term.

If anyone has any new ideas to help raise funds we would love to hear from you. We have really enjoyed the challenges of the last year and look forward to more over the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support,

**SARAH MUTCH** PTA Secretary

E-mail: marchamschoolpta@monkeynose.com

**MARCHAM MUMS TODDLERS AND BABIES**

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning in July and made it such a success. The mums produced an amazing variety of high quality home-made cakes and biscuits and so much that we even had enough for a grand sale at the end. It was lovely to see so many people come and great to hear from them how much they enjoyed the morning - it was a good chance to meet and chat to people they hadn't met before. The total raised for the Marcham Moldova Lifeline project on the day was £234.50 - a great result!



**MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS**

We ended the school year with a wonderful graduation ceremony for our older children and we wish them well for their move onto 'big' school. Good luck!



We have a few spaces left for the year 09/10 and are already accepting applications for September 2010 (and beyond...), so please do contact us for an application form or to arrange a visit. We look forward to the start of a new term on 3/9/09, welcoming back all those old faces and getting to know lots of new ones.

Please contact us at marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk or 07749 245313.

**MARION, NICKY AND KATHARINE.**

**MUMS AND CUBS CAMP AUGUST 2009**



On the weekend of 14 August, seven mums and their sons arrived at the Youlbury Scout camp near Boars Hill. We had

four cub leaders with us throughout the weekend (Chris, Clare, Steve and Mick). The theme of the weekend was 'space'. We started the evening off by the cubs making spacemen helmets and the mums making alien helmets – an activity the mums took a long time to do – the only thing missing was the glitter!

Whenever we heard 'sputnik' shouted out we all had to line up in height order, we got quicker at this during the weekend. Our other activity on the Friday evening was hunting for straws – not an easy task when it was getting dark and having to look for red and black ones. After our straw task we then went for a walk in the dark. The only light we had was that from 'glow sticks that had been placed in trees.

Saturday was a very busy, yet fun day – we went to a shooting range, great fun and there are some very good mums and cubs. After lunch we went on the zip wire. This was great fun and a great achievement for all of those who took part. After lunch the mums and cubs had to make rocket launchers – these we judged on the Sunday. Later it was the mums v the cubs in a game where the mums used some great tactics! In the evening we gathered round the camp fire. Jack was invested and then it was a chance for each mum and cub pair to show off their acting and stunt skills. Chris Ricketts led a sing-a-long, a couple of the mums struggled with head, shoulders, knees and toes!

Sunday morning started with a team task, we all had to cross an area of 'hot ashes' without touching the ground. The added bonus was we had to take all of our equipment with us and also on our return journey. After what seemed an eternity we made it, only to be told we had 10 minutes to all get back across to catch our space ship – thank goodness we made it.

For our next task we went into three groups of mums and sons. In our groups we had to make bivouacs as a shelter for when we had

landed on the moon. The crucial moment was when each group had to get under their shelter to see how water tight it was when water was thrown over it. There was lots and lots of laughter from the cubs, mums and leaders when the shelters all leaked – one of them only slightly, the other two left the mums quite wet. After lunch it was time for the cub and mum of the weekend to be announced. It was very close but Charlie and her son Jack were the winners – well done. It was then time to say farewell and to head back to Marcham.

We all had a fantastic time and here are some quotes from the weekend

- Pam:** *Catering was fantastic, so was the company (even the cubs!)*
- Clare:** *Best weekend camp I've ever had.*
- Ruth:** *I've got the buzz for camping – do the caterers (Mick, Steve, Chris and Clare) come along as well!*
- Jake:** *Excellent weekend, fun and exciting. The zip wire was the best.*
- Jay:** *Sleeping in the tent was fun.*
- Zoë:** *Brilliant weekend, no personal hygiene, cold showers and lots of fun. We had quality time with our little treasures.*
- George:** *I really like the shooting, zip wire and the camp fire – the weekend was awesome.*

**Alien-mums! For Spacecubs, see the cover**

