

Scouts

5th Skipton Scout Group

GSL REPORT

The leadership team at 5th Skipton hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. We hope 2026 is everything you wish it to be. Perhaps giving something back is a New Years resolution, please consider volunteering within the group, you don't need to be available every week, anything you are able to offer would be greatly appreciated.

At the beginning of each year, the group needs to complete a census, the information you provide on OSM is used to gather the details required, please log into OSM and check all details are complete and up to date. This information is also used by leaders as they plan and resource meetings and contact you in an emergency, it is really important that all information is kept up to date.

The end of 2025, saw us start to lay the non-slip surface on the ramp, we are hoping to get this finished as soon as possible but as you can appreciate this is weather dependent.

Thank you to all who joined us at both the Remembrance Day Parade and the District Carol Service, a special mention to Pete D who represented the group and read the first reading at the Carol Service.

The Christmas Climbing at Bradford Climbing Hub was a huge success, all the children I spoke to had an amazing time.

If you have not already completed a Gift Aid form, please speak to a leader and complete a form, every form completed enables us to claim 25p back for every £1 you pay in subs from HMRC, this can generate a decent income for the group which enables us to reduce the cost of activities and camps for you.

Catherine Walton-Brown – GSL

Section updates:

Squirrels

In 2026 we still aim to open a Squirrel section at the 5th, but to be able to do so we need enough Volunteer leaders. This section is for the youngest members of the scout movement, aged 4-6 years & we have a list of children ready to start. If you feel that you or anyone else who you know may be able to help on a Monday night 4:45-5:45pm, please speak to Catherine. Full training and support will be given.

Beavers

The final half term in 2025 saw us complete the badge carousel, a special mention must go to Gary for cutting and drilling the bird box templates before helping the beavers to put their kit together. We also found out more about Guy Fawkes and his plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament. We created Poppy biscuits as we discovered more about Remembrance Day and why we fall silent on 11th November at 11am. We went to the Bradford climbing wall. Thank you to all the parents who were able to stay and help, please sign up for next term on the parent rota in the rota in the hall

Gift aid:

What is Gift Aid?

Put simply its FREE money from HMRC for charities such as the Scout Association.

Gift Aid for Scouts allows our group to claim 25p for every £1 donated by UK taxpayers, and this includes the subscription fees from Parents.

This costs you nothing, other than you filling in a form, & this is a very easy way of us raising funds.

As a group we currently raise about £500 a year through gift aid, but if all parents signed up to this, the amount would almost double. If you have not completed and returned your gift aid form, then please ask a leader for a form.



Group Contact details

Group Scout Leader for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts - Catherine Walton-Brown - Catherine.WaltonBrown@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk

Assistant Group Scout Leader - Gary Sorsby - GSL@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk

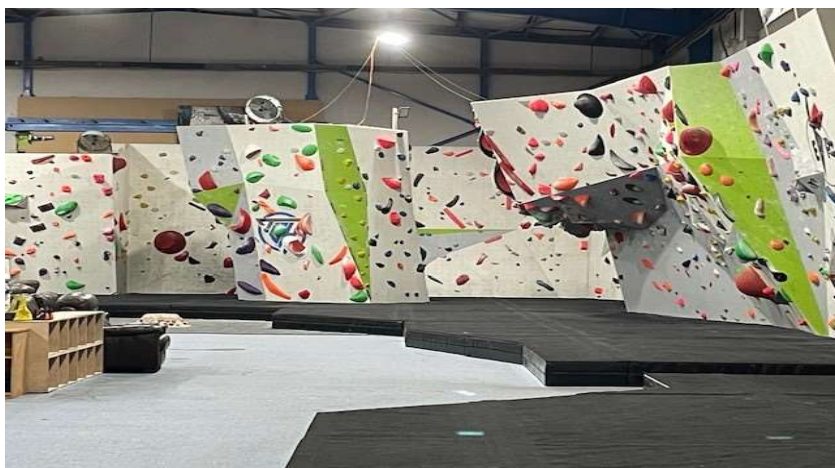
Chair of Board of Trustees – James Cave - chair@5thskiptonscouts.org.uk

Facebook - <https://www.5thskipton.co.uk>

Website - www.5thskipton.co.uk

Scouts

Last half term, the Scouts worked towards their team, skill and creative challenge awards by competing in our very own Top Gear challenge and marble run record attempt. We also cooked breakfast over open fires and finished off by joining the group climbing activity. Next half term, the Scouts will be completing their Chefs badge and doing urban orienteering.



The Dump

Work has now started on installing the none slip boarding to the surface of the ramp. This is work in progress so please bear with us until it is completed.

Cubs

Cubs had a busy half term, they worked on their skills challenges and made toast, hot drinks and ironed neckers. The completed a night walk through the woods. The last two weeks of term saw the cubs making and decorating individual Christmas cakes, there were some great designs.



Awards – Congratulations

Chief Scout Bronze Award for Albert and Jacob in the Beaver Section
Chief Scout Gold Award for John in the Scout Section

Manchester monopoly run, we entered 2 teams and despite transport delays and cancellations both teams had a great day and worked together navigating around Manchester to gain as many points as possible.



Some future Group Events

Please see OSM for further details

Some details for the next few months.

08.01.2026- Cubs and Scouts return to section meetings

12.01.2026- Beavers return to section meetings

28.01.2026- Trustee meeting

07.02.2026- District swimming gala- further details will follow

07.03.2026- District football- further details will follow

26.03.2026- Easter Chocolate Bingo at the Dump at 6-8pm. All welcome to this fundraising event.

26.03.2026 – Term Ends

W/C 13.04.2026 Section meetings start again

26.04.2026- St George's Day Parade

Groups 110 Birthday badge

Will all parents please remove the birthday badge from their child's uniform. Don't throw it away, as a memento, keep it and sew it on their camp blanket.