

Anglia selection weekend report

Dear Jenny,

Sorry my internet has been down all week and we have only just managed to fix it!

It was really good and I really enjoyed it. We were told that we should know by Christmas but we will definitely know by the end of January.

Here is my report of the weekend:

On Friday night, we had a lovely dinner before all getting to know each other through playing a few ice breakers. We were then shown around Pax Lodge and told more about the history and the work of the volunteers. Afterwards, there were a variety of crafts to get involved in, such as wrapping a chocolate bar, making Christmas decorations, friendship bracelets and pipe cleaner-men key rings.

After breakfast and a visit to the shop, we all went out to flag where we sang the World Song and listened to some thoughts of the day. Whilst we were staying at Pax Lodge, WAGGGS were having a 16-day event to raise awareness about gender-based violence against women. We filled in pledge forms and were told a statistic about it at flag.

That morning, we had activities that we did as a team, the team being made up of two patrols. We had to make a British landmark out of balloons (we made Wembley Stadium), did a quiz about WAGGGS, made a paper chain and a card for Anglia's 40th birthday and did a challenge involving buckets of water which my patrol did successfully but the other patrol in my team managed to spill water all over their feet.

That afternoon, we went out on a London Challenge, in which we had to do various things to get 40 points but we were not allowed to use any mode of transport other than our feet.

Although my team managed to get our 40 points rather quickly, we carried on to try to get more points. We visited Primrose Hill, London Zoo and Camden amongst other places. One of the challenges was to come up with a team name and take a photo that represented our team name (giving us 10 points). We decided to call ourselves the Double Deckers and each bought a Double Decker chocolate bar which featured in all of our photos. We came back and made a presentation which we showed to the rest of the group.

That evening, we all dressed up smartly for supper and we met Rosie Spencer, the Chief Commissioner of Anglia. In the evening we celebrated Anglia's 40th birthday and played many games such as pass the parcel and some Christmas quizzes (which my patrol won). My favourite game was when we had to blow up around 100 balloons and fill 6 pairs of tights with them as fast as we could. The first team to put them on their heads and start singing Jingle Bells was the winner. It was very funny and we all looked hilarious!

On Sunday, we had a couple of talks after flag, one about fundraising and one about G.O.L.D trips. Afterwards we got into our patrols again and had to come up with a game that we subsequently had to teach to the rest of the group but as if they were foreign and could not speak English. My patrol decided to teach the game Horse and Jockey, which resulted in much laughter and quite a lot of out-of-breath Guides.

After lunch, we talked a bit more about the awareness campaign and thanked all the leaders. We also found out that our team, the Double Deckers, had won the challenges the previous day!

I made many friends and we are already talking about meeting up to go shopping in Camden soon. I am looking forward to it.

Thank you very much,

Bethany Scott