THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here
3rd Falkirk Company

Boys/Parents/Guardians,

We hope you have all had a fantastic summer holiday and are looking forward to the new session! **The Company Section will restart on Friday 30th August at Falkirk High School.**

All boys must bring a parent or guardian along with them on 30th August for the first 10 minutes. This will allow us to process all the necessary paperwork in one go. **S1 - S6 boys should arrive for 7.30pm as normal. P7s and any new recruits should arrive for 8pm.** An enrolment pack is enclosed, please complete these forms and bring them along on the 30th. No uniform is required for the first night.

My main method of communication this session will be email. We have a busy programme of events planned so please ensure you check your email regularly for details of what's on and to sign you son up for any competitions, trips or special events.

If your mobile number changes at any point throughout the year it is vitally important that you let us know of this change.

If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch with OIC Russell Croal on 07595 357048 or email company@3rdfalkirkbb.co.uk.

RECRUITMENT

We are now recruiting boys in P1 - P3 to join our Anchor Boys for the new session. If you know anyone who may be interested in joining please encourage them to come along.

We also have a small number of spaces available in the Company Section, if your son has any friends who would be interested in joining us please get in touch.

AN EXCITING SESSION AHEAD!

Friday Nights

We meet every Friday at Falkirk High School from 7.30pm – 9.45pm. All boys are expected to wear full uniform every week and should bring sports kit and badgework folders along in a bag. Boys who are waiting on a uniform order should wear school trousers and a school shirt or Junior Section polo.

We have a high-quality and varied programme planned for Friday nights with a mixture of badge work, games and sports. We are introducing a number of new features this session to further enhance our programme. We also have swimming booked for the last Friday of every month and our popular Seniors Nights are also in the calendar. The tuck shop will be open each week.

Table Tennis Coaching

Our table tennis coaching sessions will restart in mid-September. Taking place every second Monday from 7pm – 8.30pm at Falkirk High, all boys are welcome to attend. We will also be entering a team in the Battalion league.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

We are the only Company in the area to offer boys the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Our S3s will be starting their DofE journey by working on their Bronze Award this session while our S4 and S5 boys will be completing their Bronze before starting work on the Silver Award later in the session. An expedition will be arranged for the spring.

Battalion and National Competitions

Boys will have the opportunity to take part in badminton, basketball, cross country, five-a-side football, swimming, table tennis and volleyball competitions run by the Battalion. We may also be able to enter some National competitions depending on levels of interest.

Church Services and Parades

Our Enrolment Service will take place at the Peoples Church on Sunday 29th September. On Remembrance Sunday we will once again be representing the Battalion at the Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph. A full turnout of boys is expected for both these events.

Scotland Matches

We will be attending a number of UEFA Euro 2020 qualifiers at Hampden over the next few months, starting with the visit of the world's No.1 ranked side, Belgium, on Monday 9th September. Watch out for OBM invites being sent out in due course to book a ticket for your son.

Sponsored Munro Climb

We will be completing our annual sponsored Munro climb in October – date tbc.

Scott Lodge

Our annual spring trip to Scott Lodge is booked for Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd March.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

As a Company we work hard to keep our costs as low as possible. It is our policy that no boy shall be excluded from our activities on the basis of finances. If there is ever any difficulty with making a payment please contact us in confidence and we will do all we can to help.

Monthly Collection

Our monthly collection us used to fund our day to day costs. After being frozen for the last five years, due to increased costs of hiring the school, unfortunately we have had to increase our monthly collection by £2 to **£12 per month this session.** This works out at only £3 per week which we feel still offers great value for money.

Our preferred method of payment is direct debit, however cash payments can also be made.

Payment dates for session 2019/20 are:

- Friday 30th August - £12
- Friday 27th September - £12
- Friday 25th October - £12
- Friday 29th November - £12
- Friday 31st January - £12
- Friday 28th February - £12
- Friday 27th March - £12
- Friday 24th April - £12

Collection must be paid in full every month even if your son misses a week. Please ensure payments are made on the dates that they are due, chasing late payments takes up a significant amount of our time which could be better spent developing our programme.

Capitation Fees

Capitation fees are the mandatory registration fee which we must pay to BBHQ for every boy and officer. In return BBHQ provide us with various services including insurance. **The Capitation fee for session 2019/20 is £20.** This should be paid by the end of September.

Uniform Costs

The cost of a boys first full Company Section uniform is subsidised by the Company and is **£40**. Replacement items are available to buy at cost price. A uniform order form is enclosed. Orders should be paid by the end of September.

We are aware that boys quickly grow out of their shirts and therefore we are seeking donations of any uniform items which are still in good condition and could be used again. Any uniform donated will be available free of charge to anyone who requires it. We hope this will help reduce costs for parents.

Special Event Costs

While we work to cover or subsidise as many of our costs as possible, some events will require an additional payment (e.g. Scotland matches/Scott Lodge). Where this is the case we will provide as much notice as possible before payment is required.

Gift Aid

We are a registered charity and one of the benefits of this is that we can claim Gift Aid from HMRC on our monthly collection meaning that for every £1 you pay we can claim another 25p from HMRC at no additional cost to yourself. If you are a taxpayer we'd be grateful if you could fill in the enclosed gift aid declaration form.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

Discipline

We will be operating a yellow card system again this year. If your son's behaviour is not meeting the high standards we expect, he will be issued with a yellow card and will contact you to explain why. A second yellow card in a future week will result in a red card and your son being asked to miss a week of BB.

Mobile Phones

Please note that we cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to phones while at the BB. We recommend that mobile phones are left at home, however if your son does bring one with them it must be on silent and stored in their bag throughout the night. If any boy is found using a phone during an activity or class it will be confiscated for the remainder of the night and a yellow card will be issued.

All staff have access to members emergency contact details in case we need to get in touch for any reason during a meeting or event.

Attendance

For your son to get the most from their time in the Company Section we require high levels of attendance. Failure to attend regularly may result in your son being asked to leave the Company. We do however we recognise that on occasion your son may not be able to attend a Friday night due to illness or other commitments. We would ask that you let us know at the earliest opportunity if your son will miss a Friday night.

Where we have a limited number of places available for any events it is our policy to offer places based on attendance. Those who attend the Church services, parades and sponsored events will be given priority – followed by those with regular Friday night attendance.

CHAMONIX 2021

Following the success of our previous trips, most recently in 2015, we are planning a trip to Chamonix, France in the summer of 2021. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our members to experience a foreign adventure with their friends in the spectacular surroundings of the French Alps.

Due to the limited places available this trip is open to all boys in S1 – S6.

P7 boys will be able to look forward to taking part in a foreign trip in later years as they progress through the Company Section.