

2pm, Thursday 18th June 2026

Burgers! Chips! Food Heaven! Lunch was declared a huge success, and suitably fortified, children and staff set forth for the afternoon's activities.

Survivor was on the cards for three groups this afternoon, learning to build three different types of shelter, slowly and carefully. "You guys are really good at procrastinating" sighed one girl, looking witheringly at the boys who were trying and failing to sort out their tarpaulin. "How do you fold a sheet?" groaned one boy in despair. The same girl declared "I'm very much up for survival - I could probably sleep out here tonight, I just need to put up a bivvy." It was the boys' turn to cast withering looks. One of the instructors declared that a shelter built by four of our girls was the best he'd ever seen. High praise indeed for our CSG girls.



The ability to create fire is an essential skill that separates humans from primates. Staff were pretty sure that their charges are Homo Sapiens, or at a stretch, Neanderthals ... "I love lighting fires" declared one girl as she created a spark that set light to her kindling on her third attempt. "Grr" grunted one of the boys, getting frustrated as he struck the flint and the rod with increasing vigour. Eventually fire was made, phew! No primates in the group after all.





Over at the Sensory Trail, communication skills were again stretched to the limit, another typical exchange: “Duck!” “Where?” The children also discovered the benefits of knowing your left from your right. Apparently one in six people do not instinctively know the difference and it would appear that Miss Balaam has a surfeit of the ‘ones’ in her group.



The climbing wall proved no problem for some children and a challenge for others, but staff were proud of every child for having a go and impressed with the encouragement from their friends when a child was nervous about climbing higher.



The giant swings were in action again for four groups. The instructors impressed the staff with their helpfulness and willingness to go the extra mile to ensure everyone had a great time, despite the continuing concerns about restricted circulation in the nether regions. One particular instructor deserves a Friday certificate for resilience in the face of Miss Balaam and her crew...



Dinner was chicken curry or meatballs, with jam cake to follow. Then we went to the PGL shop to stock up on gifts for our family / more high sugar snacks (delete as appropriate). Next up was the camp fire with toasted marshmallows (in case our sugar levels have crashed). Then bedtime, which staff fervently hope will be a repeat of last night... we can but dream...

