

This week saw another command task as cadets were challenged with a cold, damp hunt for enemy targets. Armed with nothing but camouflage and their wits, the intrepid contingent ventured among the gloom of the trees and braved the cold to trace the enemy team.





CSgt Layden led a challenging endurance test of drill, as Contingent Commander Hewitt filed in to join the Line of Three in their first tentative march. We had a great many sustain posture, focus and position, and no-one was caught "tick-tocking" with any flailing arms or poor timing. A very promising start, providing we can remember the expectations of Parade: silence, endurance, attention and crisp precision.



Meanwhile, a minor medical drama unfurled, when one of our cadets was suddenly taken ill and fainted during our drill session. This is not the sort of "passing out" the Army is used to! CSgt Layden saved the day and immediately administered first aid, sought the correct help and reassured the student as he came round and recovered.

Cadets also completed their first feedback session, submitting some extremely positive feedback and insightful suggestions, which will inform our planning for the rest of this year's training programme. By the end of December we hope to finalise a comprehensive course for all our recruits, ensuring they can be qualified in essential cadet skills, including Weapon Handling using a range of rifles by the end of the year.

Next week we will visit our associates, Royal Logistics Corps at Middleton Barracks, where cadets will meet the team and clamber over a number of key strategic military vehicles, with a hands-on opportunity to learn about Army careers and life.

Fundraising for the Sirius Skydive for HelpforHeroes continues and several of our jam jars have started to roll in, each raising over £25 each so far! What with these pots of gold accumulating anything from loose change to brand-new notes; staff sharing the Sirius Academy Green Jumpers link at JustGiving, and the business donation generator, GORaise, at this rate we will smash our target of £7500 in no time! Cadets are on the case promoting this incredible staff challenge, and students from all corners of the Sirius family are organising their own sponsored challenges to add to the Sirius fund. Many thanks to everyone for their contributions so far, and please keep the generosity coming in.

Special commendation goes to:

Alfie Denton for outstanding drill

CSgt Layden, AKA Dr. Hero McMedicFace

Shauna Burns for outstanding make up skills