Party, party, party!

The end of every term is an excuse for a special night – an urban hike and barbecue; an outing for indoor climbing, trampolining, ice skating, swimming etc; a red carpet movie night with fine food in the hall; a visit from Santa with Kris Kringle; there are many possibilities.

Term 2 has been a remarkable experience for Scouting in Victoria (and everywhere else). As most of us prepare to return to our halls, it is appropriate to celebrate the end of Term 2 with a special night for the last week of term.

You might do outdoor action like Patrol hikes (with BYO food).

Or you might all meet together on Zoom or similar.

Here are some ideas for (hopefully) our last online meetings ...

Games Night

Make it special, eg everyone has to wear a special hat, and bring a creative plate of party food.

With youth members, devise a set of scorable activities and have one Leader monitor the results, with the winner announced at the end of the night. The prize can be virtually presented, and later delivered.

Activities and games might include:

a) Fancy hats – points for the top three designs
b) Baby/toddler photos – share a set of photos of well-known members of the Section as babies or toddlers
c) Step through A4 – everyone tears a single A4 sheet in creative ways to make a hole big enough to step through. Equipment: A4 sheet, scissors
d) Local identity – another photo quiz, this time with unusual shots of local landmarks. Who can recognise where each photo was taken?
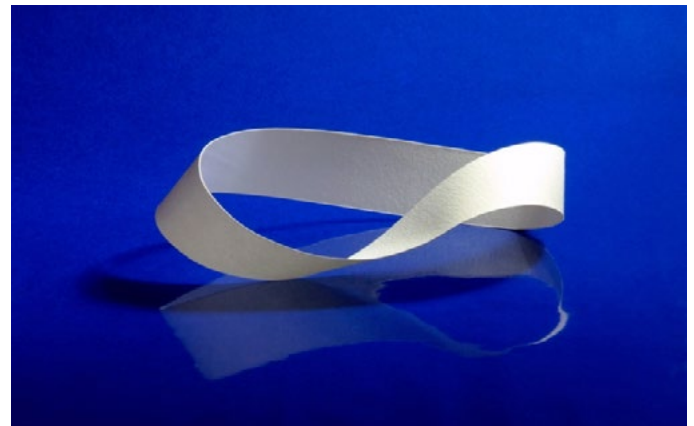e) Mobius rings – instructions without knowing the intended outcome.

References: https://euclid.ucc.ie/MATHENR/MathCircles_files/JP/mobius.pdf or https://brilliant.org/wiki/mobius-strips/

Scouts take a strip of paper, and do a half twist before sticking the two ends together. They then cut along the centre-line of the loop (to make a single double-size loop).

Version 2: Make a second Mobius strip with a half-twist then – instead of cutting along the centre line of the strip – cut a line which is one third of the width of the strip.

Version 3: Make a strip with two half twists then cut (to make two inter-connected loops).

A point for each achievement. Equipment: sheets of paper (eg newspaper) cut into strips, scissors, glue or tape.

f) Your own ideas!

Now it's to time to have supper together. Time for each member to reveal their prepared plate.

g) Supper – points for the top three creative plates of party food

Video Night

Patrol Leaders and Leaders could set up and share a series of short videos on a theme.

You could tour local attractions that you might visit for future outings, eg https://www.bounceinc.com.au

Some sites also feature in videos.

For example, Hard Rock at Nunawading: https://youtu.be/Yc8F6soIYxE

Or you could check out locations for camps or hikes, or other outdoor adventure.

For example, https://youtu.be/tB1aAjcX6rs

You could visit animals around the world.

For example, check out Melbourne Zoo's videos and livestreams at https://www.zoo.org.au/animals-at-home/

Or see unusual places and events around the world.

For example, the Castells of Tarragona: https://vimeo.com/52841171

- Choose a theme.
- Google live streams or short videos on You Tube or Vimeo.
- Plan a program.
- Get the person who selected each item to introduce it.

Another idea is to finish with a Kahoot quiz (see below) with a question on each video.

And a prize for the most observant, with the best memory.

Or do it simply, with a Netflix Party. You need someone with a Netflix account to share the chosen movie, while everyone watches from home, with group chat. Details at https://www.netflixparty.com

Minecraft Night

Definitely one for the young people to set up and run.

But why stop at Breakup Night? This is one activity that could run through the school holidays.

Kahoot Night

Kahoot is a platform for creating and running trivia quizzes. And other learning games.

(In the educational world, Kahoot is called a "student-response system".)

There's a short promo here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XzfWHdDS9Q

And a demo on how to set up a quiz here: https://youtu.be/pAfnia7-rMk

You'll find lots more useful short videos on You Tube.

Once you've set up the quiz, Scouts go to www.kahoot.it and enter the game code and their name.

Kahoot automatically calculates results and ranks players based on accuracy and speed.

Patrol Leaders and others can each set up a quiz based on agreed topics.

Topics might include sport, films, TV.

Or Scouting topics like your Section's program over the past year, or the history of your Group.

Or knotting, first aid, navigation, Scout Law and Promise, etc.

Questions and answers need to be sent to the meeting Host – or whoever has a Kahoot account – to set up the quizzes.

Then everyone gets to play each quiz in turn.

In a shared environment like the local Scout hall, questions might be projected on a screen, but for Scouting at Home the questions need to be accessed by the Host then they share their screen with all. Players answer by choosing the correct coloured shape on their device (phone, tablet, laptop, desktop etc).