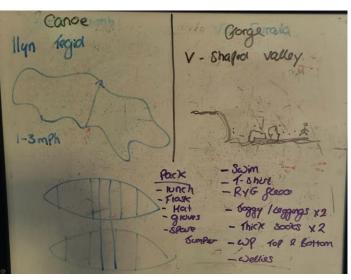
Let the activities and chores begin!

Overnight, everyone slept surprisingly well despite the considerable excitement levels. All the children made their early morning wake-up call and tidied their dorms ready for their first dorm inspection. The children all bowed their heads and saluted the adults as we entered their dorms, which we predicted may have had nothing to do with the inspection, but rather whether they could be rewarded with a spoonful of sugar on their breakfast (a luxury only for the adults!). The girls celebrated loudly when they found out they had won the first dorm inspection of the week. As a result, they have the honour of Henry the Hoover spending the next 24 hours with them.

Most of the talk over breakfast was about what activities they would be doing and the fact the children would also find out their instructors for the week. Whilst today was the start of the activities it also marked the beginning of the dreaded rota. Each day the children are responsible for a different task: preparing the dining room, cleaning out the minibuses, tidying the drying room, sweeping the outdoor areas or preparing the daily weather report. Renee, Angela, Willow, Marley and Vlad did an excellent job of informing everyone what we expected to find out and about. Temperatures the previous day have ranged from 2 - 14°C. They explained that with the high pressure showing on the weather station we should expect little change in the weather, this led to happy instructors as they agreed that we should have calm conditions allowing us to take to the lakes later that day.

Groups A and B enjoyed early morning Kayaking before spending the afternoon making their way carefully up a fast-flowing Gorge near the RYG centre. Groups C and D took a different route and decided to enter the hills rather than cross them; delving deep into one of the local mines.





Our daily routine

An example of our early morning briefing.

Once we returned to the centre and enjoyed some well-deserved downtime, it was then time for the annual RYG quiz. The children got into teams of four and went head-to-head to test our general knowledge. Naturally,

the team of teachers won, which was met with some resistance from the children, who accused them of cheating....

As yesterday was Easter Sunday, the adults hid lots of plastic eggs around and the children teamed up in their dorms to see who could find the most and be rewarded with Geoffrey the Giraffe. Eager not to have a repeat of this morning's defeat, the boys were victorious this time!

As always, tonight we gathered around the torches, we enjoyed our usual hot chocolate before introducing the children to the STAR OF THE DAY AWARDS. Everyday, the teachers select those children who showed the greatest determination and resilience, especially if they conquered a fear or as sometimes happens conquered one they only just discovered they had one. We also have a surprise award this year for the best leaders within teams. This may or may not feature the (un)lucky child wearing a giant daffodil mask to show their brilliance.

Miss Conn



The children saluting us (as they should!) ready for their dorm inspection



Our very helpful weather reporters briefing us

Group D being their usual selves





Group D burning their marshmallows













