TO: THE NEW CUB SCOUT FAMILY

You are reading this because you have shown an interest in becoming a Cub Scout family. To be a Cub Scout your son needs to be in the first grade (Tiger Cub). When he is in the second or third grade your son will be a Wolf or a Bear. Boys in grades four and five are called Webelos Cub Scouts.

You have chosen Cub Scouting because you know it is family and community centered. The Cub Scout program also assists in meeting your sons’ growth needs such as:

1. To learn new physical skills to develop the muscles of his hands. He can do this through games, writing and woodworking. As he develops these skills, he gains a level of confidence and acceptance by his peers.

2. To learn to get along with boys of his same age. He will form friendships with other participating boys. He will learn how to balance giving and receiving as it relates to working with his peers.

3. To develop his mental processes. He begins to develop this by reading, writing and calculating. He needs opportunities to use language to express ideas and to influence others. He will move from a preoccupation with self to understanding how and what others think of him. Opportunities for observation and experimentation will help him learn to rely on himself more than adults.

4. To develop a conscience. He will begin to develop a sense of what is right and wrong and what is fair and unfair. He will do this cooperating with other boys, and by being taught through examples set forth by adults. He will begin to develop democratic social attitudes.

5. To develop personal independence. He needs to be less dependent on adults. His same age buddies become his models. He learns to see adults as not being perfect.

These are just some of the developmental tasks young boys need to begin working on. He now needs a group of boys his own age for which to belong. This is where Cub Scouting will be a useful tool in his development. He will join a local neighborhood group in which he can gain status and recognition.

As you learn more about how Cub Scouting works and what goes on in a den and a pack, you will see that the program helps your son in these five important developmental needs. The uniqueness of Cub Scouting is that you, as his family, join the program with him. You will help him along the way.