



Tuesday, 15 December 2015

Dear Parents,

Swimming at Aqua Vale for children in Years 3, 4 and 5

Starting in January, our Key Stage 2 children will have weekly swimming lessons with school at Aqua Vale swimming pool. Classes 3A and 5A will swim on Tuesdays (starting on 12th January), and 3B and 4A will swim on Thursdays (starting on 14th January). Swimming will be for two terms (up to the end of the school year). As this is the first time that your child has swum at school, I thought that it would be helpful to give you some further information and we also require some information from you. I will send some more detailed information to you on the first day of next term.

Swimming teaching is shared by qualified swimming teachers at the pool, and our staff who have all undertaken training to do so. Our school swimming is underpinned by a very comprehensive safety policy, developed in conjunction with the Local Authority. Swimming is taught in small groups and the children will be placed in groups according to their experience and ability.

Children will need to be suitably equipped for swimming with the following items:

- swimming trunks for the boys (swim shorts are not permitted)
- one-piece swimsuits for the girls (two piece bikinis are not permitted)
- a large towel
- a bag in which to place their kit.
- a swim hat (boys and girls) - These can be bought very cheaply from sports stores or online

We discourage the use of goggles but if your child needs to use them for medical reasons, we will ask you to complete a form at the beginning of term. Please note that all long hair will need to be tied back.

In order to group the children most effectively for swimming and so that we can prepare appropriate activities, it would be very helpful if you could return the attached slip as soon as possible. We will assess the children as part of our swimming sessions but your information will help us to do so.

Please encourage your child to practise getting changed in and out of his or her swim gear and to get dried after swimming or bathing – this will help us tremendously. We have limited time at the pool and we don't want to waste a moment of swimming time.

The children will be travelling by coach to Aqua Vale pool with staff from the school. In the New Year, we will send you details about the cost of swimming and we will be inviting voluntary contributions towards the cost of providing the swimming lessons and coach travel.

If you have any questions about this exciting aspect of our PE curriculum, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Waldron



Years 3, 4 and 5 Swimming

Child's Name: _____

Child's Class: _____

Please describe your child's swimming confidence (please tick):

Little or no pool experience

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Non-swimmer, lacks confidence in the water

☐

Non-swimmer, confident in the water

☐

Beginner swimmer, can swim 5 – 10 metres unaided

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Intermediate swimmer, can swim at least 25 metres unaided

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Advanced swimmer, can swim at least 25 metres and can use a variety of strokes, swims regularly for a club or at regular lessons

☐

Any other useful information:

Signed: _____