



## Priory Junior School

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14<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents,

### Swimming Lessons – Year 6

Last year, the Year 5 swimming lessons were cut short by the period of school closure. We are keen to ensure that the children who had not yet reached the National Curriculum expectations for swimming have some time to focus on this before the end of Year 6.

We are very pleased to tell you that your child will now have swimming lessons during the first half of the Summer term at St Neots swimming pool. They will visit the swimming pool as a small group of children and receive tuition there.

Your child will swim every **Wednesday morning starting on 21<sup>st</sup> April. Their last lesson will be on 26<sup>th</sup> May.**

On your child's swimming day, they will need to bring:

- Towel
- Swimwear **(to be worn to school under school uniform)**
- Change of underwear
- Carrier bag for wet swimwear

Girls should wear a one-piece swimming costume, and boys should not wear shorts below the knees. They should not wear any jewellery, including earrings and long hair should be tied up.

Please do not provide your child with goggles. There are practical reasons for this, however, the main reason is that learning to swim without goggles is essential for being able to swim safely and proficiently. Due to government guidelines around changing rooms and communal showers, children will not be able to shower after swimming. Children should attend school as usual with their swimming clothing on under their school uniform.

Swimming is part of the National Curriculum – therefore, all children are required to take part. As well as learning to swim or improving their techniques, they will be taught important water safety skills.

Under the terms of the 1988 Education Act, we are not permitted to make a charge for swimming lessons. However, there is no funding provision to cover the coach travel to the pool. **We are very grateful that the St Neots Football Club have agreed to provide free minibus transport to the pool on these days.**

We do not require a permission slip for your child to take part in these lessons as this visit to the pool is covered by the off-site permission already granted. However, please give permission for your child to travel to and from the pool on the minibus (via Pupil Asset), along with an indication of your child's swimming ability by **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April** using the following survey link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qIXW86z5XEmPKkocU6KnEJzQlvmEaGROK99wfxFVzeVUOFRDNlJLRiVaV0NVRzdZNkgxRUhNU1Y5OS4u>



The school places the safety of its pupils and staff as its utmost priority. Of equal importance, is being able to minimise the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the education of our children. We have been working closely with One Leisure to ensure that the lessons will operate in a Covid-secure way.

As such, the following arrangements are in place for swimming lessons:

- Only one group will swim at any block of time – this will consist of 12 children.
- Equipment at the swimming pool will be sanitized before use.
- Social distancing measures will be in place at the swimming pool.
- Procedures for changing will be different, in line with government guidance – **please send your child to school with their swimming kit on under their uniform.** Children will place their clothes and towel into a basket when they arrive at the pool. They will collect the basket at the end of the lesson and change back into their school uniform, before returning to school. Please remember to put some clean underwear in their bag. The pool is not able to provide showering facilities at this time.
- Both the pool and minibus will be cleaned ahead of use by the school.

Should you have any questions about swimming lessons, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Emmess  
PE Subject Leader

