



North Rigton Church of England Primary School
Established 1851
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Headteacher: Mrs Amber Andrews

29th November 2017

Key Stage 2 Swimming Spring Term 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Next term there will be 10 weeks swimming tuition for all children in Key Stage 2. The lessons take place at the Hydro every Friday from 1.30pm until 2pm. The children will travel by coach leaving school at 12.50pm and returning at 2.45pm.

The swimming sessions will be held on:

January 12th, 19th, 26th
February 2nd, 9th & 23rd
March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd

Please ensure that your child comes with a towel and his/her swimming costume and swimming hat every Friday. The cost of the lessons and coach travel is £30* per child for the 10 week course.

Consent and payment to be made via ParentPay please.

Following feedback from parents last year, we have liaised with the Hydro and are pleased to inform you that the Hydro is able to offer the more competent swimmers activity based lessons such as snorkelling, water polo and lifesaving. Depending on the ability and number in the group, as an example they would normally offer 2 groups 5 weeks of one activity (snorkelling) and then the other (water polo or lifesaving).

We would like to take the opportunity to advise you that for Key Stage 2 children it is a **statutory requirement** for all primary schools to provide swimming lessons for their children.

The National Curriculum states within PE:

Swimming and Water Safety

All schools must provide swimming instruction in either Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2.

In particular, pupils should be taught to:

- *Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres*
- *Use a range of strokes effectively*
- *Perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations*





Just as we are not able to withdraw children from Maths and English lessons, as a school, we are not able to withdraw children from Swimming Lessons unless there is a specific medical or health related reason; please inform your class teacher immediately if this is the case. We recognise that some children have anxieties around swimming and water based activities and if this is the case please inform your class teacher immediately and we will ensure that your child is supported and cared for appropriately whilst at the pool.

Our school pays for the cost of the transport to and from the swimming pool and the cost of the swimming instructors. We ask for a voluntary contribution from parents to cover this cost. No profits are made on this activity and any shortfalls have to be covered by utilising monies from our school's budget. If you are experiencing financial difficulties please do speak to either the office staff or Headteacher in confidence, as there are partial bursaries/subsidies funded by both FoNR and a historical School Fund available.

The time spent in the pool is half an hour. The children are assessed during the first lesson and grouped appropriately. Our class teachers are not qualified swimming instructors so we rely on the capabilities of the staff at the pool. If you have any specific concerns regarding the quality of teaching and learning within the swimming lessons please pass these onto your class teacher who will then, in turn, pass them onto the instructor.

If your child's medical details have changed, please can you note any changes on the form attached. Parents of children with inhalers or relevant medicines please ensure that these are up to date and in school so that they can be taken to the swimming pool.

Finally, from the 4 options below, **please would you email the school** your child's swimming ability so that the Hydro can allocate instructors accordingly:

- Cannot swim
- Can swim 15m
- Can swim 50m
- Can swim 200m +

Yours sincerely

Miss Karen Ellis
Years 3/4 Class Teacher

Mrs Jodi Storey
Years 5/6 Class Teacher

*The Hydro reserves the right to increase the cost of the course should they deem that we have a high proportion of non-swimmers in our group which would result in a requirement for extra instructors. We will be able to confirm the costs once everyone's consent forms have been submitted.

