



Ashford Church of England Primary School

2 February 2017

Dear Year 3 Parents

Year 3 will begin their weekly swimming lessons at Bishop Wand School on Friday 21 April 2017.

As many of you will be aware, swimming is part of the National Curriculum and legally all children must participate. We are fortunate to benefit from an improved swimming environment for the children with lessons running at Bishop Wand School's private school swimming pool. This means only our children and support staff will be using the pool and its facilities.

Swimming will take place on a Friday, apart from the second week which will be on a Thursday (27th April). The first assessment lesson will take place on Friday 21 April. Following the assessment, the children will be divided into ability based groups. We expect they will be taught in small groups of 6/7 pupils. Non swimmers will be accompanied in the water by a qualified instructor. The following week the groups will have their lessons in the pool, based on the ability groupings and the subsequent timings for lessons.

Each lesson will be 30 minutes long. Groups will travel by approved school transport to and from Bishop Wand School. The groupings will be 20 children at a time. Groups will begin swimming at 9:30am, 10:00am and 10:30am respectively, returning to school straight after their lessons.

To help children please send your child to school in their swimming kit with a track suit (sweatshirt / jogging pants) on top on swimming days. Please send in a towel, goggles, a swimming hat and fresh underclothes along with their school uniform. Children will travel to Bishop Wand School wearing their tracksuits over swimming kit. They should take their underclothes, towel, goggles and hat to the pool with them in a named bag. After their lesson they will change into dry underclothes and their track suits. They will change into full school uniform on their return to school.

The school does receive some funding to help cover the cost of delivering swimming lessons, but this does not cover the cost of transport. We would ask parents to make a voluntary contribution of £45 per child towards the programme. Although the contribution is voluntary, any unpaid amounts have to be met from the school budget which will affect the amount of money we have available for other resources and equipment for the children. If you feel you will not be able to meet this additional expense, please contact the Finance Manager, Mrs L MacMahon to discuss the level of contribution you can make.

Payment can be made through the on line Tucasi system. If you prefer to pay by cash or cheque, please send in your payment in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name and class clearly identified. You may pay in weekly or monthly amounts if this helps.

We have included the list of the swimming dates for Year 3 for you to keep.

PTO



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Headteacher: Mrs C Dyer BA QTS (Hons) NPQH

Boys should wear trunks, not loose-fit shorts because it is easier to swim faster in trunks. Goggles are allowed. Swimming hats are essential as we are using a private pool. They help children because hair does not get in their way when they swim and it helps prevent getting headlice which love chlorinated water.

Year 3 Swimming Programme – 2017

Most swimming sessions will take place on Fridays. On swimming days children should come to school wearing their swimming kit with tracksuits over. They will need to bring a hat, swimming goggles, towel, fresh underclothes and school uniform into school in a separate bag. They will change into full school uniform when they have returned to school after their swimming lesson.

The dates are:

Friday 21 April	Assessment	
Thursday 27 April	Lesson 1	Please note this week swimming is on a Thursday
Friday 5 May	Lesson 2	
Friday 12 May	Lesson 3	
Friday 19 May	Lesson 4	
Friday 26 May	Lesson 5	

HALF TERM - (29 May – 2 June)

Friday 9 June	Lesson 6
Friday 16 June	Lesson 7
Friday 23 June	Lesson 8
Friday 30 June	Lesson 9
Friday 7 July	Lesson 10

Please complete the permission slip below and return it to the school as soon as possible

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Dyer
Headteacher

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Name of child: ----- Class: -----

I give permission for my child to attend swimming lessons at Bishop Wand School swimming pool on the specified dates. I understand my child will travel to and from the centre by coach.