

15th June 2017.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Swimming is a compulsory part of the Key Stage 2 curriculum and schools have a legal requirement to ensure that all pupils attend regular lessons so that they are able to swim and have knowledge of water safety. It is vital for their own safety that they are able to swim at least 25 metres.

Tomorrow, all children in Years 5 and 6 (including those in Class 7) will be taken to the swimming pool where it will be assessed if they can confidently swim 25 metres. Those children who can't will continue with the lessons each Friday until the end of term. We will let you know if your child will need to have their kit in school every week after tomorrow's lesson. If there is an occasion when your child is unable to swim they should bring a letter to school stating the reason. This will obviously be for an isolated occasion and not happen regularly.

Last year it was noted that some children were regularly absent on Fridays, missing not only swimming but other curriculum areas including Literacy and Numeracy and the distribution of homework. This will be monitored and any sessions missed will count towards a pupil being classes as a Persistent Absentee.

Swimwear

For Health and Safety reasons the following guidance is issued with regard to swimwear:

- Ideally boys should wear swimming trunks although **short** swimming shorts are allowed. Football shorts are not allowed as these have a tendency to become see through. Long shorts, particularly Bermuda shorts or those with pockets are also not allowed as these hamper the correct leg action and can either become heavy or if the pockets fill with air cause problems with buoyancy.
- Girls should wear a one piece costume.
- Girls with long hair should wear it securely tied back (preferably plaited). Children - both boys and girls - with longer hair should wear a cap. Caps

Help to keep hair drier, helping to reduce the problem of children returning to school with wet hair.

- In accordance with school rules no jewellery should be worn. Children who do come into school wearing earrings, necklaces, rings etc. will be asked to remove them so they can be put in an envelope in the school safe. The school cannot accept responsibility for any losses or damage.

On the rare occasion when children may forget their kits they will be provided with a clean costume or pair of shorts and towel by the school so that they are able to take part in the lesson. These will be washed by the school after every use.

Many thanks for your support and cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. N. Verdin.
Head Teacher.