

March 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

YEAR 4 SWIMMING LESSONS

Further to the parent information meeting on Wednesday 13th March, you will be aware that swimming lessons take place in the Summer term for Year 4. Your child will start on Thursday 18th April 2024. These lessons are part of the National Curriculum and are not optional. Your child will continue with swimming lessons every Thursday for a further two terms – Autumn 2024 and Spring 2025.

For lessons to begin next term I need to outline the guidelines and policy the school is given. The Harrow Schools' policy for swimming (see Harrow Schools' Guidelines for Swimming) is that children should not wear goggles. The objectives of these lessons are to teach children to swim, enhance swimming skills and to survive in the water. The lessons will take place on a Thursday morning.

Those children who suffer from extreme eye irritation, caused by chemicals in the pool, can wear goggles only if permission is requested on the form attached. I appreciate we have a number of club swimmers and that goggles are often necessary when in the water for long training periods, but the swimming lesson lasts only 30 minutes and most children should not need them.

The other requirements for swimming are as follows:

- For reasons of personal hygiene and safety all children are required to wear a **swimming hat** during lessons.
- **One-piece swimming costumes** for girls and **swimming trunks** (above the knee, not boxer/Bermuda shorts) for boys. They also need a **large, named towel and a waterproof bag** for their kit. Children with long hair may like a second towel for their hair.
- Children are allowed to bring roll-on deodorants, but not sprays.
- Children must bring a **coat** every week. They will not be able to attend the swimming lessons without a coat.
- **Please ensure ALL swimming items and uniform is labelled with your child's name.**
- Your child is encouraged to bring a **healthy snack** to eat after swimming.

As stated, swimming lessons are part of the National Curriculum and the school is funded to provide these sessions. However, the cost of transporting pupils to the swimming pool is not, and due to a reduced budget, and after approval from the Governing Body, the school has no option but to request a voluntary contribution of **£20.00 per term** in order for us to transport your child to and from the swimming pool. The school will set up payments for pupils in the Summer term. It is with regret that this request is being made but it will go a long way in ensuring that your child is able to complete the swimming programme on offer.

Medical Information

To enable us to up-date our records could you all please complete the form attached, indicating whether or not your child has a medical condition (e.g. asthma, epilepsy). If your child has any medication, please include this information on the form.

The first lesson will be on the morning of **Thursday 18th April**. **The attached form must be returned by Monday 25th March to your child's class teacher.**

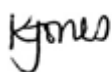
The highest levels of behaviour and respect to all adults are expected at all times and I would be grateful if you would discuss appropriate behaviour with your child. If there is an occasion when your child is unable to go swimming, we must have a letter from parents. If your child needs to be absent from swimming for a long period of time, a medical certificate will be required to explain why.

Please keep this letter for future reference as it contains important information.

The PowerPoint presentation which was shown to parents in the meeting on Wednesday 13th March is available to view on our website under News Stories.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely



MRS KAREN JONES
Headteacher



VAUGHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 4 SWIMMING LESSONS

SUMMER & AUTUMN 2024 and SPRING 2025

Child's name: Class:

Any medical condition (if so, please specify):

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Any medication (if so, please specify what and how it is administered):

.....

.....

I give permission for my child to participate in school swimming lessons and I will ensure that my child will have his/her medication with them.

My child suffers from irritation to the eyes due to the chemicals used in the pool and I request permission for my child to wear goggles.

Please tick as appropriate.

In the event of an emergency, please provide contact information:

Name:

Telephone Number(s):

Name:

Telephone Number(s):

Signature of Parent/Guardian: