



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Putting children first. Progress through partnership"

Headteacher - Mr Steve Abey

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16th October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers



SWIMMING FOR PUPILS IN YEAR 5

We are pleased to be able to go ahead this term with swimming lessons for our Year 5 pupils, as detailed in the letter circulated to parents in September. These lessons will take place on the following dates:

Friday 3rd November

Friday 10th November

Friday 17th November

Friday 24th November

Friday 1st December

Friday 8th December

Children will need swimming trunks/one piece swimsuit, a towel and goggles (optional) in a separate bag with their name clearly attached. Please note that it is a requirement of the pool that all children must wear a swimming hat; these are available to purchase from the School Office at a cost of £1. It is a health and safety requirement for earrings to be removed before each lesson; it is better for your child to leave earrings at home on these days, alternatively, they must be removed independently by your child in school.

The cost of the hire of the pool, transport to and from the pool and the salary of the swimming instructor means that an hour long taught lesson is very good value for money at £6. The cost of swimming can be paid weekly (£6) or by one payment of £36 at the start of the sessions. We prefer the use of our online payment system, School Gateway. If a swimming session cannot take place due to pool closure or staff illness, the money paid in advance for that session will be refunded.





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All schools must provide swimming instruction either in 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 using a range of strokes effectively (for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke). Not only do lessons enable children to develop effective swimming skills, they ensure that they work towards acquiring an important life skill, being safe in and around water.

The sessions are led by a highly experienced and fully qualified swimming teacher, Mrs Elaine Hill, who has worked in this role for many years; the children are also supported by the children's own class teacher and classroom support staff. Children of varying abilities are all supported accordingly and the content of each swimming lesson is adapted so that every child is able to progress and develop, from those who are water-shy and not yet able to swim to those who swim competitively for local swimming clubs. We appreciate that a few children may not enjoy swimming as much as others but the opportunity of learning to swim in this environment usually helps them to overcome any anxiety they may have. Please discuss this with staff beforehand.

If you have any questions in relation to any aspect of these swimming lessons, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Salisbury in the School Office.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Abey

Headteacher