

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, after completing extensive research, discussing the guidance for Swimming with our Governors, the Health and Safety Officer at the Borough and the UK National Swimming Bodies. We were very excited to offer swimming to the children who were in school before the summer holidays. We have also taken the decision to continue swimming for the first part of this autumn term.

Whilst the children are in the water the virus is not transmitted due to the chemicals (Bromine) killing it. We have therefore just had to review, organise and write a risk assessment for the pupils when they are changing and are waiting pool side, ensuring that adhere to social distancing requirements.

We have made plans for each bubble to swim in their year bubbles in groups and the timetable is included with this letter.

Our swimming will be taught by our very experienced Swimming Teachers, Mrs Turton and Ms Butler and there will always be a class teacher at the poolside as well.

We are offering swimming to all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 who are in school. As we go on through September and in to October, we will be keeping a close eye on the weather, and more importantly, the air temperature. We will complete dynamic risk assessments, using guidance from Swim England, and we will let you know when swimming will stop for the winter.

We are also incredibly grateful to the Governors who have managed to find the funding for our swimming from other funding sources just for this year. **This means that we will not have to ask you for donations for this autumn!**

There are of course a few rules to follow so that the children are safe and the pool will remain in top condition:

- * All children will wear a hat in the water, named please. These can be bought from the office for £2.00. Place the correct money in an envelope with your child's name and send it into school
 - * Girls should wear a **one piece suit** and boys should wear **trunks/shorts that come no longer than mid thigh not knee length Bermuda style**. Without the correct kit, they will not be able to swim.
 - * All pupils will need a named towel in a named swimming bag and a pair of flip-flops or crocs.
 - * No jewellery will be worn in the pool. This includes all forms of earrings. If children are unable to remove their earrings, they will **not** be allowed to swim. Please do not have children's ears pierced this term as this is effectively an open wound and they will not be allowed to swim. It might be helpful if they do not wear earrings on swimming days. Please cover the Sikh bangle with a sweatband as they do for P.E.
 - * Children with verrucas must have them covered with either nail varnish or 'Bazooka' by a parent/carer, or they will not be allowed to swim.
 - * Asthmatic/anaphylactic children must have an inhaler/epipen in school so that it can be kept at poolside.
 - * If your child has been suffering from diarrhoea or vomiting within 48 hours of them swimming they **must not** swim. Can you please let their bubble teacher know via a note.
 - * Please **do not** send your child with any creams, talcum powder or spray deodorants.
- Let's all hope for continued warm sunny weather for as long as possible!

Yours sincerely

Alison Fox - Headteacher