



Witton Church Walk Church of England Primary School

28th March 2017

Dear Parents,

SWIMMING LESSONS – Year 5 Non- Swimmers

As from Wednesday 26th April, Year 5 Non-Swimmers will be swimming at Sir John Deane's pool. The dates are 26th April, 3rd May, 10th May, 17th May, 24th May, 14th June, 21st June, 28th June and 5th July.

We will be walking to and from the pool – leaving school at approximately 9.00am and returning at approximately 11.00am so please ensure your child arrives for school at 8.50am.

Your child will need a towel and either a swimming costume or trunks, please note NOT Bermuda shorts or trunks with pockets, as these tend to inflate and could be dangerous. Please ensure that all swimwear and towels are labelled and carried in a strong bag. It is advisable that they have a coat in school for our walk to and from the pool.

Following recent enquiries as to whether children may wear goggles for school swimming, we have clarified the position with Cheshire's Sports Advisor. The advice is as follows:

The British Association of Advisors and Lecturers in Physical Education and Cheshire's policy is that pupil's should not wear goggles for swimming.

Reasons given:

- Pupils would not have goggles in their pockets if they did fall into water
- Usually lessons are for 30 mins duration so the pupils are not exposed to the water for a long time
- Nationally a number of pupils have been blinded by goggles when they been flicked by other pupils. In swimming lessons in the evening usually parents are present to supervise the pupils until they are with the instructor at the pool. This is not the case for school swimming. In some cases pupil e.g. boys may not be closely supervised at the pool because the staff are all female.

Pupils whose eyes react badly to the water are able to wear goggles if they bring a doctors note.

To comply with the above guidance, we would ask that if you still wish your child to wear goggles, they will need a doctor's note.

Please try to leave all watches and jewellery, especially earrings, at home on swimming days, as the class teachers cannot be responsible for these items.

If your child needs to carry an inhaler please make sure that it is clearly named.

Learning to swim is not an optional extra, it is a requirement of the National Curriculum. As a school it is our responsibility for all children to have the opportunity to reach national curriculum standard in swimming. In order to give all our children this opportunity we took the decision two years ago to take ALL Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 children. This decision has been a huge success and we have only taken non-swimmers in Year 6 to maximise the opportunity for all

Swimming folder

children to reach the standard. Due to this success the Governing Body have supported my decision to take non-swimmers from Years 5 & 6 starting from this year.

We need your permission to take your child off the school premises, therefore we would be grateful if you would sign and return the permission slip below **by** Friday 31st March please.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Parr



SWIMMING AT SIR JOHN DEANE'S POOL - Summer term 2017

I give permission for my child _____
to take part in the swimming lessons and to walk to Sir John Deane's College.

Signed _____ Parent/guardian