



DEANWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Long Catlis Road, Parkwood, Gillingham, Kent ME8 9TX

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Head of School: Mrs J Wright

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs E Russell

Tuesday 16th July 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Swimming Lessons

We wanted to contact you to let you know about the revised plans for our swimming lessons starting in September. With the old Splashes Centre now rebuilt and now known as Cozenton Park Leisure Centre, we have been extremely lucky to have gained a weekly swim slot at this new complex.

Swimming forms a component of the National Curriculum for PE at KS2, and all children are expected to take part, whatever their ability. With this in mind and our new venue we wanted a fresh approach to the lessons we offer the children so we have teamed up with Medway School Swim Support an organisation overseen by Ryan Neal a Swim England Educator and swimming co-ordinator. Ryan and his team will be our swimming instructors pool side supporting and encouraging the children through the 6 week course. In addition the class teacher and teaching assistants from each class will be on hand offering support.

The sessions are organised so the children work in groups according to their swimming ability and we would be grateful if you could spend a few moments completing your assessment on the attached form. If this could be returned to the school office as soon as possible but not later than Thursday 5th September, details can be collated for the instructors so they have an idea before they undertake a full poolside assessment on each child.

We feel these changes will positively enhance the experience for your child and highlight the enjoyment of this life skill and the importance of water safety.

We have also spent some considerable time looking at travel arrangements to the venue and how we can best manage the increasing costs of coach hire.

So, the swimming arrangements for next year will be as follows:

- All children in KS2, Years 3 to 6 will have 6 weeks of swimming lessons every Thursday
- Two classes will go at the same time:
 - Term 1 - Years 4 & 5 starting Thursday 12th September to Thursday 17th October
 - Term 2 - Years 3 & 6 starting Thursday 7th November to Thursday 12th December
- A double decker bus has been arranged to transport the children to and from the venue and by taking 2 classes at once this reduces the costs per child.
- The bus will leave Deanwood at 11am for our 11:30am swim slot. The children returning to school for their lunchtime.



March 2024



Can we ask that the children come in wearing their swim costumes under their school uniforms, where possible. If boys are wearing swimming shorts, these can be worn with their usual school top.

Your child will need to make sure they bring a towel and a swim hat if this is something they prefer to wear.

The cost to the school is £5.85 per week per child to cover the cost of the coach, swimming instructors and lifeguards and pool hire. We are therefore asking for a payment of £5.85 per week to cover these costs and your child will be offered 6 sessions. (Total contribution £35.10). Payable weekly or in full whichever is easiest for you.

Please can we ask that bookings/consent for this Swimming activity along with any payments are made via your child's Arbor account.

For children in Years 4 & 5, consent must be received via the Arbor Swim Trip by 6pm on Friday 6th September & for children in Years 3 & 6 by Friday 1st November.

We aim to open the Arbor portal on 1st September 2024,

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this activity please contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely,



Miss V Manewell
Year 1 Class Teacher
PE Co-ordinator

Swimming Assessment

Childs Name:

Child's Class:

Please rate your childs swimming ability by ticking one of these options :

Non Swimmer	
Can swim up to 5 metres	
Can swim up to 10 metres	
Confident swimmer 25+ metres	

We understand at the new Cozenton Park Leisure Centre, there is a flume which towards the end of the course may be available to us. We have been advised the flume exits into shallow water. Before your child can access the flume we do need your permission.

I give / do not give permission for my child to use the flume at Cozenton Park.

Signed:

Parents Name:

Dated: