



Wednesday 17th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Swimming Lessons – Class 8 (Current Class 4)

At the start of Year 2 (next term – Autumn 1, 2024), Class 8 (currently Class 4) will have swimming lessons at The Royal Russell Swimming Pool, Coombe Road, Croydon on Tuesday mornings from 11am to 11.30am.

The sessions will take place for your child on the following dates:

Tuesday 10 th September 2024	Tuesday 1 st October 2024
Tuesday 17 th September 2024	Tuesday 8 th October 2024
Tuesday 24 th September 2024	

(Five Sessions)

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

We will be travelling to the pool each week in a mini bus driven by a member of staff who is a qualified, experienced driver from Croydon Accessible Transport. There will be a 'double run' there and back to transport the children. We shall leave our school at approximately 10.20a.m. for the first run and 10.30a.m. for the second and return by approximately 12.00p.m. and 12.15p.m. respectively. Lunch will be unaffected.

LESSONS

The classes will be taken by two qualified swimming instructors/lifeguards and there will be other lifeguards stationed around the pool. The children will also be accompanied by their class teacher and teaching assistant. We have given considerable thought to ensure the children's safety and well-being and have been impressed by the facilities and personnel which have been made available for our use.

COSTUMES AND EQUIPMENT

Children should wear either a one-piece costume or swimming trunks (**not** Bermuda style shorts). Please ensure that all clothes are clearly named.

It is now compulsory for all children to wear swimming hats to their lessons if their hair is long enough to fall onto their face when swimming i.e. not cut short. Silicone hats have been recommended, for reasons of ease, identification and comfort. It has also been recommended to us that should you wish to purchase goggles for your child, 'Zoggs' or Speedos' are the best brands. (Name tape attached!).

Pool rules state that no earrings are allowed to be worn during the session and therefore should be removed at home before the school day. No other jewellery items are permitted. Towels should be medium sized so that children can cope effectively with them and should be wrapped around the costume and put in a named bag.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is no longer necessary for your child to wear a special sock if they have a verruca.

Should your child have eczema or a similar skin allergy, they can shower both before and after the lesson. Any necessary creams should be applied at home. In very severe cases arrangements, by agreement, can also be made for cream to be applied immediately before and after the lesson.

Children who suffer from asthma should have an inhaler and spacer in school, so we can take it with us, should they need medication during the lesson.

Armbands and additional floating equipment are provided, so children need not bring these with them.

Although there will be two members of school staff supervising, emphasis will be placed upon each child drying themselves. So please encourage your child to practise at home!

PAYMENT AND CONSENT

Finally, to contribute towards the costs, we need to request a voluntary donation of **£20.00** for each child. This should be paid on or before **Wednesday 4th September**. Your contribution will be put towards the cost of transport, the hire of the pool and personnel. If there are particular reasons why you are unable or unwilling to make this donation, please see a member of the Headship Team and each case will be dealt with confidentially and on an individual basis.

To reduce our paper usage, we are now taking consent via ParentPay. Prior to check out, you will be asked to tick a box to consent to your child taking part in swimming lessons. By ticking this box, you consent to the following:

I give permission for my child to travel to The Royal Russell School, in the School minibus, for the purpose of receiving swimming instruction, on the following **Tuesday mornings – 10th, 17th and 24th September and 1st & 8th October 2024**.

- I will ensure that my child arrives at school on each of the above dates with their **full swimming kit including a towel** to partake in each lesson.
- I will ensure that any **earrings are removed** at home before the school day
- I understand that if, for any reason, I require my child to be exempted from a swimming lesson, this must be submitted in writing to Ms Charman, Headteacher, giving at least 24 hours prior notice.

We look forward to all children leaving this school being able to swim and feeling at ease in water.

Yours sincerely,

Ms J Charman
Headteacher