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EASTRY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
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23rd June 2021

Dear Parents

Swimming in Year 2, 3, 4 & 5 – Academic Year 2021-22

We are pleased to inform you that swimming lessons have been arranged for the next academic year for Year 2, 3, 4 & 5. This is subject to any restrictions due to Covid-19 and we will keep you informed should anything change.

Lessons will be on a Thursday afternoon at Tides in Deal between 1.15pm to 2.30pm and will be for 45 minutes rather than the usual 30 minutes. Children will leave school at 12.45pm, travelling by coach, and return before the end of the school day. Children will eat their lunch before leaving school for their swimming lesson.

Lessons have been arranged taking in to account the number of swimming lessons missed during the pandemic either this year or the latter part of last year. We have given priority to those year groups who have missed the most swimming lessons and these have been arranged as follows;

Year 4	Thursday, 9 September to Thursday, 16 December inclusive (excluding half-term)	14 weeks
Year 3	Thursday, 6 January to Thursday, 31 March inclusive (excluding half-term)	12 weeks
Year 2	Thursday, 21 April to Thursday, 26 May inclusive	6 weeks
Year 5	Thursday 9 June to Thursday, 21 July inclusive	7 weeks

Swimming is a statutory part of the National Curriculum. It states that pupils should be taught to: “*swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres*”. We feel that our children will benefit enormously from obtaining a good standard of water skills so that they can enjoy water activities and play safely when they are around water particularly in the coastal area where live.

The lessons are taken by qualified swimming instructors and the children will be accompanied by their teachers. Children will be divided into groups depending on their swimming ability. Those children who have already gained their 25 metres or above will be in the upper groups. They will focus on refining their strokes, building up their stamina and work towards swimming greater distances.

The cost of each lesson, which covers a 45 minutes swimming lesson by a qualified swim instructor and transport to and from the swimming pool, will be £10.50 per week. Further details regarding payment and consent will be sent nearer to the time of your child’s swimming lessons but we wanted to let you know as soon as possible should this effect any plans you may be making for swimming lessons from September. ***(If you are unable to pay please let the school office know immediately, we really appreciate you telling us)***. In line with legislation and the school governors’ policy statement on the subject, we would like to remind you that no pupil will be prevented from going on an educational visit during school hours through inability to pay. Regular attendance for swimming is expected.

Kind regards

Sarah Moss
Headteacher