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Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Year 4 and 5 Parents

### **Pop-Up Swimming Pool Programme - Autumn 2024**

As part of our PE curriculum, our Year 4 and 5 children will be starting a group of fifteen swimming sessions in the second half of the Autumn term. We have changed our swimming provision for the 2024/2025 academic year. I am delighted to let you know that your children will be the first to be taking part in a pop-up pool programme, Swim:ED.

Swimming lessons will take place in a pop-up swimming pool that will be situated on our school playground. The programme aims to give children the skills and knowledge to perform safe self-rescue and acquire the lifelong skill that is swimming. Children will be taught by qualified swimming instructors supported by staff from Swim:ED, and lessons will be supervised by qualified lifeguards. The programme provides a perfect opportunity for your child to learn swimming and self-rescue skills in a controlled safe environment.

The Pop-Up Pool will be available for us to use for a total of six weeks from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and each Year 4 and 5 class will swim every day for three weeks. Before the programme starts, we will need to secure your consent for your child to take part in the swimming lessons and Swim:ED will need some information on your child's current swimming ability and experience so they can group them accordingly.

Please complete the consent form and questions contained in the survey via the following link.

<https://forms.office.com/e/w2c0WHqsyf>

By completing this form, you are also consenting to your child taking part in these swimming lessons.

Children in Year 4 and 5 will take part in swimming lessons for 45 minutes every day for 3 weeks. Sessions will take place during school time on the following dates:

Year 4: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November to Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Year 5: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November to Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024

The National Curriculum expectation is that every child should leave primary school being able to:

- Swim confidently, competently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres.
- Use a range of swimming strokes effectively, for example, front crawl and backstroke.
- Demonstrate safe self-rescue and evidence of this in different water-based situations.

To help children and parents prepare for our new swimming programme, we are pleased to share the following information about the Swim:ED programme.

## What is a Pop-up Pool?

A pop-up pool is a fun and exciting addition to a school's PE programme. With dimensions of approximately 10m x 5m and a depth of 1.2m, the above-ground pool structure provides a high-quality and safe swimming experience for children. The pool meets industry standards and safety requirements, ensuring that all children can enjoy a fun and secure swimming experience. Equipped with a filter and pool heater to maintain a safe water temperature, the pool is situated under a 9x15m marquee.



This image provides a visual example of the pool, its setup, and structure.

## What can you do to prepare your child for school swimming lessons?

- Go swimming as a family before they start their lessons.
- Visit the Swim England parent hub at [www.swimming.org/learntoswim](http://www.swimming.org/learntoswim)
- Find your local pool at [www.swimming.org/poolfinder](http://www.swimming.org/poolfinder)
- Talk positively about going swimming and the importance of learning to swim.
- Ensure they are able to dress and undress themselves and dry themselves independently, including getting into and out of their swimwear.
- Support children who may feel nervous by practising blowing bubbles under water, splashing water over their face and submerging their face in water - all of which you can do at bath time.

## What should children wear for swimming?

- Girls must wear a one-piece swimming costume.
- Boys must wear swimming trunks or swimming shorts (above the knee).
- All children must wear a swimming hat - these can be provided.
- Goggles may be worn but remain the responsibility of the individual wearer.
- Jewellery is not permitted - earrings, waterproof watches, Fitbits, etc. must be removed.
- All children will need to bring a towel with them to dry themselves after their session.

**Important – On swimming days, children should not wear any hair products or sun cream as they affect the water quality and clarity which may affect the pool's operation.**

We are confident that this will be an amazing opportunity for our children and each child will enjoy longer pool time than was possible when we swam at the Waterloo Leisure Centre.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Charlotte Faithfull  
Headteacher