



9th November 2018

Swimming lessons for Year 5 in the Spring Term

Dear Parents

We are writing to let you know, in good time, about swimming arrangements this year. There will be a 10 week block of swimming lessons for Year 5 in the Spring term which will begin on **Wednesday 23rd January 2019**; the last session will be on Wednesday 3rd April.

We are occasionally asked by parents why their child should go swimming when they can already swim. It is important to consider the social and emotional development attached to swimming with school; a greater independence is expected and the children are mixing with children of their own age. Swimming can be a real boost to self-esteem for those children who struggle academically but are very able at sports. There are no other areas of the curriculum where we impose a ceiling on children's learning; every pupil needs to be given the chance to fulfil their potential and become the best they can. For those children who can already swim, the lessons are structured so that they have specific tuition to help them build up stamina and improve the quality of their technique. There is a new awards system this year that pupils can work towards and this has been a real success in challenging good swimmers and developing their survival skills.

The Governing Body has taken the decision to ask parents of children swimming for a voluntary contribution of £3.50 each session. This is primarily used to cover the cost of transport to the swimming pool and represents good value for money for a 30 minute lesson in a small group. Schools have a relatively small amount of money and have large demands on their budget with the majority of the school budget being used for staffing costs and learning resources. The Governors at Sutton CP are keen to provide our children with lots of opportunities to extend and enhance their learning and the school budget simply does not stretch to all of these. Along with Governors from other local primary schools, we have decided to ask for voluntary contributions – in this way we can make our money go further. Regardless of the size of your child's class, the voluntary contribution requested is the same across Key Stage 2 (**overall, school makes no profit from organizing swimming lessons - *see over**).

No child will be excluded from an activity during the school day if a parent is unwilling or unable to pay. However, if insufficient contributions are received, swimming lessons may have to be cancelled.

In order to assist with budgeting, a ParentPay facility will be available which you can pay into at any time between now and the Monday before swimming starts - Monday 21st January 2019.



Sutton in Craven Community Primary School

The total cost of the 10 lessons will be £35.00 and we would ask that parents have made a contribution for at least the first 5 (£17.50) before Monday 21st January, with the balance of £17.50 payable after this.

There will be a further letter at the start of next term with details of what is needed for the swimming lessons.

We have found that having a block of lessons like this gives much better outcomes for the children. Thank you for your support in making this happen. If you have any further queries about swimming, please contact school.

Kind regards

Jill Fletcher

Deputy Headteacher

*Costings	Number of children: 31	Cost per head per lesson
Entrance	£24.80	£0.80
Transport	£88.00	£2.84
Insurance	£ 8.37	£0.27
Swimming teachers	£18.50	£0.59
Total	£139.67	£4.50
*Minimum voluntary contribution across KS2		*£3.50