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Headteacher: Mr I Horner

3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Rowan Class Swimming

Monday 6th September – 18th October 2021



We are pleased to inform you that swimming sessions will commence at the Bicester Leisure Centre with effect from next week. Rowan Class will be swimming during the first half of the Autumn Term as part of P.E. in the National Curriculum - starting on Monday 6th September until the 18th October (7 sessions). **Please note that only Year 4 will be swimming on 20th September due to the Woodlands residential.** In the Summer Term, I personally visited the Leisure centre to meet with the centre manager and assess their 'COVID-safe' measures. During Rowan and Oak Class' swimming sessions, I was satisfied that there were appropriate steps being taken to avoid our school group coming into close contact with members of the public and centre staff, and that an enhanced cleaning regime was in place. Learning to swim 25m before transferring to secondary school is the key aim of the Physical Education curriculum and we feel that is important to resume teaching this vital life-skill to the pupils as soon as we are able.

Please remember that your child will be required to bring their swimming kit, a one piece costume for girls and trunks or swimming shorts (not long shorts) for boys, towel, a swimming hat (the Sports Centre does not allow children in school parties to swim without one and we do not have any spares in school) and a suitable bag to carry everything in. Earrings must be completely covered or removed.

Goggles can only be worn with an accompanying note explaining a medical reason. Please note this **does not** have to come from your GP. Becoming safer in and around water is the main aim of swimming sessions and, as children would not necessarily have goggles in an emergency situation, it is preferable that they are able to swim safely without them.

We are keen for the pupils not to miss any swimming lessons if at all possible, and minor injuries or illnesses need not prevent your child taking part. However, if your child is unable to take part in a session, please inform their teacher either in person, with a written note or e-mail.

We ask you to make a contribution of £21.00 (£3 per session) towards the cost of transport (£18.00 for those in Year 5). Please make this payment online via Scopay with your permission by Monday 6th September 2021. The children will be travelling to Bicester Leisure Centre by coach.

Yours sincerely, Mr I Horner