



ST THOMAS' CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mrs Claire Gilmour

Monday 1st April 2019

Dear Parents,

As you know, in Year 4 we go swimming in the Summer Term as part of our PE curriculum. One of the swimming teachers came in today, to talk to the children about it and they are now all very excited! Swimming lessons will take place on Thursday mornings, starting on **Thursday 25th April**. Please complete the forms at the end of this letter and return it to school ASAP, so we can be sure you have received this information.

We travel to swimming by coach to St Anne's Pool, setting off at 8:45am and swimming for one hour (9am till 10am). Therefore your child will need to be at school from 8:30am (**8.40am at the latest**) every Thursday. The register will be taken at 8.40am and at 8.45am we set off, leaving the register at the front door. If your child is not present by the time we get on the coach, we will not be able to take him/her. Children who arrive after the coach has left should go into school and report straight to the school office, who will arrange for them to stay with another class until we return.

We do hold medical information on your child in school, but please mention on the attached form anything at all you think we need to know which is relevant to swimming. For example if your child has difficulty seeing at a distance without glasses or hearing in a noisy situation, any minor physical problems etc, as well as any existing medical conditions. Of particular importance is asthma; if your child has asthma, even if they have not had an attack for a while, this should be mentioned on the form and then they must have their inhaler with them on Thursday mornings or they will not be allowed to swim.

Swimwear: the children will require short swim trunks (fitted) for boys or one piece costumes (girls). They will not be allowed to swim in bikinis or very loose or long (below the knee) shorts. Any colour is fine. If the children turn up in a costume that the swimming teachers consider unsuitable on the first day, they will be allowed to swim that day and will be given guidance on what to buy, but they will not be allowed to swim in unsuitable swimwear on future weeks.

Hair: all children whose hair is long enough to reach across to their eyes or mouth require a swimming cap. Again, the children will not be allowed to swim without wearing a cap if the swimming teachers consider that one is necessary.

Jewellery: children will not be allowed to swim in **any** item of jewellery including ear-rings, even if they have just had their ears pierced. **Please remove all jewellery before sending your child to school.**

Goggles: the swimming service recommend that goggles are **not** used as children would not be wearing goggles if they fell in to water. However, if you feel that you wish for your child to wear goggles, please complete the form provided.

I'm sorry if this seems a rather long list of dos and don'ts, but, as I'm sure you will realise, these rules come from the swimming service rather than from school. If you have any further questions or concerns about school swimming lessons, do of course feel free to contact me at school and I will do my best to answer them.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Farrar.

