

Ridgeway Infant School

Learn to love, love to learn

Uplands Avenue, Littleover, Derby, DE23 1GG

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Acting Headteacher: Mrs T Dale



Monday 10th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 2 Swimming Lessons

I am writing to inform you that all Year 2 children will start their swimming lessons on **Friday 14th September 2018**. Before we are able to take your child swimming we must obtain your consent. Please complete and return the slip attached to this letter before **Wednesday 12th September 2018 otherwise your child will not be able to swim**.

This term swimming lessons will cost **£33.80 for the full 13 weeks** until Christmas. Payments can be made in cash, by cheque (made payable to Ridgeway Infant School) or ScoPay from today. This is superb value for money (£2.60 per week) when compared to prices charged by external swimming organisations! Payments can be made in four instalments of £8.45 payable at the beginning of each month.

In order to run this unique opportunity for our children we rely heavily upon our parent's support. In the last academic year, Ridgeway had to fund a very large proportion of the swimming cost due to some parents not making any contributions. Unfortunately this was not sustainable and was having a concerning impact on the school budget. Sadly, this resulted in the cancellation of swimming lessons and the reduction from 6 terms swimming lessons over Key Stage 1 to three terms.

Though swimming is an invaluable part of our PE curriculum, we may be unable to continue offering swimming lessons completely if we do not work together in raising the funds for this to continue. Therefore, at the end of the Autumn Term, swimming will be evaluated and a decision will be made as to whether swimming will continue into the Spring Term. We absolutely appreciate that, at times, it is just not possible to make a contribution. However, if you are able to contribute any part of the payment, we would be extremely grateful.

Swimming has had a huge impact upon all of our children and last year 100% of our Year 2 children were able to travel to safety in the water unaided when they finished their lessons at Easter. Despite not swimming for the full two years, 28% of these children had already achieved the expectations required at the end of Key Stage 2, by the time they left Ridgeway. This was a fantastic achievement and further highlights the importance of providing swimming to our children in the future.

In order to participate in swimming lessons your child must have **a towel, swimming costume/trunks and a swimming hat (please ensure your child's name is on every item)**. Some children prefer to wear goggles, however these are not essential. We strongly advise boys to wear trunks/fitted shorts as opposed to board shorts as these fill with air and make swimming difficult. Please send your child's swimming kit in a waterproof bag on the day of swimming. Bags are available to buy from the school office for £4 and swimming hats for £2.50.

Understandably, at times some children forget their swimming kit. We now have some items of spare swimming kit, along with a few spare towels. These are washed by a member of school staff

after they have been used and are in good condition. Please indicate on the form attached as to whether or not you consent to your child borrowing spare kit if they forget their own. However, please do not regularly rely on this kit as there is a limited amount.

Many thanks for your continued cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss M Bailey

Swimming Leader

MBailey@ridgeway.derby.sch.uk

FAO: Class Teacher

I give/do not give (delete as appropriate) consent for my child _____
in class _____, to attend weekly swimming lessons at Gayton Swimming pool on a Friday morning.

I give/ do not give (delete as appropriate) consent for my child to borrow spare kit from school in
the situation that they have forgotten their own.

Signed: _____

Date: _____