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28<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### **Squirrels Class Swimming Lessons**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our Year 3 and Year 4 children will be starting swimming lessons on 9th January 2025. This will take the place of their second weekly PE lesson. The KS2 National Curriculum requirement is that all children can perform safe self-rescue in different water based situations and swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres by the end of Year 6. Lessons are a statutory requirement of the National Curriculum, and not optional. These lessons will be the children's second PE session as well as the Friday PE lessons with PH Sports.

Squirrels class will be having swimming lessons at Five Rivers Leisure Centre, Hulse Rd, Salisbury SP1 3NR. For more information about Five Rivers Leisure Centre <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/4380/Overview> The children will be swimming during term time on Thursday mornings, commencing on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January until Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The swimming lessons start at 10:30am and finish at 11.00am, therefore the children will be back at school for lunchtime. Children will travel on a Pewsey Vale Coach, Pewsey Vale Coaches Ltd, Hollybush Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire, SN9 5BB [www.pewseyvalecoaches.co.uk](http://www.pewseyvalecoaches.co.uk) accompanied by Mrs Hillier, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Tooke.

We have two pools booked, the main pool for confident swimmers and the learner pool for children who need a higher level of support. Both pools have lifeguards to monitor children's safety. We have employed qualified swimming coaches to teach in both pools. All children will need to bring swimming costume/trunks and a towel for changing. Costumes must be one piece (no bikinis), trunks or board shorts, please make sure the shorts are not baggy. Goggles and a swimming hat are also recommended. Please note: Children will need to put their swimming hat on independently. Wearing a hat enables the swimming teachers to easily identify children in the pool.

We are committed to providing access to affordable swimming lessons, and usually the school would ask for a contribution from parents. This year, we have made the decision, to fully fund all aspects of the lessons. Therefore there will be no charge for swimming lessons. Please complete the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/kWJB5yK11M> to provide your consent for your child to attend the lessons and travel by coach by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024. If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact the office. If you need financial support to purchase any of the required resources, please contact Miss Priestley.

Kind regards,

*S Priestley*

Head Teacher

Miss S Priestley

