

# Earls Barton Primary School

Broad Street  
Earls Barton  
Northampton  
NN6 0ND

**Telephone:** 01604 810371

**Website:** [www.earlsbartonprimary.org.uk](http://www.earlsbartonprimary.org.uk)

**Headteacher:** Mrs P D Shacklady

Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

## YEAR 4 & 5 SWIMMING LESSONS

This year we will be taking year 4 and year 5 children swimming. The course of swimming lessons will be at Waendel Leisure Centre pool starting on either **Thursday 10th January or Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January for 10 weeks, ending on either 21<sup>st</sup> March or Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March.**

Our pool time is from **10:30 - 11:30 on Thursday and 9.30 – 10.30am on Friday** which we will divide into half hour slots. In the first week all year 5 children will attend on Thursday and all year 4 children will attend on Friday. This will be for an initial swim assessment session carried out by the instructors. From this assessment we will then reduce the number of year 5 children who attend. Those that the instructors feel have achieved the following National Curriculum requirements will not attend further sessions:

- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- use a range of strokes effectively [for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke]
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations

From Week 2 your child's swimming day may be different to Week 1, because of needing equal group sizes. However, from this point onwards it will say the same.

The coach costs, admission charges and tuition fees are at no extra charge as swimming is part of the national curriculum. The children are taught in 3 ability groups, ranging from non-swimmers in the shallow end to improving and those that are more confident in the deep end. As well as class teachers, Waendel will also provide two qualified swimming instructors during these lessons.

We ask for your co-operation, for health and safety reasons, as determined by the School Swimming Service regarding the following:

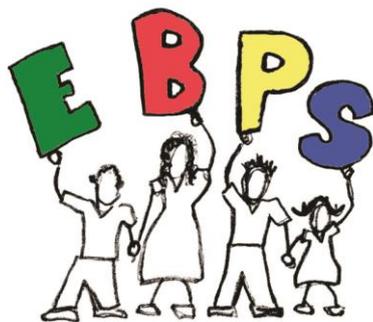
- Please send a letter or telephone the school if your child is unable to swim for medical reasons
- **No goggles** are permitted unless prescribed by a medical professional – this is because of the confidence needed to perform a safe self-rescue.
- No money, valuables or food may be taken to the pool
- No watches or jewellery, including earrings, may be worn on swimming day
- From lesson 2 - Swimming hats must be worn; they are colour coordinated according to ability. The children will be put into ability groups during the first lesson and told which colour hat they need.
- Girls – 1 piece swimsuit, Boys – swim shorts/ trunks, **not baggy shorts**
- No toiletries are permitted (i.e. shower gel, talcum powder, shampoo)

Your child will need to bring a swimming costume, their swimming hats from week 2 and a towel in a suitable bag to school each Thursday or Friday for the duration of their course. Please do not allow your child to wear their swimming costumes under their uniform to school. If your child forgets their kit they should inform the School Office staff who will try to contact you. If your child wears the incorrect swimwear, it is the swimming teacher's discretion to refuse them access to the lesson.

Following the initial assessment, swimming teachers will allocate the children to a colour group. The children will need a swimming hat of that colour which will be available from your child's class teacher at the cost of £1. Please send £1 in a named envelope into school before Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January so we can distribute hats in time for the second lesson.

At home, after each swimming lesson please can you ensure the inside of the swimming hat is sprinkled with talcum powder, as this prevents the rubber from perishing and consequently splitting.

*Expect Believe Persevere Succeed*



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Swimming is important as a lifelong leisure activity – it is the best exercise for stamina, strength and suppleness and it can be a lifesaving skill. For all these reasons we hope that your child enjoys the course. If you have any queries, please contact your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Year 4 and 5 team