



Bernards Heath Junior School

Watson Avenue, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 5HP

Tel: 01727 856262 Fax: 01727 856355

E-mail: admin@bernardsheathjnr.herts.sch.uk

www.bernardsheathjnr.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr Darren Armoogum BSc PGCE

Deputy Head: Mr John Reynolds BSc QTS

16 July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

YEAR 5 SWIMMING LESSONS AT TOWNSEND SCHOOL AUTUMN TERM 2024

Next term Year 5 will be having swimming lessons at Townsend School Swimming Pool starting Wednesday 11th September 2024 until Wednesday 4th December 2024. The programme will consist of one lesson per week for 12 weeks on Wednesday afternoons, one class will swim at a time and rotate between the 3 time slots listed below. The children will walk to and from Townsend School for their session.

Session 1: 1:30-2:00

Session 2: 2:00-2:30

Session 3: 2:30-3:00 (returning to school at 3:35pm)

Swimming is a statutory part of the curriculum, the swimming slot replaces part of their P.E. entitlement in long PE for the term. Swimming provides all round exercise in itself, providing children with cardiovascular exercise, as well as teaching and improving swimming strokes and lifesaving skills. The children will be put into groups to suit their ability and taught by qualified swimming instructors. **Before sessions start, the swimming instructors are asking parents to fill in an online form to provide some information about the swimming ability of your child, please click the link below to complete the swimming survey.**

<https://forms.gle/5YxKiLyQTPVdnozm7>

We would greatly appreciate any parent helpers who are able to assist each Year 5 class with the walk to Townsend and back to school, if you are able to help your class please let the school office know.

Townsend School has a separate building with the swimming pool and boy/girl changing rooms inside, we will be the only school that has use of this building during our sessions. The children are allowed to wear goggles and a swimming hat if they would like, long hair needs to be tied back.

To support the school with costs, it is necessary to ask parents for a contribution towards the cost of the swimming Instructors. The total cost, per child, for 12 weeks is **£60** (We are unable to give a credit if your child is absent, as we still have to pay for the swimming tuition). Of course, there may be a case where a child cannot swim for medical reasons and this we fully appreciate.

Due to rises in the cost of living we appreciate this is a lot of money. To help, we have split the cost into two payments of **£30** on School Gateway. This will give you the option of paying in two instalments or paying both instalments together, by adding them both to your basket. We hope this will help you to budget for this cost.

Yours sincerely

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Darren Armoogum

Headteacher