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9th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Swimming and the National Curriculum – Year 5 – Spring 2

As you may be aware, schools across England provide the opportunity for each child to attend swimming lessons in order to allow them to work towards achieving the National Curriculum standard in swimming and water safety. This is a set of criteria used to judge children's competence, confidence and ability to keep themselves safe in the water, and is a completely different set of skills to those used to assess children who attend swimming lessons outside of school. There is a focus on developing techniques across four main recognised strokes, as well as a big impetus on water safety, self-rescue and life-saving techniques. The aim is for each child to reach National Curriculum standards by the end of Year 6, and each school is required to publish the attainment percentages for each cohort.

As your child has yet to pass their National Curriculum standard during their school swimming lessons last year, they are being invited to swim on a Friday afternoon alongside the Y4's who are also currently working towards passing their National Curriculum standard. Please ensure that they bring their swimming kit in to school on a Friday. **The first lesson will be on Friday 23rd February.**

A reminder of the kit required, can children please bring in a small drawstring bag – **not a rucksack:**

- ✓ Girls – a **one-piece** swimming costume
- ✓ Boys –swimming shorts (these are not allowed to be baggy shorts)
- ✓ A pair of goggles
- ✓ A towel

This will be a mixed group of Y4 and Y5 children, supervised by Miss Reynolds and this will be classed as one of their PE lessons.

Please contact school should you have any further questions.

Kind regards

Mrs Becky Schofield
Headteacher

Working with the Diocese of Leeds and the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale

