

31st March 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

SWIMMING IN YEAR 4

The whole of **Class 4J** will be swimming **Wed 20th April, 27th April and 4th May 2022 (3 weeks)**. The whole of **Class 40** (Ms De Melo's class) will then swim from **Wed 11th, 18th and 25th May 2022 (3 weeks)**, which will take them up to the end of half term.

For school swimming, girls are required to wear a black or navy blue one-piece costume and boys are required to wear trunks of the same colour, not shorts. It is advisable for tights, earrings and watches not to be worn on swimming days. Please make sure that your child is able to dress themselves independently and this includes doing up shoe laces.

Swimming caps are compulsory so please do purchase one for your child. They will not be able to swim without a swimming hat. Goggles are worthwhile if they will assist your child putting their face in the water. Children must have a school coat for the journey to and from the pool as British weather is changeable.

We shall be walking to West Norwood Pool, leaving school at approximately 10.15am and returning at approximately 12.45pm at which time the children will have their lunch.

As you may be aware, prior to the pandemic, St. Joseph's had been improving steadily at swimming competitions and this is thanks to many parents signing their children up for swimming lessons outside of school and several of our children joining Woodside and Thornton Heath Swimming Club.

Swimming lessons are available at West Norwood Leisure Centre, where the children swim with the school, South Norwood Leisure Centre, Thornton Heath Leisure Centre, Streatham Leisure Centre, and Crystal Palace National Sports Centre which are all situated close to our school. There are also lessons available at St. Joseph's College through private swim schools.

Woodside and Thornton Heath (www.wthsc.co.uk) is a friendly local swimming club and depending on ability children swim at St. Joseph's College, South Norwood Pool and Thornton Heath pool. The club is not an "elite only" club although they do cater for this level should a child have the desire to reach this level. Many parents have seen vast improvements in their children's abilities, and we have had a couple move on to "elite only" clubs. Woodside and Thornton Heath also offer swimming lessons. Please do have a look at the website for further information or come and speak to me about your child moving from lessons to club if you are interested.

Please look at the School App and also the School Website for further details but if you have any further queries about these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Mangan
PE Co-ordinator

