



Ready, Respectful, Resilient
Headteacher: Mrs T Price BA (Hons) MA Ed

24th May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will appreciate, water safety is an important life skill for our children to learn. To help develop the swimming skills from year 5, we are running two educational visits for your child to develop their water confidence in a safe and fun setting.

Fun Swimming Festival at Biddulph Leisure Centre on Tuesday 21st May 2024 – FREE TO STUDENTS

We will be taking Year 6 to Biddulph Leisure Centre to participate in a Fun Swimming Festival. We understand that some students can worry when in water, so please feel free to contact Mrs Montifroy by email cmontifroy@jamesbateman.staffs.sch.uk to share any concerns. If your child is worried, we ask that you also stress to them the importance of being confident around water, to help keep them safe. If required we can find a sports leadership role for your child, but it would be lovely to get everyone involved.

Students will participate in small groups within their house, and play fun games such as balancing floats on their heads whilst walking or swimming as a relay, retrieving floating objects as part of a team, a noodle race where floats are used to keep them afloat as they travel across the pool, etc. Your child will participate at a water depth that they are comfortable with and will choose which activities they wish to be a part of.

Students will be taken to and from Biddulph Leisure Centre by coach, accompanied by James Bateman staff. Students will need:

1. Sports wear to school
2. Swimming costume
3. Swimming hat
4. Long or short sleeved t-shirt to wear when not in pool
5. 2 Towels, one to keep warm when on side
6. Any normal medication or inhalers

Astbury Watersports and Team building activities on Tuesday 18th June 2024 – FREE TO STUDENTS

To further build on their water confidence, we will then take Year 6 to Astbury Watersports Centre on Tuesday 18th June, where they will take part in activities such as canoe rafting, and paddle boarding. Those who are less confident will stay where they can comfortably stand up in the water and there will be dry land options, such as shelter building and team games.

Astbury Watersports Centre staff are fully trained staff and will lead the sessions with the focus to develop your child's confidence, foster team spirit and enable them to achieve through experimental learning in the great outdoors. Students will be given helmets and buoyancy aids to wear.

Staff will talk to all students to gauge whether they wish to take part in water-based activities involving getting wet, water-based activities where they get a little wet, or land-based activities.

All students will need the following in case they change their mind and wish to take part in water activities when they see firsthand, what is involved.

1. A **SPARE** change of **CLOTHES**

FOR ACTIVITIES LIGHT CLOTHING MUST BE WORN THAT CAN GET WET FOR ALL WEATHERS

2. **NO JOGGERS OR HOODIES** as these become heavy when wet
3. **Leggings/thin bottoms/shorts** (Weather dependent)
4. **Thin jacket** to keep the wind out that can get wet
5. Pumps or trainers with **CLOSED TOES** that can get wet
6. Any normal medication or inhalers

Students will be taken to and from Astbury Watersports Centre by coach, accompanied by James Bateman staff.

6FC & 6BR will be at Astbury in the morning, they will need school equipment for lessons 4 and 5
6AF & 6LJ be at Astbury in the afternoon, they will need school equipment for lessons 1,2 and 3

For the **Water Sports trip**, we require parental permission for your son/daughter to attend. Both days are free to your child and will be paid for using the school PE Premium. Parental consent is not required for the swimming festival as it is a school activity. Parental consent **WILL** be required for the Astbury water sports visit and this will be sent out on arbor closer to the event.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C. Montifroy
(*Head of Physical Education*)

Mr A Walton
(*Boys PE and Assistant Head*)