

St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School

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April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Key Stage 2 Swimming – Year 5

We are so fortunate to have a swimming pool in our school grounds. Throughout the summer term, children benefit from a weekly swimming lesson. By the time our children are in Year 6, they are already competent swimmers and can easily swim a distance greater than 25 metres as required by the National Curriculum. In most schools, children are only taught to swim for a maximum of 20 sessions in their entire school career and this would often take place in the local swimming pool at the end of a coach journey rather than after a short walk.

This year, each child will receive three swimming sessions starting the week beginning 8th June 2026. This is because the Year 5 children swam during the Autumn term 2025.

As you will understand, the cost of running and maintaining the school pool has increased significantly. The school receives no additional funding to support swimming for children, other than those in 2 year groups (as in other schools). All of the additional lessons our children receive are a bonus.

This year, we are asking for a payment of **£12.00** (£4 per lesson) for each pupil to cover the lessons for the term. I am sure you would agree this provides excellent value for money. Please can this be paid via [Scopay](#) or as cash/cheque to the school office, in a labelled envelope with your child's name, class and amount enclosed.

Thank you to all those families who manage to contribute each year to the cost of these lessons. Each year, we do have some families who struggle to pay (44 families last year). Please do contact school in confidence if you need financial assistance or help to fund this. As many of you know, the future of our pool is always in the balance, so prompt payment is welcomed to secure its ongoing use for all children in school and our local community.

More information about swimming for the term ahead...

SWIMMING RULES

We feel it necessary to make clear rules with regard to swimming and would appreciate your support with them.

- All children to bring suitable swimwear; girls must have a full swimming costume and boys must have suitable swimming shorts not below the knees. (All clearly labelled).

Friendship Love Forgiveness Trust Honesty Faith

- On the sunny days please ensure your child is wearing waterproof sun cream. Please encourage your child to apply this before school.
- No jewellery. Please do not encourage your child to have their ears pierced during the summer term. Earrings can cause significant damage to children whilst taking part in sport. Plasters do not provide adequate protection.
- Long hair should be tied back and swimming caps must be worn by all pupils. Please practice putting the swimming cap on with your child at home to ensure they are able to put the swimming cap on themselves unaided. These are available from the school office for £3.00.
- There is no time for washing hair after their swimming lesson, so shampoo and talc are not necessary. If your child requires deodorant, please send a roll on and not an aerosol.
- At St Martin & St Mary C of E Primary School we encourage our pupils to become independent in their organisation, therefore if they forget kit we are unable to ring home and they will be given a spare kit to wear if available.

Year 5 will swim on **Tuesday mornings** on the following dates;

- Tuesday 9th June 2026
- Tuesday 16th June 2026
- Tuesday 23rd June 2026 – Swimming Gala

On their swimming day, please ensure your child arrives in school by 8.40am, so they can be ready to swim at 9am and get their full time in the swimming pool.

Any queries or concerns regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact school.

Thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Swindlehurst

Headteacher

'Life in all its fullness' John 10.10