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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 4 children in class 5 will be starting their weekly swimming lessons from Tuesday 21st September up until the end of the Autumn term. This is part of the National Curriculum and all primary pupils MUST attend swimming lessons. This will be a half hour lesson and will take place at Castleton Leisure Centre Rochdale so children will need to bring their swimming kit to school with them each week. We will leave school at 12.15pm for a 1.00pm start and will return at approximately 2.15pm. We will travel to and from Castleton baths by coach which is provided by the school.

We have been in discussions with the swimming provider Starfish Academy and they have shared with school their risk assessment to reduce the possibility of transmission of COVID 19. Scientific evidence has shown that the virus can not be transferred in chlorinated water. As a result, we feel confident as a school it is safe enough for your child to resume the swimming lessons they should have had last year.

On the coach we will maintain social distancing guidelines and staff will be wearing face coverings. If you wish for your child to bring a face covering to wear on the coach that is fine. Children under 11 years do NOT have to wear one by law.

Ensure that you inform us of any medical issues such as asthma and make sure your child has the appropriate equipment with them such as inhalers. You must also ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather on the day of swimming such as waterproof coats when it is raining.

If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to come and ask. Starfish Academy and our risk assessment will be available on the school website.

Your faithfully

Mrs J Seabright Headteacher