



Burford School & Nursery

'Enjoy, Achieve, Succeed Together'

Marlow Bottom, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 3PQ

T: 07598 250 888

E: office@burfordschool.co.uk

W: www.burfordschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Tracey Marshall, MA (Ed) CMgr

3rd December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next term, all children in Year 3 will have swimming lessons for 10 weeks, which will take place at Wycombe Leisure Centre on Tuesday afternoons, during the school day. The first date will be Tuesday 13th January 2026 and the last date is Tuesday 24th March 2026.

Please ensure your child comes to school with their swimwear, towels and swimming hats in a suitable named bag (the pool requires compulsory wearing of swimming hats for all children). Please ensure your child's name is written in permanent marker on the swimming hat so it is large and clearly visible for the instructor to see who they are teaching.

Trunks must be tight fitting and not baggy as the instructors need to see the children's legs moving. Girls need to wear a one piece swimsuit and not a bikini. If your child requires goggles for swimming, please ensure they are in their bag every week. We recommend providing a winter hat to wear after swimming to keep your child's damp hair and head warm. Jewellery is not permitted. Earrings should be removed prior to coming to school as they cannot be worn or covered by tape for swimming. Long hair must be tied back. Children should wear PE kit to school on swimming days. Please ensure that all uniform and swimwear is clearly named to help to avoid items getting mixed up when changing.

You may also wish to provide your child with a snack for after swimming as the children are quite often very hungry after the lesson.

Each session lasts half an hour, providing opportunities for the children to become competent swimmers as well as gaining lifesaving skills.

They will have qualified Swimming Instructors alongside a Burford Teacher who also has a swimming qualification. They will also be joined by a Teaching Assistant. There will be a lifeguard on duty at all times and a first aider on site.



Children will be assessed and split into different ability groups to ensure they get the most out of their swimming lessons.

In addition to being a requirement of the National Curriculum, school swimming lessons also provide extensive health benefits, can improve a child's confidence and is a fully inclusive activity.

School swimming lessons also teach essential life-saving skills and knowledge regarding water safety.

The expectations are that MOST pupils will be able to:

- Swim between 50 and 100 metres and keep swimming for 45 to 90 seconds; use three different strokes, swimming on their front and back.
- Control their breathing; swim confidently and fluently on the surface and under water.
- Work well in groups to solve specific problems and challenges, including Personal Survival, sharing out the work fairly.
- Recognise how swimming affects their body, and pace their efforts to meet different challenges.
- Suggest activities and practices to help improve their own performance.

Swimming is a very important part of the school's curriculum, however, the costs associated with this particular activity are high. In order to maintain the present level of provision for swimming, we are asking parents to make a voluntary contribution of £55.00 via ParentPay to cover the cost.

Between now and when swimming lessons start, it would be greatly appreciated if you could encourage your child to independently dry and dress themselves after having a bath/shower in order to be ready for our sessions at the pool!

Please complete the following Google Form to inform us of your child's current swimming experience:

<https://forms.gle/UpLDpggeCpsnxLqm9>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Durkin, Miss Fulbrook and Miss Housden

Year 3 Teachers