



9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

## RE: Swimming and Water Safety Program (SWSP)

Water safety and swimming play an important part in our lives in Tasmania and the Department of Education has a requirement that all students learn to be safe and competent in water environments as a component of the school curriculum.

Every effort is made to ensure that each child is made to feel safe and supported during this program. The school will ensure that all relevant safety and health precautions will be implemented, including COVID-19 requirements.

Please note that parents, carers and other visitors are able to attend Swimming and Water Safety Program sessions where venues have enough space to allow visitors as required by public health for COVID 19. We have been advised by Clarence Pool that parents/carers are able to attend their child's session at their given time.

Parents and carers who attend a Swimming and Water Safety Program are asked to ensure that they do not take photos/videos at the pool.

The Department of Education Swimming and Water Safety Program consists of 10 lessons over two weeks for each year group in Years 3, 4 and 5, although some programs are adjusted to meet the needs of remote schools and because of public holidays.

The dates for our school program are: 26/6/2023 – 7/7/2023

Your child will need to bring the following items every day of their program:

- Bathers and swimming cap (A swimming cap will be provided for each student).
- A towel and plastic bag to put wet clothes in
- Any medication (e.g., asthma medication) that may be needed at the poolside.

(please contact the school if you have any difficulties in providing this equipment or wish to ask questions about what is appropriate)



**Please note:**

**Goggles:** Students may use goggles in the pool however they are not encouraged. An aim of the program is that students become competent in their skills without the use of goggles. Some parts of the program, in particular the survival in deep water will be assessed without goggles.

**Swimming Caps:** For health and safety reasons, it is Department of Education policy that all students are required to wear swimming caps.

**Jewellery:** For safety reasons, ear studs and dangly earrings are not to be worn in the pool. Sleepers are allowed.

**Permission forms:**

Please sign and return the Major Excursion Consent and Medical Information Form **and** the Consent form for Aquatic Activity to allow your child to participate in the Swimming and Water Safety Program. If you do not wish your child to participate please return the form and indicate that this is your preference.

We are looking forward to celebrating your child's progress during this year's Swimming and Water Safety Program. If you have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact the school office.

Kind regards



Sonja Plunkett-Smith  
Principal

Adam Daft  
PE Teacher