



# Meersbrook Bank Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs G. Harvey

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## Swim Trials at Ponds Forge: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Dear Parents and Carers of KS2 children,

I am delighted to let you know that we have entered the Sheffield Swim Gala again this year. We have had much success in the past at this event, achieving a silver award for the last two galas.

The actual event will take place at **Ponds Forge** on the evening of **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**. Your child will need to be **available on that evening from approximately 6.00pm – 9.30pm**. Exact times for this will be sent out nearer to the event. ***Please do not trial for the event if your child is not available on this evening.***

In order to check the ability of the swimmers, I would like to offer them a chance to trial so that we are able to take the fastest teams we have. I intend to take a **team of 8 boys and 8 girls** in total to the gala. These may be from any year group. I will need a balance of girls and boys from Year 3 to Year 6. It will depend on the children's speed and ability at different strokes. Please do not be disheartened if your child does not make it to the squad this time as there is always next year!

For your child to take part in the trials, they need to be confident swimmers (at least Kingfisher 4 or above or NTP level 6 or 7). ***They MUST be able to very comfortably swim 4 lengths without stopping and at a good pace.*** The children will be timed and will need to ***attempt backstroke, breaststroke and front crawl although they may not be using all these strokes at the actual event.*** I will be taking the fastest swimmers on this occasion.

I realise that many of the children will be very keen to trial for the gala, but the pool can only accommodate up to 40 children. I therefore ask you to email the school office as soon as possible to ensure your child can trial. Should there be more than 40 children wishing to trial, I will pull names out of a hat. I will be telling the children if they have a place at the trials on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February**.

I have booked lanes at Ponds Forge swimming pool on the afternoon of **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** **between 1.15pm and 3.15pm** where we will time the children and look at their different strokes.

We will get the bus down to Ponds Forge. We will need to leave school no later than 12.15pm so that we are changed and on the poolside ready to start at 1.15pm. The children will need to bring a packed lunch on that day which we will eat in class a little earlier than usual. **Please let us know if you will be needing a school packed lunch.**

We will be leaving Ponds Forge at approx. 3.30pm and aim to be back in school by 4.00pm. Should it look like it will be significantly after this, we will let you know by text and Dojo.



I am desperate for parent helpers! I ideally need four adults who can help us to time the children. If you can help, please let us know by emailing the school office or messaging me on Dojo. You can either meet us down at the pool at 1.15pm or at school at 12.15pm.

If you would like your child to attend the trial at Ponds Forge, please email the school office (enquiries@meersbrookbank.sheffield.sch.uk) giving your consent. If your child has permission to walk home unaccompanied on arrival back at school, please indicate this too. **Please let us know this information even if your child usually walks home alone at 3.30pm.** Without consent we will not be able to take your child to the event or let them walk home afterwards.

We will be using our Sports Funding to pay for the hire of Pond Forge, lifeguards and entry into the gala. **The cost of the trials will therefore be just the price of the bus fare - £1.60. We ask that the children bring this into school no later than Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March in exact change please.**

Information about the evening event on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May will be sent to the children who were successful at the trials.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kindest Regards,

Mrs C Tierney  
P.E. Leader