



Dear Parents,

What a lovely start to the year we had last week. Our new children continue to settle well into the Meadowbrook routine and as this is the first official comms of the year, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful New Year.

I have to say that as I accompanied every class swimming this morning, I am absolutely exhausted as I sit and write this. My feet smell of chlorine and I haven't yet had time to boil the kettle...hopefully, I'm not starting the year as I mean to go on!

Whole
school

Let's start this week's comms *with* swimming as that is at the forefront of my mind:

Rec-yr6

1. **Swimming:** Overall, what a difference and what an improvement! The children all agreed that moving to Frogs and Friends at Heathfield was the right move as do the staff who used to accompany the children to Windsor. I have arranged for parents to be invited into the lessons once a term so that you have an idea of how the new system works. We will do this once we are settled into a routine. Admittedly, the idea is for us to transport the children in our own minibus (which is on order and will arrive soon) but the swimming lesson schedule is tight. It relies on everything running like a beautifully oiled cog and from today's observations there is a lot you can do mums and dads to help us. Please read this carefully so that your child is well-prepared next week and this will help to ensure that their experience is stress free and enjoyable!
 - Firstly, we are going to flip the order of lessons so that the older children go first. A new timetable will be posted on boards shortly.
 - I had requested that boys wear trunks under their uniform to save time. Not everyone had done this today and as expected, it caused unnecessary delays. I would ask that you please ensure this is followed through next Monday. If girls are able to come in costumes as well, this is also requested. NB: not all youngsters have mastered the art of using the cloakroom with a swimming costume on. I will leave it to you to gauge if your daughter is ready or ask that you teach them.
 - Tracksuits will arrive at the uniform shop at the end of January, in the meantime children are asked to wear joggers not kilts.
 - ALL items of uniform MUST be named. I apologise if your child has not returned home in the clothes they were wearing this morning! The reason for this maybe that very few items of uniform were named making it IMPOSSIBLE to sort the children's clothes ready for when they got out of the pool! Grab a sharpie and get writing please.



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- To go swimming, we would like the children to wear shoes that can be even more easily removed. Ideally, please send them with crocs or flip flops. They can come to school normally but change into crocs or flip flops with no socks before their time to get on the minibus arrives. You do not need to worry about weather as they are picked up from school and dropped directly outside the pool.
- Reception children may change into onesies if they are used to doing this after swimming lessons. The key is that this group need to be changing into something easy and quick. They can change back into uniform once at school. However, most of the children managed well today so Barbara can advise further on this.
- Next week....ALL children MUST have towels (can't believe I have to write that!)
- ALL children must have correct M'bk swimming uniform. We appear to have an array of costumes and trunks and it is important that this is rectified within the next couple of sessions please. ALL children must wear the M'bk logo cap. Girls wear the school's royal blue costume (this is not a speedo or equivalent and there are no logos on it.) Boys must wear navy trunks also available from Stevensons. Please [click here](#) to place your order and they will happily post items out to you. The boys have asked if I could source them longer trunks which I have done this morning and by the time you contact Stevensons and enquire about the longer navy trunks or order them online, they will be available. Year 6 children do not need to make any changes as they have less than 2 terms left.

Change of subject now:

2. **School Fee Payment:** Polite request to use online banking where possible. Paying with cheques means that we have to send someone to a bank to pay in cheques that arrive at all different times throughout holidays. We would really appreciate your support in this. **Whole school**
3. **Lower Primary welcomes Donna Mody as a new TA / LSA.** Donna is a natural with children of this age and will take over from Samarina to replace Paula who has been deployed to Pre-Primary. **Primary**
4. **Various events have been added to the calendar.** Please [click here](#) for the latest version. **Whole school**



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