

7<sup>th</sup> September 2016



Dear Parents/Guardians,

**SAPA Swimming lessons (4-12 years old) will start on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2016.**

Welcome to the SAPA Swim School initiative. My name is Lone Skoubo Bertelsen and I act as the swimming co-ordinator on behalf of the St Andrew's Parent's Association. Please find below some information relating to the SAPA Swim School which is organised for children age 4-12 years old.

The SAPA "learn to Swim" programme runs within the local school term time, each class is 30 minutes long. Our classes take place at Portmarnock Sports and Leisure Centre (PSLC) in Portmarnock on Tuesdays and Thursdays (3-4 pm). All our Swim Instructors are fully qualified and have extensive experience in teaching swimming and all hold a lifesaving qualification.

SAPA Swim School is an active member of "Swim Ireland" which is the governing body of swimming in Ireland. The Swim Ireland "Learn to Swim" Programme is a recognised specially designed professional swim programme that sets national standards for children's swimming. Detail on our programme and how the lessons are run can be found on our website [www.standrewsschoolmalahide.ie](http://www.standrewsschoolmalahide.ie).

#### **For the Advanced Swimmer**

In addition to the Swim Ireland programme we have our own SAPA Swim School Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Honours Challenge Awards programme. These programmes include lifesaving skills and we run an optional monthly distance/speed swim challenge, which is based on individual's personal best time and distance. Details of these programmes can be found on our website.

Whilst we work on a "first come first served" basis, to ensure each swimming class is at a manageable size, we would like to encourage as many children as possible to partake in school swimming lessons. I am sure you will agree that swimming is an essential life skill for all children to learn, along with it being an excellent form of keeping fit and building social skills. The cost of these lessons are based purely on the cost of hiring the pool, paying the instructors, award certificates and running the Gala at the end of the year. The aim of SAPA is to charge the absolute minimum cost to run these classes for the children of St Andrew's School and the cost of just over €5 per class reflects this.

Our swimming fees are €150 per child for the swimming year which will run from 13<sup>th</sup> /15<sup>th</sup> Sept until the end of May 2016. Fees for additional children in the same family will be €140. Alternatively, fee's can be made in two instalments of €75 in September and €75 in January (or for additional children €70 each term).

There are 8 Swim Ireland levels and 4 challenge award levels. Each class runs for 30 minutes with three classes running simultaneously.

#### **Classes will run as follows:**

##### **Tuesdays**

**3.00 to 3.30pm Advanced (Level 8, Bronze, Silver, Gold, Honours)**

**3.30 to 4.00pm Intermediate (Levels 5-7)**

## Thursdays

### 3.00 to 3.30pm Beginners-Improvers (Levels 1-4)

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If your child attended classes last year they should return to the class they were in last year. Please note that all children having passed level 4 will change from Thursdays to Tuesdays for their level 5 training. Please see on the school website under SAPA Swim where the teams are listed. All new junior infants should attend the Thursday class at 3pm and 3.30pm on the first week, where the coaches will assess them, please see the school website or the information window in Junior Infant for the Level 1 teams. If your child would like to re-join our classes but were not with us last year, please bring them along to the swimming class where their friends in their class go - they will then be assessed.

- If you would like to enrol your child/children, please fill out an application form which can be downloaded from the school website or obtained from the school office. Please pay online by direct bank transfer to:

St Andrews school Malahide  
Parents Association  
No 2 Current Account

Branch code: 90-06-07  
BIC: BOFIE2D  
Account number: 86220847  
IBAN: IE95 BOFI 9006 0786 2208 47

Alternatively, SAPA treasures will be at the pool the first two weeks of swimming to receive payments (please make checks payable to "St Andrew's Parents Association"). Please make sure to pay on or before Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Children must be 4 year or over to attend our swimming classes and all application forms must be signed by a parent/guardian (please fill out a form even though you have attended in previous year(s) – this is for insurance purpose).

If you have any other queries about our school swimming lessons, please do not hesitate to contact me either via the school office, at the swimming pool or on mobile 085 81 58 617.

All information regarding the SAPA Swim School including the Terms & Conditions can be found on our website [www.standrewsschoolmalahide.ie](http://www.standrewsschoolmalahide.ie).

Kind regards,

Lone Skoubo Bertelsen

**SAPA Swim School Co-ordinator**

*SAPA Swim School Initiative is Financial Supported by SAPA*

*In the Interest of your Child's Development & Safety*