

Bluefins Lessons News



March 2009



Easter Break

The last lessons for this term are as follows:

Mon: 6th April

Tues: 31st March

Wed: 1st April

Thurs: 2nd April

Fri: 3rd April

Sat: 4th April

Sun: 5th April

We start back again on 17th April - please see the enclosed Lesson Confirmation letter for start dates next term.

Cranbourne Lessons Closure Jan/Feb 09

What a nightmare! Thank you so much for your patience during that very trying time. The boiler was eventually fixed and pool temperatures were back to normal in early February. Many of you have asked about payment for lessons missed; it took some time to organise because we were unsure when swimming would start again. But Bluefins Finance Group took the following steps:

No payment was taken on your Direct Debit in March; this covered lessons missed in January

No payment should have been taken on **NEW** swimmer's Direct Debits until April - unfortunately, this did not work for all, so if payment went out of your account in March - and your child only started at Cranbourne in February - we have either refunded by cheque or you will not pay in April.

Sufficient lessons have now been booked between January and July to cover the lost lesson in February. Thankfully, we fulfilled our commitment to offer 13 lessons between September and December 08, so no problem there.

An explanation was put on our website in February.

Intensive Holiday Course August 09

We ran one of our popular courses in the February Half Term and are planning another for the summer break 10th - 14th August. These courses are not only great fun, but give children chance to consolidate what they've learned in lessons and by swimming every day for a week, they learn more quickly. Put the date in your diary and watch this space - details will be out in the next Newsletter

Swimsuits & hats

I have been investigating 'warm' costumes for our younger children. Hayley is modelling one of those I found here and another of our young swimmers, Melissa has been trialling a different one



for me - it looks great on her and is so successful she doesn't want to give it up! If you are interested in finding out more, contact SwimStop: www.swimstop.co.uk or 023 9226 4196 and ask Hilary to give you details.

If you'd like a Bluefins hat (good for keeping hair out of eyes as well as conserving body heat) send me an email and I'll bring one to your lesson.

Melissa Godfrey Memorial Sponsored swim

Thank you to all those who took part in the Sponsored Swim this month. Children in our lessons Programme excelled and raised money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust in memory of Bluefins swimmer and teacher, Melissa. If you haven't already done so, please hand in your Sponsor Money as soon as possible so that we can get your certificates and/or Awards to you.



Club Championships



If your child is in Yellow Group or above you will find enclosed an entry form for Bluefins Club Championships which takes place on Sunday 24th May at the Aquadrome.

Children in Stages 3 – 5 (Yellow, Green and Sky) may swim one length of the pool, using any stroke or combination of strokes. Children in Levels 6 & 7 (Blue and Purple) may enter up to 4 races. They will need to be able to swim 25 or 50 metres, depending on age, of each stroke to a high standard. I would suggest that most of our children in these groups can swim Freestyle or Backstroke, but that with Breaststroke or Butterfly, you should check with your child's teacher whether it would be sensible to enter these more technical strokes.

I will try to organise a practice session at the Aquadrome before the Championships so that your child will be more prepared for 'the big day'. More news on this when the date and time are confirmed.

Racing

Congratulations to Bluefins members who recently took part in the **Hampshire County Championships**. These were held over 3 full weekends and saw some amazing swims. See Bluefins website for details of our swimmers success!

March 22nd saw lots of Bluefins swimmers arrive at the Aquadrome for an afternoon of **Time Trials**. A group of lessons children came along to see how fast they could swim 25m under gala conditions. They learned how to start a race and some of the protocol required at a competition. Well done to the following:

<i>Maia Wilson</i>	<i>Harry Liles</i>
<i>Annabel Wright</i>	<i>Andrew Waller</i>
<i>Millicent Crass</i>	<i>Jackson Liles</i>
<i>Vicky Foster</i>	<i>Henry Chui</i>
<i>Amelia Bird</i>	<i>Daniel James</i>
<i>Myriam Wach</i>	<i>Toby Warburton</i>
<i>William Sadler</i>	<i>Benjamin Moseley</i>
<i>George Lincoln</i>	

Again, full results are on the website.

Changing Rooms

Please remember – **NO Men** in the girls changing rooms and **NO Women** in the boys changing rooms at Cranbourne. Girls/boys up to the age of 8 can go to the relevant changing room with Mum or Dad -

from that age they should be in their own area. Please respect the privacy of our older swimmers, our teenage helpers and teachers and other users of the school facilities. Thanks!!

Certificates and Badges



As most of you know, our teachers assess your children on an ongoing basis throughout each term. Then, towards the end of the term, you receive a report and notification if your child has achieved an ASA Award. Bluefins now gives these Awards automatically; there is no need to order them. **There is no cost involved to you – this is all included in your child's lesson fee.**

Some people are confused by receiving what they think is the same Award twice. Remember that the whole Teaching Scheme changed last September, so, for instance, some children may have already achieved **Level 3** in previous lessons, but will now achieve **Stage 3** for their most recent efforts. The criteria are not the same – in fact much more is now required at each stage.

Provisional Lessons Programme from April 09

Mon	CB	5.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		5.30	R	O	Y	G	S
		6.00	R	O	B	P	
Tue	CB	5.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		5.30	R	O	Y	G	S
		6.00	R	O	B	P	
Wed	CB	5.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		5.30	R	O	Y	G	
		6.00	R	O	B	P	
Thur	QMC	4.30	R	O	Y	G	S
		5.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		5.30			S	B	P
Fri	CB	6.30	R	O	Y	G	S
		7.00			Y	B	P
Sat	CB	9.30	B	P			
		10.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		10.30	R	O	Y	G	S
		11.00	R	O	Y	G	
		11.30				B	P
Sun	CB	9.30	R	O	B	P	
		10.00	R	O	Y	G	S
		10.30	Tadpoles x 6				
		11.00	R	O	Y	G	

Contacts:

Sue (lessons): 01256 418710
Email: sue.lambert@swimbluefins.org

Club Office: 01256 351921 – leave a message and we'll get back to you
Club Website: www.swimbluefins.org