

AQUASAFE WATER SAFETY AND AWARENESS PROGRAM

15 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of the ACT Directorate of Education's Action Plan, all students in year 2 are required to complete a water safety and awareness program. This program focuses on safety around the various waterways (ponds, lakes, storm water drains etc.) within our Canberra area and is run by the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia. Please note that this program is NOT focused on developing the swimming skills of students. This program consists of 5 lessons delivered in the classroom (see lesson overview below) and 5 lessons delivered within a pool environment.

Date:	5 lessons to be held each day commencing Tuesday 13 March with the final lesson on Monday 19 March (weeks 6 and 7)
Time:	9:35am – 10:35am (1/2ST, 1/2KMA, 1/2NE, 1/2RJ and year 3 students) 10:40am – 11:40am (1/2NM, 1/2AW, 1/2KMX, 1/2IL and 1/2MA)
Destination:	Gungahlin Leisure Centre
Cost:	\$50 (subsidised rate) This can be made in instalments. If you need to make a payment plan please see Kristine or Kirralee to organise an agreement.
Travel:	Bus
Clothing:	Swimmers underneath school uniform.
Lunch arrangements:	Students to bring their usual packed recess/lunch to school. Eating times may vary due to lesson sessions.
Equipment:	Swimmers, towel, underwear and thongs (optional) in a clearly labelled plastic bag.
Teachers:	Royal Life Saving Society trained instructors will conduct the lessons with supervision by classroom teachers. The coordinating teacher is Sarah Murcutt.

Permission forms need to be returned by FRIDAY 2 MARCH.

Once payment has been made, parents will be given a code to complete the online enrolment for their child.

Please Note: the payment of this financial contribution to a government school is voluntary. The Education Act 2004 guarantees that each contribution must be voluntary, a child is not to be approached or refused benefits or services because the child's parents do not make a contribution and any record of contributions is confidential.

Kunjai and Raina
Coordinating Teacher

Lesson 1 In our community	This lesson looks at aquatic environments found throughout Canberra's suburban areas. The focus is to teach children about the risks associated specifically with storm water drains, community ponds, and larger urban lakes.
Lesson 2 At home	This lesson aims to get children thinking and talking about which areas or objects may pose a water danger at home (e.g. bathtubs, backyard swimming pools and garden pools)
Lesson 3 At the beach	This focus for this lesson is on the dangers posed by rips, waves, rocks and marine life at the beach. It provides children with an understanding of how to stay safe in a surf environment.
Lesson 4 At the river and lake	This lesson will help children grasp the concept of water safety at the river. Key points will include water movement such as currents and rips, as well as submerged obstacles and slippery banks.
Lesson 5 At the pool	This emphasis for this lesson is on rules and signage, as well as proper use of facilities and equipment.

**PERMISSION FORM -
Aqua Safe Lessons – Gungahlin Leisure Centre
Tuesday 13 March – Monday 19 March 2018**

- I have discussed with my child the need for sensible behaviour on this excursion.
- I authorise the school to make arrangements for the welfare of my child (including medical or surgical treatment) in an emergency and I agree to meet the costs associated with any emergency arrangements made by the school. I agree to provide to the school any medical information relevant to this excursion. Free ambulance transportation only applies in the ACT.
- I agree that my child will be under the authority of the school for the duration of the excursion.
- I give permission for my child to travel by private car, driven by a staff member or parent, in an emergency.
- I have read the attached information and understand what it contains.
- I understand that individual records of contributions are confidential.

Unacceptable behaviour will be treated as it is normally treated at school i.e., thinking time at a designated spot, exclusion from an activity. Some inappropriate behaviours may result in the child being returned to school or parents being requested to collect their child. Staff accompanying students on excursions will take all reasonable care while the students are in their charge to protect them from injury and to control and supervise their behaviour and activities.

Parents should be aware that staff members are not responsible for injuries or damage to property which may occur on an excursion where, in all circumstances, staff have not been negligent. Parents should warn children of the risk to themselves, to others and to property, of impulsive, wilful or disobedient behaviour. Parents should also be aware that no automatic insurance is provided by the ACT Government in respect of injuries to students, non-enrolled children or yourselves should an injury occur on an excursion. You may wish to consider taking out personal insurance cover for yourself and/or for students and non-enrolled children accompanying the excursion.

I hereby give permission for my child _____ of class _____ to attend the Aqua Safe water safety lessons held at Gungahlin Leisure Centre. I understand that my child will be travelling by bus.

I enclose \$..... Cash Cheque Quickweb (Visa/Mastercard) Direct Payment

Quick Web Payments – www.ngunnawalps.act.edu.au/payment

Fee Code: **Aqua16**

Direct Payment details:

Account - Ngunnawal Primary School **BSB** 032777 **A/c Number** 001738

Reference on direct deposit required i.e. **child's name** M. Bloggs *Class 1/2CD*

Full name of parent/ carer (please print): _____

Signature of parent/ carer: _____ Date: _____

This form requests information about students which will be held by the school. This information may be disclosed to government or private medical or para-medical staff and other relevant officers in the event of an accident or emergency. The information is collected as a lawful administrative function of the ACT Department of Education & Training and Children's, Youth & Family Services Bureau.