



DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 18th September – Safety Week – Superhero or pyjamas in the water

Saturday 23rd September – Last day of Term 3

Monday 9th October - Term 4 Starts

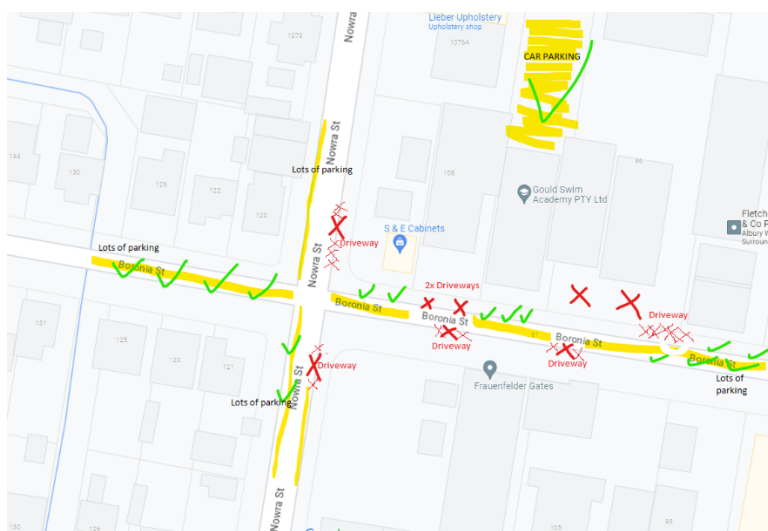
Saturday 21st October - Due Date for payment of fees in full to receive EBD \$10/child; arrange payment plan; pay holding fees

Saturday 16th December – Last day of Term 4 and the year!

Bugbear!!

Please, please do NOT park in or on neighbouring properties. Leave at least two metres either side of neighbouring properties to allow access for semi-trailers. We have had recent complaints from neighbouring businesses stating that access has been blocked, and extra costs being applied due to deliveries having to return later at unscheduled times as the driveway is blocked. This is becoming extremely tiresome for our neighbours, and us! We love our neighbours! Please use commonsense and courtesy when parking your vehicle. Any damage to your vehicle is your responsibility.

Our carpark is open for morning and afternoon lessons. When it is full then please park on Boronia or Nowra Streets without inhibiting neighbouring businesses capacity to operate. You may have to walk a little further but no different when going to K-Mart or Big W.



SAFETY WEEK

This week!!!! Please wear your favourite superhero costume or pyjamas in the pool! We ask that no goggles be worn so you know your eyes will be okay in the water without them. All children will partake in safety activities.

ALL CURRENT ENROLMENTS FROM TERM 3 ARE AUTOMATICALLY ROLLED OVER TO TERM 4...so your child/ren will continue to swim in their current lesson unless you have advised us otherwise. Note, the time/day of lessons is displayed on the term's invoice for your reference.

Fees Increase

Due to significant increases in operating costs, we have increased our lesson fees. The new fee is \$21 per lesson per child and will be applied to Term 4 invoices. We understand that this adds stress to the family budget, however, we are always willing to discuss payment plans to assist you. The earlier you communicate with us, the more weeks you have to pay fees.

HOLDING FEE

If you are considering a break during a particular term and would like to resume lessons in a later term, then we offer a holding fee. This means your child remains in their current class, we note their absence for the term, then they resume swimming in the same class in the following term. The cost is \$100 per child for the term and is in lieu of a full-paying student taking your child's position. This cost does not come off or credit towards the following term. Please advise reception if you wish to take up this option at any time so we can follow up administratively.

Please note, if you opt to take your child out of lessons altogether then we cannot guarantee you will get back in. We operate at capacity and have a waiting list.

CHANGING CLASSES

Do you need to change class times/days? We ask that you advise us of this as soon as is practicable. It assists us to arrange classes and instructors for the term. We understand that family commitments change throughout the year and are happy to support these if we can. We cannot always guarantee the change will occur immediately however we are able to advise when availability arises.

SCHOOL STARTERS IN 2024

Is your child starting primary school next year? Do they currently swim in a morning class? If so, then please advise reception immediately, if you haven't already. We have started allocating afternoon lessons for these children to start in Term 1 2024. This is a big task considering our numbers and your early cooperation assists us tremendously.

Going on holidays?? Injured?? Illness??

Please let us know in advance if you will be going away during the term, this helps us to ensure that you are getting enough make-up lessons for your child/ren and ensures that we can provide the appropriate teaching for your child if they have been away for some time.

If a child is injured, please do not hesitate to let us know. We are more than happy to discuss how we can best manage the situation so when your child heals, they can return to swimming. We find that doctors generally allow children to swim sooner with most injuries because of the hydrotherapy it can provide.

We really love that families are staying home when a child or parent is unwell! Your consideration for the community is most appreciated. It is also the best place to take some quiet time to recover comfortably. Please let us know you will not be coming in so we can arrange a make-up lesson for you. (See policy below.)

Staff Roles

There have been a few changes throughout this term, and we apologise for the disruption to the continuity of instructor in some classes. It is not ideal, nor what we would like to have.

We welcome the return of Annette, after a well-deserved rest, to our roster. We know many little ones are excited to see Annette again, as we are too!

We very sadly farewell Nic, Bell, Tanisha, and Jess from our team as they move onto other career paths. We appreciate your time with us and wish you all the very best!

Make-Up Lesson policy

Notice must be given to the reception staff by phone, email or in person, or a message left on the answering machine at least two (2) hours prior to the lesson. If notice is received, then a Make-Up lesson shall be granted.

- # A Make-Up lesson shall only be given when notice of absence is given 2 hours prior to lesson.
- # No Make-Up lesson shall be granted if notice of absence is given during or after the missed lesson.
- # All Make-Up lessons must be taken within the term. They are not transferable to the following term.
- # We cannot guarantee the same instructor and the day and time shall be determined by availability.
- # If you miss your Make-Up lesson then the lesson is forfeited.
- # Make-Up lessons cannot be used as credits for the next term.
- # Refunds are not given if you are unable to arrange a Make-Up lesson.

Operating at Capacity!

Yes, we are still operating at capacity, particularly our school-aged levels and beginner pre-school aged levels. We also still have an extensive waiting list. We are only able to work through this and offer positions when availability opens up. We understand and appreciate the value families place on swimming lessons. We appreciate that many families choose us to teach their children the life-saving skill of swimming, however, unfortunately we cannot accommodate everyone.

Holiday Intensive Program (HIP)

Our HIP has increased in popularity and demand during the past couple of years too. This operates for one week during the school holidays (at least two in January), is conducted in the mornings, has only two children per lesson, and availability is dependent on the number of instructors who nominate to work. This means that many on our contact list for this program will miss out. It may be a consideration to leave these positions to children who are not yet enrolled in swimming lessons so more children can learn the valuable life-saving skills.

Just the usual inhouse tips...

Please do **not** park on our neighbours' driveways at any time or day. They have the right to run their businesses without disruption from our activities and we want to keep your families safe too. Please use our carpark at the back of the premises.

Please drive around the premises at a safe speed, it is sign posted as 5km an hour. YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY AND EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Please remember to **mark your child/ren's names off at reception** before going swimming. This is to assist in the case of an emergency and to operate within 'child-friendly' protocols. It also assists with make-up lessons.

SWIM CAPS

Children 3 years and older are required to wear a swim cap in the pool please. This has always been our policy. It supports the filtration system to work most efficiently and effectively in maintaining a high quality of water. The swim cap policy applies to all children 3 years and older regardless of gender or hair length. If your child is not used to wearing a swim cap, then have a play with the cap in the bath at home. Your cooperation is appreciated and assists us to maintain our high standards of cleanliness and water quality for your child's benefit. We sell the lycra caps for \$10, and the GSA silicone caps for \$15 each, however we don't mind where you purchase a cap from.

Swim Nappies

Any child 3 years and under that is not appropriately toilet trained must wear an aqua nappy in the pool. A 'Code Brown' results in the pool being closed, classes being cancelled and staff hours being reduced.

Albury Swim Club Trial

Wow! What a turn out!! Well done to all the swimmers who trialled last Friday evening. All families will receive an email this week with the outcome and further information. Due to capacity levels and intake being capped at 30 for the Albury Swim Club, most will not be invited to join. Some will be encouraged to join another local swim club and others will remain with us to continue improving their techniques. Overall, all swimmers will be able to continue their swimming journey.

Summer Swimming

As the weather warms up, local pools open and you prepare your own for swimming, please also brush up on your responsibilities as a parent/carer of young children in and around water. Most children are naturally drawn to water through curiosity. Please ensure that:

- Pool fences meet regulations and are secure; Gates are closed and self-locking.
- Remove anything that a child can use to stand on or support them to climb the pool fence.
- You know how to perform rescues and do CPR.
- You appoint an active hands-on supervisor when your child is in the water. This means absolutely NO distractions. If you have to cease supervising then appoint another person, if not, then remove your child from the water and safely place them outside the pool enclosure.
- If at a party and children are in the water, then all parents/carers must know who is actively supervising. Do NOT assume that someone else is doing this role. Verbalise and agree between all parents/carers. You can even use a coloured hat or similar to denote the supervisor. Rotate the responsibility so all parents enjoy the occasion.
- When at a local pool, you are responsible for actively supervising YOUR child. This is not the role of the lifeguards or anyone else overseeing the facility. All children 10 years and under must have a guardian on site at all times.
- When at the Hume Weir or River, be sure the same active supervising responsibilities as above are employed.
 - Teach your child about cold-water temperatures, currents, undertow, hidden debris (snags) and what to do if they need assistance.
 - Teach your child that if they get tired and cannot swim, then roll onto their back and float with their feet pointing in the flow direction of the current. Yell out help whilst holding an arm straight up in the air. Keep floating until they hit the bank, feel able to swim toward the bank or someone assists them.
 - Use life jackets when in boats, skiing or being towed by a boat.
- Be sun smart; apply sunscreen, wear a hat, cover up and use shade. Keep hydrated.
- A person impaired by alcohol is NOT a responsible active supervisor.
- A child 16 years and under is NOT a responsible active supervisor.
- Enjoy the water and create wonderful memories!

THANK YOU TO OUR SWIMMING FAMILIES, STAFF AND CONTRACTORS FOR A TREMENDOUS TERM!

Enjoy the warmer weather, stay healthy and happy holidays!

Cheers Kristy & Tom, Janine & Wayne, and GSA team.