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Kingfishers Swim School Newsletter

December 2023

Issue 8

## Diary Dates

Subject to change. Keep an eye on the website/Facebook page/emails for any updates.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – 3 week Christmas closure commences.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Swim School reopens for Spring term 2024.

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Invoices emailed for second half of Spring term.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – fees due for second half of Spring term.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>-Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February – HALF TERM

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Swim School reopens for second half of Spring term.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Invoices emailed for first half of Summer term.

Week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> March – Assessment Week for Summer Term classes.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – FUN SWIM (NO SWIMMING 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Invoices due for first half of Summer term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – FUN SWIM WEEK

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April – 3 week Easter closure



What another fabulous term!

So many super achievements from our smallest swimmers gaining their water confidence to our competent swimmers learning pre-competition skills. Don't forget to check out the swimmers of the term on pages 4 and 5.

We have a record breaking number of 2 and 3yr olds graduating into Duckling and 1A classes after Christmas. Well done parents for taking that step back and encouraging your little ones, and of course trusting us to take good care of them.



## FUN FACTS

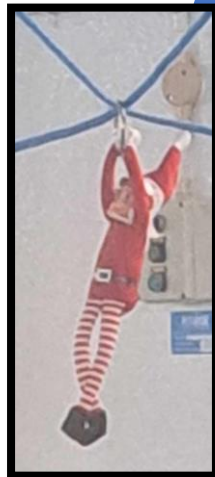
### Did you know?

15yr old Australian Ian Thorpe became the youngest ever world champion when he won the 400m freestyle in 1998.

The oldest stroke is the breaststroke, first recorded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The largest swimming pool in the world is in Egypt, at a staggering 100,000 square metres.

Swimming is great for your body and mind. It can keep you healthy, improve your mood and help you sleep better at night.



Fisher the elf has been keeping a close eye on the swimmers this month and he has been very impressed with how well you are all listening to your teachers.

He couldn't believe the number of awards you managed to complete between you either – a whopping 1332 this term, and a staggering 3127 in 2023! Amazing!

Did you know that every award completed at Kingfishers are official? That means that they are recognised awards nationwide so no matter what you do, you have them for life.

Please ensure we have your up-to-date mobile number and an email address that you look at regularly.

Last minute changes of closures will be sent by text. This is a no reply service. Updates will also be posted via Facebook. Invoices will continue to be sent by email. Check we are on your safe list so we don't go into your junk folder. If you are expecting an email or text and you don't receive it, please let us know so we can make sure we have your correct details.

If you need to speak to one of the team, email [denise@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk](mailto:denise@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk) , [sophie@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk](mailto:sophie@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk) or [jordan@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk](mailto:jordan@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk) or message us on Facebook.

# Reminder Reminder



Kingfishers

The Family Swim School



“Family is not an important thing. It's everything.”

MICHAEL J. FOX

Southern Living

As most of you know, Kingfishers Swim School is family run. But family comes in lots of different shapes and sizes and we see every single one of our families as a member of the Kingfishers Family. However, some families have been a part of Kingfishers for longer than others.

Sandy Larkin, who turned 80 this year, has been bringing her family to learn to swim at Kingfishers for longer than most. She brought her grandchildren George and Hayley May to learn to swim with us over 20 years ago. They are now 27 and 24 years old. Sandy now brings her Great Grandson George.



Avril Gordon brought her daughters Hayley and Zoe to Kingfishers in the 90s. Hayley now brings her 2 daughters Amara and Juno. She actually swam with Sophie and they are still friends today.

Another long standing member of the Kingfishers family is Natasha Ball. Taught by both Denise and her mum Eileen Bristow, Natasha and her brother were members of Kingfishers back in the 90s. Natasha became one of the first assistants, helping with the younger children. She returned with her daughter Emily about 10 years ago. Emily still swims with Kingfishers, all while assisting the little ones just like her mum did all those years ago.

Eileen Jarvis brought her two children to Kingfishers in the 90s and they are now 33 and 29yrs old. Her grandchildren learned to swim at Kingfishers and 14yr old Jack is still swimming with us now.



Laura Hewitt and her brother learned to swim at Kingfishers. Her 13yr old son learned with us and now her daughter Oliva does too.

Some of our teachers never left either! Ann brought her daughters Rebecca and Charlotte along to lessons. We advertised for a swimming instructor and Ann got the job! She now brings her grandchildren Layla and Hallie.

Hazel taught Sophie at RADs (Rochford Swimming Club) at Clements Hall. She knew her mum ran Kingfishers and openly admits she was anxious to teach her at first! Hazel started working at Kingfishers, and although Sophie tried to tell her how to do her job a couple of times (sorry Hazel!), the 10yr old didn't put Hazel off and she is still teaching (and so much more!) with us today. Hazel brought her children Dan, Luke and Dale to Kingfishers and they swam with Denise's children until they were teenagers. They now bring the next generation and Freya and Naomi are super little swimmers. We look forward to welcoming Phoebe next term in the baby class.



These families are definitely honourable Kingfishers Family members. We appreciate you all.



**Please continue to remove your shoes BEFORE entering the changing rooms and remember to take your nappies home.**

**Thank you for your support.**

# HELLO AND GOODBYE!

## Staffing changes

How lucky I am  
to have some-  
thing that makes  
saying goodbye  
so hard.

~Winnie the Pooh~



We are saying goodbye to Lucy for a little while.

Lucy is heading off to Australia for a spot of travelling. We are all very jealous and can't wait to hear about her adventures. Lucy has been with Kingfishers for a number of years now and we wish her every success. She will be missed.

Denise will be returning to lessons on a Tuesday and Saturday.

Sophie will be returning to Friday.

Ann will be leaving Saturday swim school next term.

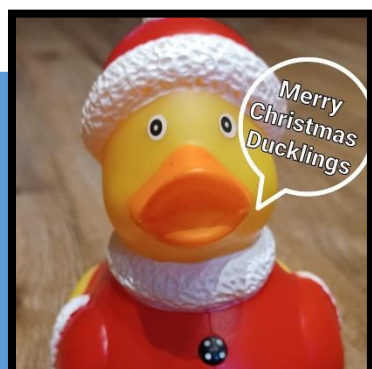
Good luck to our swimmers who are leaving us this term for whatever reason. We wish you all well in your next adventures.

### Kingfishers Fund Update

Thank you for all your support in our fundraising efforts.

We have been able to support a number of families who would otherwise not be able to fund swimming lessons or vital equipment for their children.

If you'd like to find out more about the Kingfishers Fund, or make a donation, please email [denise@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk](mailto:denise@kingfishersswimschool.co.uk).



Each teacher has nominated  
some students for swimmer  
of the term.  
Congratulations if you were  
nominated!

## SWIMMER OF THE TERM

### The Nominations are in...

Ariana Siciliani – for putting her face in more regularly and being brave.

Jack Hynes – for now loving going underwater (so much so I can't keep him above the water now!)

Amelia-Rose – for always trying hard and with a smile on her face.

Ronnie Youles – improving week in, week out and pushing himself to succeed.

Cian Carretta – for finding his confidence and even swimming in the deep end.

Melissa Kapinus – for holding on in the lesson and being a joy to teach as she giggles the entire time!

Isaac Day – for super listening and even swimming a short distance with his face in the water and without aids (even if it was for a pink doughnut with sprinkles on!)

Parker Croxford – for joining in with the lesson and holding on.

The whole of the Rising 3s 9am group (and their parents!) on Saturday morning for being superstars and now swimming without Mummy or Daddy in the water.

Emily Doubleday – for finding her confidence again and for jumping in and treading water.

Mia Tulino and Romee – for enjoying their lessons and no longer getting upset. Well done girls!

Freddie McGregor – for overcoming his anxieties over group lessons.

Eliza Dominique – for gaining her confidence and swimming independently.

Shoshana Brosnan – for gaining her confidence.

Tabby Watkins – for overcoming her fear and getting in confidently.

Daisy Turner – for excellent progress.

Thomas McEwen – for excellent progress.

Minnie Neighbour – for consistently showing great progress.

Eli Toscani – for always pushing himself.

Rae Wakeling – for overcoming her fears and increasing in water confidence.

Theo Baker – for getting braver and braver each week.

Daisy Pickup – for trying really hard and conquering her fears.

Finley Lisner – for working really hard and swimming without aids.

Sidney Schrader – for always making me smile!

George Miller – for asking so many questions and always pushing himself to do well.

Lara James – for her improvement and confidence this term.

George Bewers – for always pushing himself.

Callie Wells – for lots of progress this term.

Iris-Mia Kurroda-Connington – for being a pleasure to teach and a super swimmer.

Darcy O'Connor – for always bringing the energy and keeping me on my toes!

Brody Richards – for trying his best and improving massively.

Arthur Spearpoint – for huge progress over this term.

Felicity Robertson – for super listening now.

Avi Patel – for always listening and trying his very best and for super progress this term.

Wyatt Mayes-Macklin – for always trying his best, even when he finds things tricky.





## The Nominations continued...

Quinn Reeves – for trying her best and making me smile.

Arthur Dines – for confidence in putting his own face in the water.

Naomi Sellick – for her determination and confidence. What a super star!

Freya Palmer – for regaining her confidence.

Tate Thompson – for doing his very best to concentrate even though he finds it tricky.

Berite Dalton – for overcoming his fears.

Elijah Bolukbasi – for great improvement.

Harper Turnidge – for regaining her confidence.

Rosie Churn – for gaining her confidence.

Ralph McGregor – for always working hard to improve.

Marnie Hems-Green – for always being willing to try new things, even if it seems scary.

Elsa Bowyer – for keeping up in a challenging class.

Kasper Shipp – for really trying to put his whole face in the water.

Reginald Jenkins – for great improvement in his water confidence.

Raeya Pandit – for trying really hard to overcome her fear of having no armbands.

Matty Ferguson – for really improving his front crawl with breathing.

Alba Rubio – for improvement in front crawl and back crawl arms.



for regaining her confidence.

Well done Harper!