

Stay up to date!

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/kingfishersswimschool/>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaChwUMiKltS3XUq7llxgdQ>

Instagram [@kingfishersswimschool](https://www.instagram.com/kingfishersswimschool)

Diary Dates

Monday 30th March – 3 WEEK EASTER BREAK

Saturday 11th April – Sponsored Swim

Monday 20th April – Swim school reopens for first half of Summer term.

Monday 25th May – HALF TERM WEEK

Monday 1st June – Swim school reopens for second half of Summer term

Monday 29th June – Invoices emailed for first half of Autumn term

Monday 29th June – Saturday 4th July - Assessments for next terms classes

Monday 6th July - Water Safety week for all classes

Saturday 11th July – Invoices due for first half of Autumn term

Monday 13th – Saturday 18th July – Photo and fun swim week

Monday 20th July – 6 WEEK SUMMER BREAK

Please note that these are preliminary dates and are subject to change.



Kingfishers Swim School Newsletter

March 2026

Issue 15

Happy Easter!

What a term! Thank you for bearing with us while the swim school makes it's biggest changes in the last decade. After Denise making the incredibly difficult decision to step back from owning the business, we had to make some changes to our timetable which has meant finishing Saturday Swim School. Also, with the building works at the school imminent and not wanting to cause disruption to our swimmers, plus having a very busy family life of our own, it seemed time to step back from Saturdays.

Thank you so much to every single family who have made changes to move over to weekdays and for all of your kind words during this transition. It truly means the world to us as a family.



After taking her Swimming Teacher's exams in 1983, Denise worked alongside her own mum, Eileen Bristow, delivering the council swimming lessons and lessons in lots of the local primary schools. When the council decided to stop funding swimming lessons in 1994, the Kingfishers Swim School was born!

From those very first lessons under the Kingfishers name in September 1994, Denise has worked tirelessly to make sure that Kingfishers provides excellent quality lessons at a price that gives as many families as possible the opportunity to learn to swim. Profit has never been in the forefront of the business, but a lifetime of care and a dedication to create a friendly environment where every child can thrive in their own way.

Denise will still be delivering swimming lessons on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and continuing to help Sophie and Jordan run the day to day swim school so we are not letting her leave completely quite yet!



Picture taken around 1992 at the King Edmund School, Denise holding Sophie and brother Paul (before Jordan was born). Denise's Nan Edie watching behind.

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.

Reminder

If you're not yet on the WhatsApp group, follow the link in your email to stay in the loop!

Kingfishers Charity Update

We are pleased to announce that the Kingfishers Charity Fund has been awarded £1000 from the Tesco Stronger Starts Fund. Thank you so much for all of your tokens!

Our next charity event will be a **sponsored swim event** on 11th April 2026.

Swim your next distance award (or further) for an amazing cause. There are very limited spaces left, so if you want to take part, fill in the form ASAP!

<https://forms.gle/uAMptewJPArheAKi7>

Entry is free, but there is a minimum sponsorship amount of £20. The more you raise, the more gifts you will receive!

All profits from this event will go directly into the Kingfishers Charity Account. All staff will volunteer their time and so will not be paid.



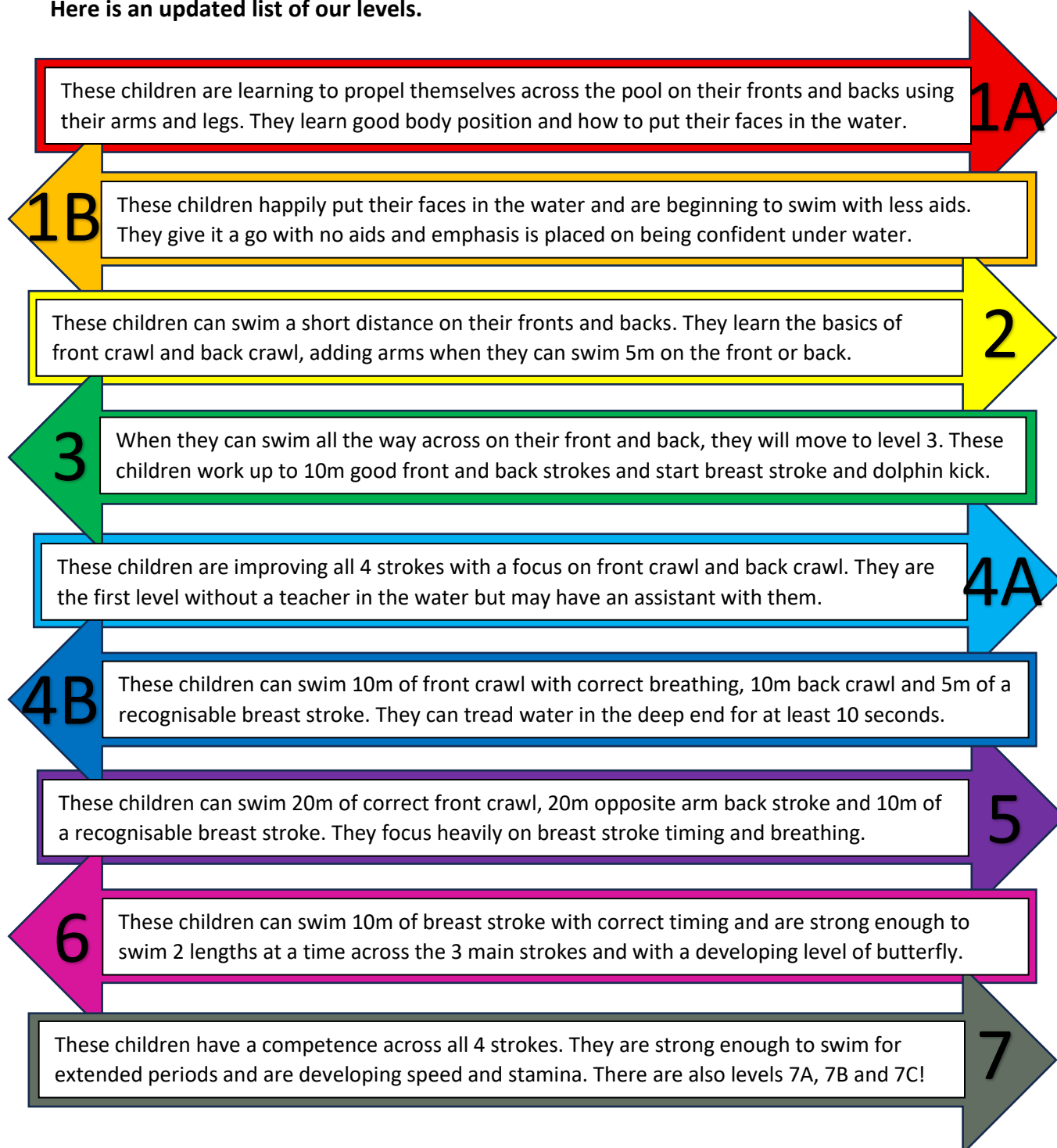
The Kingfishers Swim School has donated extra hooks to be placed in the girl's changing rooms at the King Edmund School and purchased portable benches to alleviate some of the changing pressures. We know it isn't a perfect solution, but we are hoping it helps while we wait to see what the new building works will provide.

SWIM SCHOOL NEWS

As a part of our commitment to make sure we keep moving forward, we have made some adjustments to our mainstream levelling system.

Remember, we are a flexible levelling swim school, which means that although we use badges and level descriptors as a baseline, we also use teacher assessment and knowledge of what the individual child needs, to make sure each child receives what they need to develop in their swimming.

Here is an updated list of our levels.



FAREWELL TO GRACE

We are saying goodbye to a very valuable member of our team, Grace. Grace currently only works for us on a Saturday as she works for the NHS weekdays full time. We know our swimmers will miss seeing Grace at the pool, and so will we.

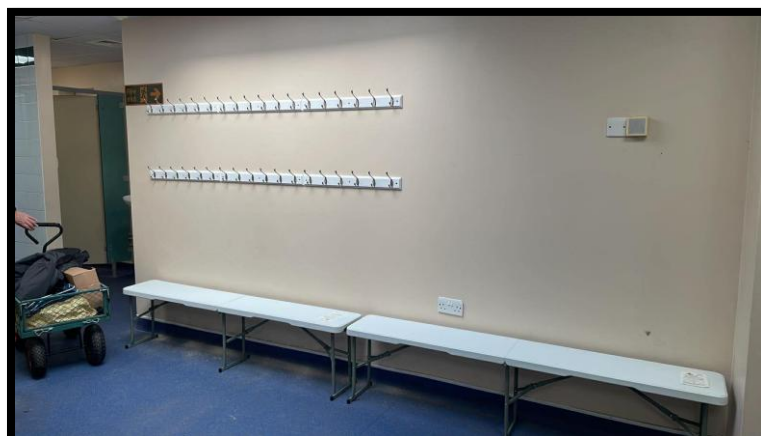
I am sure she will be around and it won't really be a goodbye. Grace will continue to teach adults in her spare time for the council.

Grace has worked for Kingfishers for a number of years now and we are forever grateful for the time she has committed to the swim school, even with her full time job during the week.



CHANGING ROOMS

We have purchased and installed some additional hooks in the girls changing room to try and help with the space issue. Please place your clothes in your bags and hang up while you are swimming to keep the benches clear for changing. Hopefully this will help with the changing space.



SWIMMER OF THE TERM

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

The Nominations are in...

Matty Ferguson - for mastering his roly polys!
Rachel White – for all the effort she puts in to her level 7 class.
Lylie Lane - for all the effort she puts in to her level 7 class.
Aaron Dredge - for making his 400m Gold Standard.
Savannah Godefroy - for overcoming her nervousness and making the next level.
Dylan Spencer - for always trying his best.
Teddy Buckingham - for being such a superstar and trying so hard with everything he does.
Herbie Lawrence - for doing so well with his front crawl.
Amelie Bradford - for being brave every week and blowing us some bubbles.
Elliott Schofield - for practicing putting his face in every week.
Tobias Halliwell - for working on his front crawl arms.
Annabel McRitchie - for gaining more and more confidence each week.
Felicity Fey - for getting faster in her swimming and always trying hard each week.
Isaac Hills - for being such a lovely boy to teach and always smiling.
Alice Graveling - for swimming the length in the middle of the pool.
Millie Tatum - for her smiles, confidence and growth in her swimming this term.
Amelia Ficken - who has been a pleasure to teach and always so polite.
To all of Angie's Rookies who have been amazing this term and shown true team work xx well done!
Leo Brown - for his enthusiasm and strength.
Eddie Durham - for always going outside his comfort zone and giving everything 100%.
Saachi Srai-Gill - for always smiling and always helping others.
George Beeson – for gaining his confidence enough to swim independently.
Lolade Keshiro - for trying everything that is asked of her even if it's really tricky.
Zara Tickett - for always doing her best.
Lottie Tobin - for making big improvements in her swimming skills.
Lilah Yelland - for always trying her best.
Nell Buxton-Judd - for conquering her fears.
Charlotte Bowyer - for excellent swimming.
Emily Martin - for huge improvement.
Esme Pickett - for finding her confidence and floating on her front and back with armbands.
Frankie Griggs - for huge improvement
Lily Etheridge - for trying really hard with her diving.





The Nominations continued...

Hudson Ellis - for working really hard and swimming in the deep end and achieving
Ivy Bramley - for working really hard.
Luke Glover - for working really hard in the level 7 group and being really determined.
Phoebe Sellick - for doing the whole lesson without going to mum for her dummy.
Larissa Smyth Williams - for embracing and loving swimming each week.
Chester Martin - for moving down to 2 arm bands and gaining more confidence each week.
Louis Triance - for overcoming his fears and swimming in the deep end.
Leo Stembridge - for his hard work and strength .
Edie Hook - always giving 100% and doing so well in her lessons.
Olive Benson – for putting her face in regularly now.
Lyra Hems-Green – for putting her face in regularly now.
Felix Banks - for putting his face regularly now.
James Webb - for being braver every single week.
Holly Higgins - for her eagerness and hard work.
Coralie Sadler – for swimming with her eyes in and legs up behind her.
Leo Hockley – for putting his face in!
Oakley Stone – for working hard to improve his breast stroke.
Polly Logan – for gaining her confidence in getting across the pool.
Reginald Jennings – for an excellent attitude to his lessons and trying extra hard.
Reggie Kirk – for super improvement in stamina.
Lily-Mae Hookway – for always listening to instructions so well that she is whizzing through her badges and skills!
Morgan Menhennet – for super effort in his lessons. Good luck in Wales!
George Miller – for always trying so hard.
George Saxon – for overcoming his fears and trying so hard on new skills.
Jacob Beach – for being the hardest working swimmer I have ever had.
Luna Bobin – for working hard and trying her best.
Aayush Patel – for trying his best.
Isaac Browne – for being really kind and getting more confident.
Jacob Overall – for taking off an armband and being more confident.
Lydia Lamb – for being really polite and kind to everyone.
Zachary Gouldstone – for trying his best and getting more confident.
Lola Burkett – for putting her face in, jumping in and trying hard!
Lucy Taylor-Remblance – for listening really well and being really kind.
Hugh Black – for listening really well and taking off his armbands.
Finley Gillies – for getting more confident and trying hard.
Isla Latchford – for taking off her armbands.
Jessica's Saturday 10am Level 1A class, Lucas Ralph, Rosie Durham, Arthur Dines and Henry Beeson for encouraging each other.



Edie Hook

for always giving 100%
and doing so well in her
lessons.

Well done Edie!