



November 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to announce the upcoming swimming trials for learners in Grades 2–4 in 2025. These trials are an essential part of our swimming program, and we aim to ensure a smooth and organized process for all participants. Please carefully read the details below to understand how the trials will be conducted for your child.

Important Information:

- **Priority:** The swimming trials will take precedence over all “off-season” sports practices and any “private sport” commitments. If your child cannot attend the trials on their allocated day, please notify Mrs. Davenport in advance.
- **Attendance:** If your child does not attend any of the trials, they will NOT be eligible to swim in the UPS Interhouse Gala.

Trial Dates and Times:

- **Grade 1 & 2:**
 - Grade 1: Learners will be assessed during their PT sessions.
 - Grade 2: Monday, 20th January | Time: 2:15 – 3:15 PM.
- **Grade 3 & 4:**
 - Grade 3: Thursday, 16th January | Time: 2:15 – 3:15 PM.
 - Grade 4: Thursday, 16th January | Time: 3:15 – 4:15 PM.

Trial Format:

1. Swimming Assessment:

Each child will be assessed by experienced instructors on key swimming skills, including floating, basic strokes, and water confidence.

2. Grouping:

Learners will be grouped according to their swimming abilities into Beginner, Stroke or Squad categories. These groupings will be adjusted as the season progresses.

3. Swimming Squad:

- Squad swimmers will represent the school at various galas, including B Age Galas held at the Newton Park 50m Pool.
- Squad participation is **COMPULSORY** for these galas, and swimmers must be comfortable with at least two strokes.

4. **Safety Measures:**

- Safety is our top priority. If your child cannot swim unaided, they should not attend afterschool swimming sessions.
- Only water-safe children who can float or kick with a kickboard will be allowed to participate. For those who need foundational lessons, I can provide contact numbers for Learn-to-Swim programs.

Post-Trial Schedule:

After the trials, Mrs. Davenport will provide feedback and share the results. PT swimming sessions during school hours will continue to build swimming skills for all levels.

Important: The first two weeks of after-school swimming will be exclusively for children participating in the UPS Interhouse Gala.

Schedule for UPS Interhouse Gala Swimmers Only:

- **Week 2:** 21st, 22nd, and 23rd January.
- **Week 3:** 27th, 28th, and 29th January.

Regular swimming as per the Extra-Mural timetable will resume on Monday, 3rd February.

Interhouse Gala Reminder:

Our Interhouse Gala is scheduled for the 30th of January due to the early dates of the Interschool's Gala, which subsequently impacts the Karoo and Interdistrict gala's.

We believe swimming is a vital life skill, and we are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for your child to develop their abilities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via **WhatsApp at 079 692 8024**. Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to seeing your child participate in the swimming trials.

Yours in Swimming,

Natalie Davenport

UPS Swimming

WhatsApp at 079 692 8024.