



Woodlands School

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January 24th, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Woodlands School is pleased to once again be giving our students the opportunity to take part in a “Learn to Swim” program. We feel it is important that we expose our students to this important life skill in a safe, high quality instructional environment. Due to staff efforts to secure grants, we are happy to let you know there will be no cost to families for this program.

Due to the pandemic, we haven’t been able to offer this program to our students since 2020. Due to this reason, we have made the decision to increase the number of students that are taking part in the swimming program this year. For this current school year, all students in the Grade 3 to 8 will be taking part in the swimming program. After this year, we will assess where we are at, and discuss future programming possibilities. More than likely if this program continues beyond this year, we will limit the age range of the students involved. Looking ahead, we are hopeful that by the time each student finishes grade 8 they will have taken part in 4 rounds of swimming lessons.

Since there are 4 classrooms going each day, there will be some downtime when the students are not in the pool. In an effort to keep them active and busy, we have rented a sheet of ice at Stride Place where some students can skate if they choose to. If a student wishes to skate they will need to bring their own pair of skates, and a CSA approved hockey helmet. A pair of elbow pads, and hockey gloves are highly recommended. Students will not be allowed to bring hockey sticks or engage in shiny hockey during this time. Students are responsible for bringing their own equipment and keeping track of it. Parents of students that do not have skates and a helmet but wish to take part in this activity are encouraged to plan to find this equipment prior to the program starting. Students that do not wish to skate during their “non-swimming time” will have an opportunity to eat their snack, use the walking track around the rink, or engage in a quiet activity (i.e. reading).

On the second page you will find a more detailed description of the activity that will be starting next week. Please read this information over carefully.

The third page is the permission form. This form (blue paper) will be given to all students this week, and needs to be signed and returned to the school prior to the student participating in the activity. There is an expectation that all students will be taking part in this program. Thank you to the Manitoba Coalition for Safer Waters, and JumpStart for their generous support of this important initiative.

Any questions or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact the school. Thank you.

Tim Lee
Principal
Woodlands School

“Preparing Today’s Learner for Tomorrow”

OUT-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITY

Description of Activity

- Red Cross 'Learn to Swim' Swimming Lessons for students in grades 3 to 8.
- Ice Skating (optional)

Trip Destination

- Shindleman Aquatic Centre/Stride Place – Island Park, Portage La Prairie MB.

Time and Dates

Tuesday, January 31 st , 2023	Tuesday, February 28 th , 2023
Tuesday, February 7 th , 2023	Tuesday, March 7 th , 2023
Tuesday, February 14 th , 2023	Tuesday, March 14 th , 2023
Tuesday, February 21 st , 2023	Tuesday, March 21 st , 2023

- bus will leave Woodlands School at 8:45 am and return to the school at approximately 1:00 pm.

Supervision information

- Mr.Lee, Ms.Page, Ms.Gray, Ms.Prefontaine, and Mr.McLean will be the teachers-in-charge on these days. There will be additional teaching and support staff that will attend each day.
- Shindleman Aquatic Centre will provide certified instructors and lifeguards for the duration of the time the students are in the pool.

Mode of transportation

Students will be transported by school bus to and from Shindleman Aquatic Centre/Stride Place.

Information regarding risks and risk management procedures

As in all physical activities, there is potential for injury in swimming. Swimming is a high-risk activity. There will be lifeguards on site, and staff will be providing supervision on the pool deck, in the washrooms, and throughout the facility to monitor risk. Prior to entering the water, students will receive instruction on safety measures. Ice Skating is a moderate risk activity. Students will not be allowed to skate unless they are wearing a CSA approved helmet that fits properly.

Specific costs

No cost to families.

What Students are responsible for bringing with them on each trip

- Swimming attire / swim suits are required.
- Towel.
- Sandals for the showers/changeroom.
- Plastic bag for wet clothing after lesson.
- Lunch kit stocked with snacks.
- Backpack to carry all their swim supplies and lunch kit.
- Proper winter wear including toque, mitts, winter boots.
- Swim goggles (preference only – not required)

Skating (optional): CSA approved helmet, ice skates, hockey gloves or winter mitts/gloves.

PARENTAL INFORMED CONSENT

Activity Title: Swimming Lessons and Skating (optional) at Shindleman Aquatic Centre - Portage

Dates of Activity:	Tuesday, January 31 st , 2023	Tuesday, February 28 th , 2023
	Tuesday, February 7 th , 2023	Tuesday, March 7 th , 2023
	Tuesday, February 14 th , 2023	Tuesday, March 14 th , 2023
	Tuesday, February 21 st , 2023	Tuesday, March 21 st , 2023

Name of Student (please print): _____

Board Responsibilities:

The board will make every reasonable effort through the application of its policies and procedures, to provide for thorough preparation and planning and implementation of out of school activities undertaken by its employees, agents and officers.

I / We, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that certain risks of injury are inherent in the participation in sports, recreational activities and other off-school site programs. These types of injuries may be minor or serious.

I / We understand that, in case of emergency medical or hospital services being required by the above-listed participant, and with the understanding that every reasonable effort will be made by the school/hospital to contact me, my signature on this form authorizes the board, through its employees, agents, and officers, [to] secure such medical advice and services as they deem necessary for my child's health and safety, and that I shall be financially responsible for such advice and services.

I / We understand that the Rules and Regulations pertaining to this activity are designed for the safety and protection of participants

I / We acknowledge my right to obtain as much information as I require about this program or activity and associated risks and hazards, including information beyond that provided to me by the school.

I / We acknowledge that it is my responsibility to advise the school of any medical and/or health concerns of my child that may affect his/her participation in the stated program or activity.

I / We understand that the choice to participate brings with the individual the ASSUMPTION OF RISK which is part of those activities.

I / We understand and agree that this is a part of the school program. I/We also understand that as a result of participating in this program that the participant is expected to follow the school procedures and code of conduct and that any deviations from these may result in consequences from the school administration.

I / We declare having read and understood the above INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT in its entirety and hereby consent to participate being aware of all the foregoing.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

In order for your child to participate in this event, this signed consent form must be received at the school before the event.

“Preparing Today’s Learner for Tomorrow”