



Autumn Update

Term dates

Term 1: 13 weeks

7 September to
13 December
excluding half term
(26 October
1 November)

2010

Term 2: 11 weeks

4 January to 28 March
excluding half term
(15 -21 February)

Term 3: 13 weeks

19 April to 25 July
excluding half term
(31 May – 6 June)

No lessons

28 November –due to
swimming gala – see
page 2

Badge dates

Weeks beginning:

2 November 2009
22 February 2010
7 June 2010



Swim School Member

Underwater photography date fixed

By popular demand, Swimcats has organised another chance to see themselves underwater!

Sunday 1 November is the date set for an underwater photographic session.

Last year Swimcats organised a chance for babies to be pictured underwater. But following numerous requests, this year all swimmers – irrespective of their age –

can join the fun and be photographed underwater.

To keep costs as low as possible, a different photographer has been booked. Madeline and Jacqi are confident that the photographs will be as good, if not better, than last year.

The cost is £40 which includes a booking fee and one print. Additional prints can be ordered.

The session will take place at Madeline's pool in Bittaford, near Ivybridge.

To book, telephone Jacqi or email her indicating your preferred time and she will do her best to accommodate you. Apart from having a fun time, you will have a lasting record of your child's swimming.

Book a place today!

Prices increase to maintain quality

For the first time since Swimcats was launched four years ago, Jacqi and Madeline are having to increase the cost of lessons.

Swimcats strives to provide the highest quality of teaching in the region and to do this it needs to be able to compete in the market for the highest calibre of teachers.

To do this it must pay at least the market rate and also ensure that staff receive regular training so that they maintain their skills.

Like any other business, Swimcats costs have also

increased leaving no option but to increase rates from the start of this term (7 September). At the same time, Swimcats is standardising prices across all its pools.

The new rates (with typical comparisons) are:

Individual lessons will increase by 35 pence to £15.30 for 30 minutes.

Shared lessons increase by £1 to £11.00.

Group lessons increase by 47 pence to £7.95

Jacqi said: "There is never a good time to increase prices and we

are sorry that we need to do so.

"We believe these rates represent excellent value and that children who come to Swimcats make good progress in learning to swim, in lifesaving and in improving their techniques."

Cut price swimming

Through Swimcats, discounted swimming rates continue to be available at both the New Continental and Holiday Inn Hotels in Plymouth. Books of 10 swimming vouchers can be at £20 for children and £40 for adults.

Controlling cost – have we got your email address?

Swimcats is always looking to cut the cost of its admin and speed up and improve communication.

One area where savings can be made is by cutting the cost of postage through making better use of email.

So from this coming term all invoices and other

correspondence will be emailed to parents and carers unless you tell us that this will cause you problems.

Correct contact details?

Increasingly we are finding that we do not have the most up to date contact details for swimmers and carers. So if you have moved

house or changed name, or have a new email, phone or mobile number, please make sure Swimcats have your updated details.

As well as being essential for emergencies, this will stop time and money being wasted in abortive attempts to contact parents and speed up and improve communication.

Penguin gala date set

Plymouth Leander has again invited Swimcats to run its next gala at Plymouth College.

It is on 28 November with width races in the morning and lengths in the afternoon.

Swimmers, aged four and over, will have great fun as well as the chance to compare their skills against children of similar ages and standards.

The entry form will be printed on the reverse of

the termly invoice and it costs just £3.50 for each swimmer to take part.

There is lots of room for friends and family to watch so come and cheer the children on – it is a fun event!

Safety on poolside and in changing rooms

It's really important that children not having lessons are properly supervised at all times.

We appreciate it can be frustrating for siblings or friends having to watch lessons, but it is essential that any boredom does not result in misbehaviour which could cause danger for themselves, other swimmers and spectators.

Swimcats staff are only responsible for the safety of swimmers during a specific lesson and are not responsible for the

safety of those swimming after or before a lesson.

Whilst pool staff are all qualified lifeguards, their role is not to supervise or look after swimmers and spectators.

So it is essential that parents, carers or childminders take

responsibility for making sure their charges are safe and well.

So please make sure you are aware of the rules of each pool that you are attending and make sure your children do nothing which could upset, annoy or endanger other pool users.

**Madeline Allen
Jacqi Chalmers**

OFFICE

The Business Centre
2 Cattedown Road
Plymouth
PL4 0EG

PHONE

01752 264466

E-MAIL

jacqi@swimcats.co.uk
madeline@swimcats.co.uk

ASA qualified
instructors

CRB checked

Trained in child
protection

PLEASE NOTE

**The Swimcats mobile number
07885 982526
no longer operates**