



30th July 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Forrest Primary – Yr 2 Aqua Safe Program

The Royal Life Saving Aqua Safe Program teaches children the importance of water safety and awareness. This year children will be given the opportunity to build on their swimming skills and develop safety awareness in and around water. Children will attend swimming lessons each day in their allocated time for the two weeks.

Please read the attached information from AQUASAFE. Further information regarding the online enrolment will be sent out to students next week.

Any children not attending will be working on an alternate educational program at school.

Date:	Start date: Monday 24th August
	Finish date: Friday 4th September
Departure Time:	
	Session 1- Depart- 11:15am
	Session 2- Depart- 11:50am
Destination:	Return- 12:30pm
	Return- 1:05pm
Mode of Travel:	Canberra International Sports & Aquatic Centre (CISAC)
Staff member accompanying group:	Bus
Name of Coordinating Teacher:	Tracey Elliott, Amber Piper and Helena Vrkic
Details of cost:	Belinda Gough
Means of contact with the group:	\$50.00 (includes transport & lessons)
Due Date for return of permission note:	Via Forrest Primary Front Office 6205 5644
	Thursday 20 August

Staff accompanying students on excursions will take all reasonable care while the students are in their charge to protect them from injury and to control and supervise their behaviour and activities.

Parents should be aware that staff members are not responsible for injuries or damage to property, which may occur on an excursion where, in all circumstances, staff have not been negligent. Parents should warn children of the risks to themselves, to others and to property, of impulsive, wilful or disobedient behaviour.

Yours faithfully,

Year 2 Team

Forrest Primary – Yr 2 Swim & Survive Program

Please note that all permission notes need to be returned by **Thursday 20 August**
Please tick the appropriate box.

I give permission for my child..... of (class)
to attend the excursion to **Canberra International Sports & Aquatic Centre (CISAC)**
Monday 24th August to Friday 4th September.

I do not give permission for my child..... of..... (class)
to attend the excursion to **Canberra International Sports & Aquatic Centre (CISAC)**
Monday 24th August to Friday 4th September.

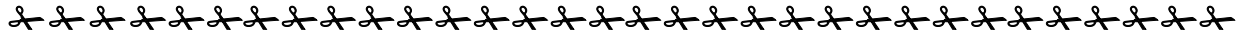
I have enclosed \$50.00 cash OR I have paid online

I have read the attached information regarding this excursion and understand the content.

Full name of parent (please print):

Signature of parent:Date: / /

Parent contact number for the day



Forrest Primary – Yr 2 Swim & Survive Program Payment

Preferred payment Option - Online Payment Facility

Fee Code: Aqua Safe

Via the Forrest Primary School website, using the "Payment" button located on the top ribbon. This will take you to a secure Westpac bank site where you can make a payment direct to the School's Bank account.

Payments can be made using a Credit or Debit card. Receipts are available on the site.

I have enclosed **\$50.00** cash

Cash payments need to be correct money please, as we do not have change.



AQUASAFE

Water Safety & Awareness Program

Dear Parents,

This year at school we are excited to include a brand new Water Safety and Awareness Program for Year 2 students! The program, AQUASAFE™, is the product of a partnership between the ACT Government Education and Training Directorate and Royal Life Saving ACT. It aims to instill vital water safety skills in all Year 2 public school students. This program, along with other swimming and water safety lessons they may participate in, will help your child to be smart around water and to stay AQUASAFE™.

AQUASAFE™ consists of 5 classroom-based theory lessons delivered by our year 2 teachers at school, and 10 pool-based lessons delivered by qualified Royal Life Saving ACT program instructors. The theory lessons will incorporate activities that allow students to explore the hazards and risks associated with various water environments including around the home, at the beach, at public pools and community areas such as storm water drains and ponds. The pool-based lessons will teach basic skills such as using a lifejacket, treading water, and floating. For competent students these skillsets will be extended to include basic rescue and other survival skills.

The new AQUASAFE™ program provides skills and knowledge that are an important part of your child's development and well-being and we would like to encourage as many year 2 students as possible to participate. To achieve this, Joy Burch, Minister for Education and Training, has ensured available funding for each and every public year 2 students in the ACT. This provision means that the cost per student is just \$50. This equates to less than \$3.50 per lesson! We're sure you and your family will see the value.

Confirmation of your child's school booking into the program will be finalised shortly and you will receive information next week about how to enroll your child through the secure Royal Life Saving ACT enrolment website. All payments will still be payable to the school and if you do not have access to email or internet, a paper enrolment form will be available to you.

If you have any questions about the new AQUASAFE™ program, participation for your child, or about the enrolment process, please use the contacts below to direct your enquiry. We hope you are as excited about this opportunity as we are. We look forward to the children participating later this year.

For participation enquiries, please contact the school on 62055644

For program content and online enrolment enquiries, please contact Royal Life Saving ACT on 62605800 or nlloyd@rlssa.org.au

Cherry O'Connor
Executive Director, Royal Life Saving ACT



Dear Parents

An Excursion Medical Information and Consent Form is already held at Forrest Primary School for your child. To ensure that the information on this form is accurate and current, you are requested to advise the school immediately of any changes that should be reflected on the Medical Information and Consent form kept at the school and arrange to update the form.

The information you are requested to give will be used to record the student's medical, accident and other details. The contents and use of this form meet the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1998(Cwth)* and will be treated as confidential. This information will be made available to government or private medical or paramedical staff and other relevant officers in the event of an accident or emergency.

You have the right to keep certain medical information private, provided that the omitted information will not affect the provision of appropriate medical care. You are also entitled to check the record processed from the information you have provided, and to correct any inaccuracies.

Management of Medical Conditions

The directorate is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students. While school staff have a duty of care to students to provide first aid assistance when required, parents will be aware that schools cannot be responsible for the general management of medical conditions.

In special circumstances, staff may be able to assist with the administration of medication. In these cases, directorate policies require principals to ensure that a comprehensive written authority is obtained from the student's parents and also seek from them a written statement from the student's doctor authorising a member of staff to administer the prescribed medication.

First Aid Plans for Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and Epilepsy

You are asked to inform the Front Office of any changes to your child's Medical Information and Consent form that is held at school. For students who are known sufferers of asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes, or epilepsy, Emergency Treatment Plans must be completed, signed by both parents/carers and the student's doctor and provided to the school.

Proformas for these plans are available at the school's front office. In the absence of a written and signed Emergency Treatment Plan, only standard first aid can be given in an emergency.

Emergency Treatment of an Asthma Attack

Please read this section carefully and seek clarification from your family doctor if necessary. These plans will be followed where students require first aid treatment for their condition. If the student should suddenly collapse at school and/or have difficulty in breathing, as with all medical emergencies, professional help will be sought immediately.

Where indicated, a bronchodilator inhaler device ("puffer") will be administered while awaiting medical assistance, whether or not the student is known to have a pre-existing asthma or other health problems.

This treatment could be lifesaving and ACT Health (Department of Thoracic Medicine, The Canberra Hospital) advises that bronchodilator inhalers are safe and are accepted as a first line therapy to be used in the emergency procedures for asthma.

Anaphylaxis – Administration of Adrenaline by EpiPen or Similar Device

If your child suffers from anaphylaxis, you should obtain a written Anaphylaxis Treatment Plan signed by your doctor and yourself as parent or carer. In the absence of a written and signed Anaphylaxis Treatment Plan, only standard First Aid can be given in an emergency and staff will be unable to administer adrenaline. If your child is given adrenaline to treat an isolated anaphylaxis attack, it can help the anaphylaxis and is unlikely to cause any significant side effects.

Medical Services for Students attending ACT Government Schools

ACT Health advises that the following arrangements apply to students in ACT Government schools involved in school accidents requiring ambulance transportation and/or treatment in accident and emergency sections of either public hospital in the ACT.

Ambulance Transportation

Students injured while under supervision at school or in a school-related situation are transported free of charge to the emergency section of either public hospital in the ACT.

Parents and guardians of students who participate in excursions and other school trips outside the ACT should note that free ambulance transportation only applies in the ACT. Free ambulance cover does not apply to students in the Jervis Bay area of the ACT.

Parents and guardians are reminded to check their health cover for ambulance transportation outside the ACT.

Casualty Treatment

1. Under the Medicare arrangements no charges are raised for services provided at the accident and emergency sections of ACT public hospitals.
2. If a student is subsequently admitted to hospital after receiving treatment in the accident or emergency section, s/he will be automatically classified as a Medicare patient and no charge will be raised.
3. If you elect to have the student treated by a doctor of your choice, a hospital charge will apply. The doctor may also charge for their services. You are advised to have medical insurance if you wish to choose this option.

Your cooperation in informing us of any updates promptly would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Christine Pilgrim
Principal