Katherine Semar Infant & Junior Schools Ross Close, Saffron Walden CB11 4DU 01799 521720 (Infant) & 01799 521120 (Junior) www.katherinesemar.essex.sch.uk Executive Headteacher: Mrs Julie Puxley



# 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,

# **Re: Squads**

We are pleased to be able to offer squads before school in a range of sports for the Junior children. Squads run every morning for children who show particular aptitude for a sport, and they will receive tailored coaching and represent the school in competitive sport against other schools. Before accepting squad places, please discuss with your child if they are happy to take part if selected for competitions. It is important that children are willing to use the skills learnt in these sessions in order to offer the best team possible in the competitions they are being trained for.

### **IMPORTANT:**

Current squads will finish next Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, except for netball which will carry on until the end of this term.

During the last week of this term we will be running squad trials for Tennis, Cricket and Athletics. Only Rounders trials will take place after the Easter break (please see details below)

#### Summer term Squads

New squads for the spring term will be Cricket, Tennis and Athletics for all year groups and Rounders for year 5/6. Netball squads will continue as they are.

Children need to attend squads and open trials dressed appropriately in PE kit and will remain in their PE kit all day. Please meet our sports coaches at the old junior entrance door. All squads are open to both boys and girls.

### **IMPORTANT:**

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March –	Year 3 & 4 cricket trial – 8.15am start with Mr Gilkes. The squad will start on the first Monday back, 15 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
	Year 5 & 6 tennis trial – 8.15am start with Mrs Eagleton. The squad will start on the first Monday back, 15 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March –	Year 5 & 6 cricket trial – 8.15am start with Mr Gilkes. The squad will start on Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
	Netball group C squad continues – 8.10am start with Mrs Ellis and begins again on Tuesday $16^{th}$ April at 8.10am.



Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March -	Year 3 & 4 athletic squad trial – 8.15am start with Mr Gilkes The squad will start on Wednesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am
	Netball group A squad continues – 8.10am start with Mrs Ellis and begins again on Wednesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.10am.
	Year 3 to 6 swim gala squad – 2.30 to 3.30pm with Mrs Ellis and begins again on Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April. (This is the same squad as the spring term – no new trials. A separate letter will be sent out regarding swim gala and the upcoming competition)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March –	Year 5 & 6 athletic trial – 8.15am start with Mr Gilkes. The squad will start on Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
	Year 3 & 4 tennis trial – 8.15am start with Mrs Eagleton. The squad will start on Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April -	Year 5 & 6 rounders squad trial – 8.15am start with Mrs Eagleton The squad will start on Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> April, at 8.15am.
	Netball group B squad with Mrs Ellis at 8.10am.

From the trials, we will be selecting squads to be trained before school during the summer term.

### Payment for squads

As you will know, school budgets have become extremely tight and where we have been able to subsidise the cost of squads in previous years this is no longer possible.

Squads are now be charged at £10 per squad for the whole summer term except for swim gala.

Year 3 to 5 gala squad will be charged at £25 as they will continue to swim for the whole term. Year 6 gala squad will initially be charged £12.50 for the first half term. Should they progress to a further round, they will continue to swim for the second half term and a further £12.50 will then be added to your school money account. If they do not progress, they will retire at the end of May.

Payments for squads will be allocated to your School Money account once selections have been made by the sports coaches.

The charge for each squad is not per session it is a cost per squad for the term. Whilst we will try our upmost not to cancel squads, there will be occasions where this is unavoidable due to illness, weather or events.

Katherine Semar Schools are committed to ensuring that all students are able to access squads and clubs. If your child is in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant, then the fee for all squads will be automatically paid out of the school budget and you do not need to make the payments unless you wish to do so voluntarily.

If your child is selected for a squad, they will be unable to take part if the payment has not been made. This will be available to pay on School Money once selections have been made.

Yours sincerely, Julie Puxley Headteacher

