



Pear Tree Infant and Nursery School
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Head Teacher: Mrs B Suddhi BA (Hons) NPQEL
Chair of Governors: Mrs E Wolinska

Resilient minds. Respectful hearts. Ambitious learners.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we continue to experience this spell of very warm weather, I wanted to take a moment to share a message about an issue that has been deeply concerning and upsetting. Over recent months, we have sadly heard of a number of accidents and tragic fatalities involving people, including young people, in and around open water.

During periods of hot weather, it is completely understandable that children and families want to cool down and enjoy time outdoors. However, open water can present hidden dangers, even to confident swimmers. Water that may appear calm and inviting can be extremely cold, deep, or have strong currents beneath the surface.

I would kindly ask that you take some time to talk to your children about the importance of water safety. Please remind them that swimming in rivers, lakes, reservoirs, canals, quarries, or other open water locations can be very dangerous and should not be encouraged.

If you are visiting areas near water with your children, please help them to stay safe by following these important safety guidelines:

- **Always supervise children closely around water** – keep them within sight and stay close enough to help if needed.
- **Only swim in designated swimming areas where there is appropriate supervision and safety provision.**
- **Do not allow children to enter open water such as rivers, lakes, canals, reservoirs, or quarries, even on hot days.**
- **Never jump or dive into unknown water** – the depth, temperature, and conditions may not be safe.
- **Be aware that cold water shock can affect anyone**, even strong swimmers, and can cause panic and difficulty breathing.
- **Encourage children to follow warning signs, barriers, and safety advice at all times.**
- **Never swim alone** – always ensure there is a responsible person nearby.
- **If someone gets into difficulty in water, do not enter the water yourself to rescue them**; call for help and encourage them to float and stay calm if possible.



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We know that our children and young people enjoy making the most of the summer months, and we want them to do so safely. A simple conversation at home could help prevent a serious accident and ensure that everyone can enjoy the warmer weather responsibly.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in keeping our children safe.

Mrs B Suddhi
Headteacher