

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

Guildford City Academy & Junior Development

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ACADEMY & SATELLITE NEWS LOOKING BACK & FORWARDS TO THE EXCITING EVENTS AT THE END OF THIS TERM & THE SUMMER

Being half way through the Spring Term it is an appropriate time to look back on the Autumn and forward to the exciting events at the end of this term and next term.

Last term, Jan was very busy with the expansion of the satellite groups at the Spectrum. After we saw how popular the new Satellite Dolphin group on a Wednesday at the Spectrum proved to be; we increased their training nights to include Monday and Thursday. This has been followed by the introduction of lessons at St. Catherine's School.

The Academy changes for the Autumn term saw Tadpole classes on 4 different weekday nights and level 2 moving into the competition pool for all their sessions. Tigersharks Gold also started 1 session a week at the Surrey Sports Park with an early finish time of 7pm.

We now look forward to exciting developments in our Satellite programme. A new name, increased water time, flexibility of lessons, and for those who wish it a defined pathway to competitive swimming.

SATELLITES RELAUNCH

The Satellites are to be split in April with the current Penguins becoming part of the Academy and the Dolphins merging with CDS Junior to become the new Junior Development squad.

We believe this will benefit both groups:-
Penguins being part of the Academy will offer an alternative to our youngest learn to swim members of a smaller group swimming term time only and offering a definite alternative pathway to the Academy as well as Junior Development.

Dolphins merging with CDS Junior will increase water time at the Spectrum and the progression to competitive swimming will be more defined. It will also increase the possibility of family members of differing abilities swimming at the same time.

Emails have been sent to all current Satellite swimmers explaining the new structure in more detail and the website will be updated towards the end of term.

Please contact membership or your current teacher/coach if you have any questions.



Academy & Satellite Success Stories!

Having been encouraged to enter suitable Open Meets as soon as they are old enough, we would like to congratulate the following swimmers who have all achieved qualifying times for the prestigious Surrey County Championship starting this weekend:

Bernadette Cheng-Whitehead CLFS
Owen Parsley Tigersharks
Thomas White Tigersharks

Jennifer Kirk, after her success at the Gala in December decided that competitive swimming was for her and has successfully transferred to CDS Inter, increasing her swimming from one hour to 8 hours a week!

Molly Robinson started in our Satellites swimming 1 hour a week 2 years ago. Since then she has progressed through CDS Junior & Inter Squads finally achieving her qualifying times for National Age Group Squad this term. Well done Molly!

BOWLING @ THE SPECTRUM

The GCSC Spring Social is coming!
Bowling at the Guildford Spectrum
Sunday 24th March
£5 per child

Open to Academy swimmers in Level 1, 2 or Tigersharks and all Satellite Dolphins

An email has been sent giving details of how to purchase tickets.

A fantastic event for team building and encouraging fun and social interaction for the swimmers in a 'dry' environment. All swimmers can join in, regardless skill level, and have a great time!



Surrey Sports Park EASTER Courses

APRIL 2-5 & APRIL 8-12

Group courses and 1:1s available with Guildford City Academy & Junior Development staff

Courses available include:
1:1 Personalised 30 minute Lessons
Improvement to Breaststroke
Improvement to Front Crawl
Introduction to Deep Water
Challenge & Personal Survival Awards

Details of courses that suit your swimmer(s) have been emailed and are available on the website.

EVENT DATES

Academy & Satellite Trials - Thurs. 7 Mar.
Fun Bowling @ Spectrum - Sun. 24 Mar.
Academy & Junior Development Gala
- Sat. 15 June
Splash Night - Fri. 12th July

TERM DATES

All **Academy** lessons finish by Thursday 28 March & restart commencing Tues. 2 April. There is no break for half term. The Summer term ends by Friday 12 July.

For **SATELLITE** term dates all lessons finish before Easter.

Junior Development Gold & 3+ Session swimmers will restart at the Spectrum on Tues. 2 April with no break at half term. The Summer term ending on Friday 12 July. Other **Junior Development** swimmers will restart from mid April onwards with a break at half term. Please consult the website Junior Development page for more details.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT & LEARN TO SWIM @ ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

The introduction of our Sunday programme of training and swimming lessons at St. Catherine's in January has proved to be extremely popular with some of the classes already reaching maximum swimmer capacity.

As a result, Guildford City Swimming Club are pleased to announce an increase in water time on Sunday mornings to meet this ongoing demand. This will allow us the ability to offer a wider range of progress pathways and simultaneous sibling lessons. We will also be able to maximise each swimmer's learning potential by ensuring lessons are tailored and delivered to more specific ability groups.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT & LEARN TO SWIM @ CRANMORE SCHOOL

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Kim Ewins to lead our lessons @ Cranmore School from the Summer term.

Unfortunately the pool will close after the May half-term for refurbishment but offers for alternative sessions have been sent to the Penguin and Dolphin swimmers.

THIS TERM @ CITY OF LONDON FREEMEN'S

We must apologise for the further disruption to swimming lessons @ CLFS this term due to the pool pump breaking.

The pool is now reopen and we sincerely hope that there will be no further problems and lessons can continue as planned.



JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT @ THE SPECTRUM

The incredible popularity of our Spectrum groups and the creation of Junior Development has been in no small part down to the very hard work and inspiration provided by Jan Griffiths. Jan will be returning to the Spectrum on a Monday to lead this group as well as the groups on a Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

We would like to thank Araceli Cruz-Fernandez CDS Inter Lead Coach, for all her help on a Monday night at the Spectrum.

NEW ACADEMY & JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PARENT REPS

Many thanks to Sonya and Susie for all their help. Both Sonya and Susie will be stepping down from their roles in July and we are delighted to announce that Clare Uttley and Sharon Rankin have agreed to take over from September.

We are still looking for parents to help the coaches at the CLFS, Cranmore & St. Catherine's Pools. This would involve disseminating information and selling tickets for events. If you think you can help please contact either Clare

Contact Emails:

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Jenny Bebbington (Spectrum JD) -

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Helena Harper (Notre Dame JD) -

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Nicola Finch (Guildford High JD) -

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ACADEMY GALA SAT 1 DECEMBER

Our biannual, friendly and inclusive swimming gala for our Academy & Satellite swimmers gives children from the age of five up to 15 the opportunity to shine within the Club and have their first taste of competitive swimming.

Although not in the oldest age group, **Susannah Lecoutre** won the overall 'Top Boy/Girl Swimmer' Cup at the Academy gala; she was the fastest swimmer over all 4 strokes of all the swimmers and took 1st place in the freestyle and backstroke, with 3rd in the butterfly and 4th in the breaststroke.

In the 2nd session of the gala **Jennifer Kirk** took the 'Top Boy/Girl Swimmer' Trophy as the fastest Academy Satellite swimmer over the 4 strokes. **Jennifer** was placed 1st in the 25m freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke. A thoroughly deserved Trophy!



The results sheet was emailed to all participants, showing the places, times, reasons for disqualification and if an ASA speed award has been won.

Please contact Paula Grant for badge orders - paulajgrant@gmail.com

We also wish to thank Darrin Hawkins Jacob Royston-Royan & Rose Griffiths our official photographers on poolside. Copies of the originals are still available on request - please contact Liz Simmons for further details - gcsc.membership@gmail.com



SPLASH NIGHT

Another fun-filled evening in the water took place on 14th December with our bi-annual Splash Night!

Over 125 swimmers from various Guildford City squads attended and, together with the coaches, splashed the house down! The Spectrum Leisure Pool, Teaching Pool and Competition pool were all GCSC 'green' with races, chases and complete abandonment of swimming technique!

The evening began with a special 'Thank You' presentation to Sue Barney and her dynamic team of coaches. Thanks to the generous contributions of parents, we were able to recognise their year long efforts with bottles of wine, chocolate, flowers and vouchers, which was especially nice just before Christmas!

Goody Bags were given out at the end to all swimmers, but sadly a few swimmers missed out (judging from those goody bags remaining) as some may have gone straight to practice without collecting them! Please remember to come upstairs and grab some goodies after Splash Night if you attend!



CLUB KIT

From 1 April it will be **compulsory** for all Academy & Junior Development swimmers to wear the club swimming hat.

Club kit is available to order from Alleycatz our online supplier - <http://www.alley-catz.co.uk/clubs.php>

Kit requirements can be found on the Academy & Junior Development pages of the website.

N.B. Club swimming costumes are unavailable due to the new sponsorship deal with Speedo.

Please take a look at the range of clothes available. Great for keeping warm on poolside and for that trip home after swimming.

NOTES FROM MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all of you who pay your membership fees promptly. As a non profit making organisation this allows us to have a healthier financial position.

The invoices for the summer term will be emailed in the second week of March. Please get back to us if there are any changes to be made.

Janette Smith & Liz Simmons

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COACHES' CONTACTS

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REMINDERS

- Please can we remind all parents that wherever possible all cancelled and changes to sessions are published on the Academy page of the Guildford City website under 'Altered Sessions'. It is your responsibility to check this before you leave for your session.
- Except in an emergency teachers must never be interrupted on pool side. If you need to talk to the teacher please wait until the end of the lesson.
- There are strict rules on using the changing areas at Satellite Pools. Parents may not under any circumstances enter changing rooms of the opposite sex. Parents will have received an email outlining these rules. If you have not received yours please contact Admin.
- Our responsibility for your child commences when the register is taken and ends when they are escorted to the shower area. Please make sure that if your child arrives late that they report to a teacher before entering the water.
- Please remember that the changing areas at the Spectrum and SSP are open to the public. Parents must be vigilant at all times. We recommend swimmers changing in group areas are where possible supervised by parents/guardians.
- Neither the Spectrum or Guildford City Swimming Club can be held responsible for any child entering the Leisure Pool and playing on the slides before/after their lessons. Parents allow them to do so entirely at their own risk.
- No photography or filming of lessons is permitted at any time without express permission of the Guildford City Staff and the appropriate consent being obtained from the parents of the swimmers concerned.

