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Dear Parents/Carers

Some of you may be aware that we are trying very hard this year to achieve a long term ambition. To enclose the Swimming Pool to provide a facility that can be utilised 365 days of the year!

Why are we trying to do this?

Currently the pool can only be used when the air temperature reaches 18 degrees. God bless the British weather but this means that plans have to be changed at short notice and at best we have a small window of opportunity to get 240 children into the pool and learning to swim.

Currently 200,000 children leave Primary School each year without being able to swim 25m competently. Unfortunately, Hazeldene and the neighbouring schools are only slightly better than the national average.

The proposed structure will include changing areas and heating allowing usage the whole year around. With a facility like this we are able to invite other local schools (2 have already said yes) to take advantage when Hazeldene children aren't using it, not to mention the school holidays when it can feasibly be utilised by other local community groups.

What will it look like?

<http://www.arcenclosures.co.uk/vegametal-enclosures>

<https://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/cambridge-news/cambridgeshire-school-opens-revamped-swimming-12032882>

I have attached some links that will give you an idea of what we hope to end up with. This is a recently constructed enclosure at Over School in Cambridgeshire.

What will it cost (and how will we pay for it)?

To maximise the use of the pool it is important that the changing rooms are integrated and heating is included. This doubles the number of weeks of the year it can be used for.

We require £40,000 to meet all of the requirements. So far, the school, The Friends of Hazeldene and 4 local businesses have all pledged funds. We are also awaiting the result of a £5,000 grant application from the Harpur Trust. These amounts total £19,000.

There are many other avenues of funding we are currently exploring, not least from the business community of Bedford. We will be able to help circa 1000 children per year to learn to swim confidently once achieved so if your boss or anyone else you know may be able to help then please twist their arm for us! All donations will be recognised appropriately in the form of a plaque and press release.

S Bolton (Governor)

