

## **Report on Penrith Swimathon – 31 Jan 2009**

A number of our pupils and their families and friends took part in the Swimathon sponsored swim organised by the Rotary Club at Penrith Leisure Centre last Saturday evening. They formed three teams to raise funds for Lazonby School and Lazonby & District Swimming Pool.

Swimming alternately, the 7 members of older children's team managed to swim 103 lengths between them in the allotted 50 minutes. Their stamina and enthusiasm were wonderful to see, as was the way they organised themselves as a team and encouraged each other. It had been planned that an adult would supervise them from the poolside, but as the adult team was short on participants, they were left much to their own devices, and are a credit to themselves and their families in the way they responded to the challenge.

The team of 4 younger children, swimming alternately and encouraged and assisted by three young volunteers from Lazonby & District Pool, managed a staggering 68 lengths or so between them, each wanting to have their go, and none opting for a rest. The parents of the younger children could only look on with amazement, as each child swam their length as their turn came, none opting for a rest, while none of the four had ever managed much more than one length before.

As for the adult team, this was a little thin on the ground at the outset, with only two swimmers starting off. However, the keenness of one of the mums to actually go and purchase a costume from the leisure centre so that she could help make up the numbers is evidence of the support of the families watching. The adults ended up with six swimmers but were unable to match the achievements of the older children, swimming about 95 lengths in all.

This was a very enjoyable evening, bringing together supporters of the pool and the school, and will hopefully result in substantial funds having been raised.