



Parental support: www.familylives.org.uk or glosfamiliesdirectory.org Head Teacher's email address: head@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk
 PTA fundraising via internet purchases: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/birdlipschoolpta/>
 Parent Matters www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=94089
 Birdlip online Virtual School Uniform Shop: http://pmgschoolwear.co.uk/advanced_search.php?skl_id=38923&pager=view_all
 School closure website: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures>
 Ofsted Parent View <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> Confidential contact for Governing Body: chair@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk
 Health Protection Agency Guidance http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374
 Safeguarding http://www.birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk/our_school/policies/policies.html Birdlip Wish list <http://amzn.eu/9pZsmG2>

School Dinner Menu Choices

Menu Choices for next week should be taken from the **Week 1** selection

Events in the week ahead:

Mon 2nd Dec, 2pm – 3pm, Parents' Open afternoon – all welcome

*****Last week of Clubs – no clubs in last 2 weeks*****

Forthcoming Events

Wed 11th Dec, Books for Bugs Book Fair

Fri 13th Dec, PTA school disco

Mon 16th Dec, EYFS & KS1 afternoon Nativity performance

Tue 17th Dec, EYFS & KS1 Nativity performance, 6:30pm (6pm for pupils)

Wed 18th Dec, KS2 Carol Concert, 9:00am at Birdlip Church – all welcome **(New date added)**

Wed 18th Dec, School Christmas Lunch

Thu 19th Dec, Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm followed by PTA pop up Café, all welcome

Thu 19th Dec, Last day of term for pupils

Fri 20th Dec, Staff inset day

Mon 6th Jan, Staff inset day

Tue 7th Jan, Back to school for all

Today it seems that sadly yet another act of terrorism has taken place in London by an individual or individuals with a set of ideals and beliefs that has no place in the world's shared view of humanity.

As adults these events, the motives behind them, the hatred, the politics, the violence and the hurt often seem unfathomable. How could one human being perpetrate such violence knowingly against another? I, like I'm sure many of you have, struggle to comprehend a mind-set that could contemplate such a course of events. In response I find myself devouring news websites in search of an answer towards my many questions, discussing with friends, colleagues and even strangers the horrors of it all to somehow make better sense of it.

And in that shared humanity I find a comfort, everyone I speak to, everything I read unequivocally condemns it. Answers form themselves and crucially so does a response. Overwhelmingly it seems the message is "we are not afraid" but perhaps even more importantly the message that we will not give way to anger or hate at the perpetrators that threaten our way of life.

As an adult we seek each other out in situations like these to talk them through, to rationalise, to grieve, to understand to find a way through. What then for our children? How do they cope? How much do they know? How much should they know? I'm sure a lot of you have asked yourself these questions.

I certainly won't pretend to have the answers but I do know that there isn't likely to be a child in the school on Monday who isn't aware in some way of what went on in London today.

Because just like adults children turn to each other when a situation arises that is beyond comprehension - they seek answers.

However unlike adults the answers they find and the conclusions they draw come from a fragmented or imagined perception of the world – they are seen through a child's eyes. Where there are blanks, the gaps are filled often in ways that are worse than reality. We've all thought, "could it happen closer to home?"

The answer is sadly yes it could and one day it probably will. But as an adult we can rationalise this – the chances of being killed in a terrorist attack are extraordinarily small, about 1 in 20 million. Compare this to the risk of drowning in your own bath tub – about 1 in 800,000 or a fatal car crash 1 in 19,000.

So take time to talk to your child/ren, to answer those questions however difficult they may be. Reassure them; help them to understand that it is the tiny few not the many that threaten and crucially teach them how to move forward without hatred.

That's all from me, have a lovely week, work hard and enjoy yourselves. Mr M.

PTA – School Christmas Disco



Birdlip & Brimpsfield Playgroup

Monday, Tuesday & Thursdays
0845am - 1245pm Term time only

Parent & Babies/Toddlers
Thursdays, 0845am 10.00am Term time only.
For more details please see
www.birdlip&brimpsfieldplaygroup.btck.co.uk
or email bbplaygroup@btinternet.com

Birdlip Brownies

For girls aged 7 - 10
Birdlip Village Hall
Thursdays 6.15pm - 7.30pm
for more details email birdlipbrownie@btinternet.com

Birdlip Guides

For girls aged 10-14
Birdlip Village Hall
Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.00pm
for more details email birdlipguides@btinternet.com

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is open to all pupils for a small charge and runs daily from 8am – contact the school for further details.

Birdlip School Christmas Single

We are very excited to announce that the schools Christmas single is in production and will be available for Monday 2nd December.
The launch will take place after school on Monday, where CD's will be on sale. There is also a B side which is only available on the CD. The Christmas single will be available to download from the 2nd Dec so please download from Bandcamp as all of the proceeds will go straight to the school. There will also be availability to stream!

A massive thank you to everyone who has been involved. We can't wait for you all to hear the songs. Thank you.

Birdlip Primary PTA



RELEASED 2nd DECEMBER

CD (with special bonus tracks) - £6

Download – BirdlipPTA.Bandcamp.com - £3

Stream – Spotify, Deezer, Amazon, Google Play and Apple Music



Christmas Childcare Sorted!

Atlas Camps will be running at Birdlip School as usual this Christmas holiday. Our doors will be open on 23rd December, 2nd January and 3rd January. Whether you need a day to sort your last bits of Christmas shopping, or are returning to work in early January, we have you covered!

Pop online to book your place now.

www.atlascamps.co.uk/birdlip

Only 3 weeks to go!

Once a week take a peek...

Head lice are sadly a perennial problem for any school so we advise that once every week you check your child's hair. Early intervention stops the problem spreading. If you do find head lice please let the school office know.

For plenty of advice on dealing with head lice try the following link: <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com/>

Thread worms - these are mostly harmless but are both itchy and unpleasant, sadly they are also very easily spread as their eggs can live outside the human body for up to two weeks. The best prevention is regular handwashing as the eggs need to be ingested in order to hatch.

If your child does get a case of Thread worms please do notify the school and follow the steps on the NHS link below at home.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

Carol Service at Birdlip Church

Family Carol Service at St Marys Church, Birdlip
Sunday 15th December 2019
6pm Mince Pies and Mulled wine
6.30pm Carols

P.E. Kits – a reminder

Please ensure that P.E. kits come into school on a **Monday** morning, they will be sent home again on a **Friday**.

