



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/birdlip-schoolpta/>
 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 2** selection

Events in the week ahead:

Tues 4th Feb, Parents' Evening

Thu 6th Feb, Parents' Evening

Forthcoming Events

Fri 14th Feb, Celebration Assembly, 2:30pm, all welcome

Fri 14th Feb, PTA Pop up Café

Fri 14th Feb, Last day of term for pupils and staff

Mon 24th Feb, Back to school for all

Fri 28 Feb, Osprey Class swimming lessons start

Thu 5th March, World Book Day

Thu 5th March, PTA film Night

Mon 9th March, Robins & Kingfishers trip

Thu 19th March, Parents' Open afternoon 2:15pm – 3pm

Sat 21st March, South West Region Football finals, in Bristol – spectators welcome. Details to follow

Thu 2nd April, Last day of term for pupils

Thu 2nd April, PTA pop up Café

Fri 3rd April, Staff inset day

This week's newsletter piece deals with perhaps the darkest piece of human history. I hope that you choose to talk about it with your children – not to scare or frighten them but to help ensure that nothing like it ever happens again.

Monday of this week marked a grim anniversary – the 75th year to the day since the liberation of Auschwitz.

The concentration camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau is perhaps the best known of the many camps that the Nazis used in their attempt to systematically eradicate people of the Jewish faith.

The Holocaust, or Shoah in Hebrew, was the attempt by the Nazis and their collaborators to murder all the Jews in Europe. From the time they assumed power in Germany in 1933, the Nazis used propaganda, persecution, and legislation to deny human and civil rights to German Jews. They used centuries of antisemitism as their foundation.

In 1941, the systematic murder of Europe's Jews began – a plan known by the Nazis as 'The Final Solution to the Jewish Problem'. Death squads called Einsatzgruppen swept Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, killing Jews by firing squad. By the end of 1941 the first extermination camp, Chelmno in Poland, had been established, giving the Nazis their method to continue murdering on a giant scale between 1941 and 1945.

By the end of the Holocaust, six million Jewish men, women and children had been murdered in ghettos, mass-shootings, in concentration camps and extermination camps.

The numbers involved and the methods used are numbing, almost incomprehensible to the world we are so privileged to live in. In its busiest days Auschwitz alone was responsible for over 24,000 deaths – these were conducted in purpose built gas chambers. The gas used was Zyklon-B; originally intended as an insecticide.

I was struck by the words of Piotr Cywinski, the director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum who spoke at the recent memorial ceremony – they are taken from the article below.

"We see those old ghosts rear their heads everywhere today," he said.

"Anti-Semitism, racism, demagoguery, contempt and hatred," he continued. "We are becoming more and more indifferent, introverted, apathetic and passive. Most were silent as the Syrians were drowning, we silently turned our backs on the Congolese people and the Rohingya people, and now the Uighurs. Our silence is our severe defeat."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/27/world/europe/auschwitz-memorial-anniversary.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/16690175>

That's all from me; have a good week, work hard and enjoy yourselves.

Mr M.

P.E. Kits

We're noticing more and more pupils coming to school without P.E. kits or with only partial kit. Could I ask you all to please ensure that full P.E. kits come into school on a **Monday** morning, they will be sent home again on a **Friday**.

A full P.E. kit includes: trainers, jogging bottoms or shorts, a t-shirt and an old jumper or sweatshirt. Where practicable the shorts / joggers and the jumper should be navy or black (preferably not a school jumper) and the t-shirt white or blue.

Parentpay Payments

Thank you to all parents who have made payments via Parentpay for the Robins and Kingfishers Trip, Year 6 Bikeability Training and Osprey Class Swimming over the last two weeks. The feedback received in the office is that was a straightforward process so if you have not used Parentpay before, please activate your accounts using the details sent home recently for your child/children. If you require another copy please contact the office.

Sports News

Huge congratulations to Years 5 and 6 for their fantastic dance performance in Cheltenham on Monday night – it was so good that they have been invited to a special dance festival in Bath later in the year – more details to follow soon! Congratulations also to the school football team who continued their winning ways with victory in their recent indoor football tournament.

Today it's the turn of the yr. 3/4 Netball team followed closely by the yr. 5/6 Netball team next week on the 3rd Feb. Good luck to all who are taking part.

Parking

This is a gentle reminder that the village hall car park is for staff and village hall users only. Can you please ensure that you park on the main road when collecting your children or attending events such as the parents evening next week.

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 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers

Each group meets on a Thursday night in Birdlip Village Hall. For more information, please follow the link below:
<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is open to all pupils for a small charge and runs daily from 8am to 8.45am.

To register and book spaces, please speak or contact the play group leaders on: bbplaygroup@btinternet.com or 07914 091427.

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/>

Atlas Afterschool Club

Bookings for term 3 are now live:

<https://www.atlascamps.co.uk/birdlipasc/>

Keep your eyes peeled this term for a new Atlas Camps Activity Calendar with some exciting new after school events coming to Birdlip After School Club!

Atlas Camps Holiday Club – February Half Term

Atlas are pleased to announce the **February Half Term Camp** which will be running from Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020.



3 WEEKS TO GO

Until Atlas Camps open their doors!

'Outstanding' Ofsted registered holiday childcare.
Activities running all day including:

- A wide range of Sports
 - Nerf Wars
 - Arts and Crafts
 - Face Painting
 - Talent Shows
 - Plus lots more!

Book your place now at www.atlascamps.co.uk

#COUNTDOWN