



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/birdlipprimarypta/>
 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 3** selection

Events in the week ahead:

Mon 9th March, Robins & Kingfishers trip

Mon 9th – 11th March, Cycling Proficiency for Yr 6

Wed 11th March, Birdlip Spring Clean-up part one, 3:15 – 5pm

****Newly added****

Wed 11th March, PTA Spring Fair mtg @ Birdlip Primary school (Admin block), 8pm – **Note change of venue**

Forthcoming Events

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

Sat 21st March, South West Region Football finals, in Bristol – spectators welcome. There will be a supporter's coach arranged to go and watch the team play– details to follow

Wed 1st April, Golden Eagles Class Trip

Thu 2nd April, Celebration Assembly, all welcome

Thu 2nd April, Last day of term for pupils

Thu 2nd April, PTA pop up Café

Fri 3rd April, Staff inset day

Mon 27th April, Yr 5/6 Great Big Dance Off in Bath (Regional Finals) – see Newsletter for details

There's a big, bright glowing ball in the sky outside my office today which must be that long lost object, the Sun. It's wonderful to have a glorious spring day to lift the spirits, especially with so much worry in the news at the moment so with that in mind I thought I'd hunt out a few good news stories...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-51738246>

This one is a must for all you cat lovers out there.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/50434875> Some Happy news from CBBC Newsround

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/47746061>

That's all from me; whatever you get up to, have a good week, work hard and enjoy yourselves.

Mr M.

World Book Day

Wow, what a lot of fantastic costumes there were this World Book Day! A big thank you to all of you who came in dressed up as your favourite character and to the adults behind the scenes who helped put the costumes together. We had a lovely day in school with lots of different book themed events through the day and the sharing of many stories.

Keep an eye on the school website for lots of pictures of the big day.

Sports News

We had 4 pupils take part in the County trials for Cross Country over the weekend – they represented the Stroud District as part of their team. I'm hugely pleased to say that we picked up two bronze medals and a gold medal as well! One of our runners was just 2 seconds off the qualifying time for a national place – what a phenomenal achievement!

Birdlip Primary Spring Clean Up – Part one

Can you spare some time after school on Wednesday 11th March between 3:15 and roughly 5pm? The outside areas of the school are desperately in need of a clean and a tidy up. We need volunteers to weed, brush, sweep and tidy so if you think you can lend a hand then come along with your sleeves rolled up! If you can't make this date then don't worry as we plan to have another day soon.

PTA News

We had a super film night again last night with a good 40 pupils attending – it was great to see so many faces there. A big thank you to all of the parent helpers who made the night such a success.

Whilst we're talking about success' a massive well done to all of you who took part in the litter pick over the February half term – we raised over £300!! This is a fantastic amount especially as only 15 pupils took part. Any outstanding sponsorship money can still be brought into the school office. There are some prizes winging their way to those who raised the most money and collected the most rubbish.

The Great Big Dance Off

Year 5/6 are through to the regional finals of the Great Big Dance Off and tickets for parents are on sale now (you don't have to buy a ticket for your child if they are taking part). It's the first time we have reached the regional finals so we hope that lots of you will come along to show your support on the night.

https://www.bathforum.co.uk/Articles/564429/SHOW_INFO/The_Great_Big.aspx?redirected=1

Scholastic Book Club

Don't forget that our latest **Scholastic Book Club is now online** at <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/birdlip>. There are hundreds of fantastic children's books to choose from, and **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club will **earn 25p for our school** in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your **order online by 13th March 2020**.

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.

Year 6 Bikeability Training - Mon 9th - Weds 11th March

Please remember to bring a suitable sized and roadworthy bicycle for your child to use. Helmets are recommended to be worn. Training will still take place in inclement weather so please ensure your child has a suitable coat to wear.
Bikes can be left at school and kept out of sight of the road - please bring a padlock if possible.

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/>

Coronavirus

I am sure that many of you, like me, will have had some concerns or worries about the emerging threat from the Coronavirus - you will probably have spent some time Googling it, reading News articles, talking to friends and so on. This process of asking questions, understanding the information and assessing the threat to ourselves and our loved ones is a normal human response – it's what keeps us safe and better able to deal with challenges as they arise.

It will come as no surprise then that our children are doing exactly the same as us, with one key difference.

We are better able to sift through the misinformation, the hyperbole and to look at the situation through the backdrop of past experiences and knowledge; by doing this we are able to rationalise the situation and remain calmer and less anxious.

For our children however this isn't always the case; for without information grounded in facts they will fill in the blanks with rumour and hearsay – these are often much worse than reality.

So if you haven't done so already take some time to sit down with your children and talk to them about the potential impacts in a simple, child appropriate way.

The following link has some excellent guidance on how to do this...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51734855>