



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 1** selection.

Events in the Week Ahead

Forthcoming Events

Mon 19th Oct, PTA 5p Challenge
Thurs 22nd Oct, Gloucester Foodbank donations deadline
Fri 23rd Oct, deadline for IQ Christmas Cards
Fri 23rd Oct, Non uniform day (suggested £1 donation)
Fri 23rd Oct, last day of school for pupils and staff
Sat 31st Oct, deadline for secondary school applications
Mon 2nd Nov, back to school for all
Wed 4th Nov, deadline for parent governor nominations
Mon 16th Nov, pupil flu vaccination
Thurs 17th Dec, last day of school for pupils
Fri 18th Dec, inset day for staff

I want to start this week by saying a huge Congratulations to Mr Metcalf and Kelly who have just welcomed their baby boy Robert to the world! I am sure I speak for all the children, staff and parents when I say how pleased we are for you! Enjoy this time together and we will be waiting with strong coffee and kind words when you return Mr M!

Whilst on the subject of good news, I thought it would be nice to share some of the things that each class has been up to recently!

Robin class have been very busy learning about the human body and all its different parts! We have had a fantastic time making a model of a heart that really pumps blood (or red food colouring!) and the children have loved feeling like real Scientists! We have also continued to get busy with our writing and the Year 1s have been preparing 'Funny Bones' stories while reception have begun practising their new phonics sounds!

In Kingfishers, the children have been researching information on bones as part of a focus on report writing! They have been working hard gathering the information that they need and structuring their ideas. Kingfishers have also been spending time thinking about how to keep themselves safe online as well as making 'Funny Bones' skeleton pictures!

In Golden Eagles, the children have been hard at work preparing to write a leaflet about the Vikings. They have found out all sorts of gruesome facts about Viking punishments to help make their writing really stand out! They have also enjoyed making beautiful dragon pictures using different medias and textures!

In Ospreys the children got quite a shock when they found a 'meteorite' on the field! They have since been busy planning and carrying out an experiment on parachutes to investigate their thoughts further. The children have also been working hard on writing prologues in English and have enjoyed taking part in cross country runs!

It has been a busy and productive week for all of us and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful children for the way they have returned to us with such fantastic attitudes and happy smiles. We are incredibly proud of the way you have adapted to new rules, new bubbles and new timings. A big thank you to Mrs Jowett-Moore who has also set up the 'Talking Tree' on the playground so that the children can still send each other messages and kind words from a distance. Like you, us teachers and Teaching assistants all miss each other terribly but we all continue to support each other as a whole school and a whole community.

That's all from me. I hope you all have a lovely weekend and remember that you are most welcome to come and grab me in the morning or after school anytime you need a chat or have a question! I am still teaching most days, but I will always try to make myself available as best as I can to help! Alternatively, contact the office who will send the right information my way ☺

Take care,
Mrs Groves

Parent Governor Election – deadline 4th November 2020

We have a vacancy for a parent governor. Parent governors are elected by and from the parents of children currently attending our school. They serve a four-year term of office and bring a very important and valued perspective to the work of the governing board. Please see the email sent out on 6 October 2020 for further information. **The deadline for nominations is 12:00 noon on Wednesday 4th November 2020.**

Gloucester Foodbank

Unfortunately we will not be able to hold a whole school harvest festival this year. However we would like to still support the Gloucester Foodbank which helps local people in crisis who are struggling to provide food for themselves and their own families. If you are able to donate any tinned or packaged items, please drop them into the office **up until Thursday 22nd October 2020.** We have attached a list of items most needed. Thank you in advance for any donations you are able to give.

Celebrating birthdays at school

Is it your child's birthday soon? At Birdlip we celebrate birthdays by allowing the birthday boy or girl to come to school in their own clothes for the day. If your child's birthday falls on a weekend or in the holidays just choose the date nearest to it that they are in school.

Flu vaccination – 16th November – please respond

Remember to **consent or decline** your free flu vaccination (being offered to all primary school pupils). The vaccine will protect your child from the flu and will also help prevent it from spreading to others, particularly those who are more vulnerable. Ideally, please complete the form online by [clicking here](#), or contact the office if you need a hardcopy.

Transfer to Secondary School

A reminder to Year 6 parents that you will need to make an application to inform Gloucestershire County Council of your secondary school preferences (see email dated 8 Sept 2020). **Deadline for application is 31st October 2020.**

After Schools Club

With places limited, and demand evidently high, bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis. This after school provision is open exclusively to children of Birdlip Primary School.

To make your booking, simply follow the link below:
<https://atascamps.co.uk/asc/birdlip/index.php>

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open to all pupils for a small charge and runs daily from 7.45am to 8.45am. To register and book spaces, please contact the play group leaders on: bbplaygroup@btinternet.com or 07914 091427.

Birdlip Playgroup

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

You can register your child by contacting the play leaders at bbplaygroup@btinternet.com or 07914 091427.

Atlas Camps Holiday Club

Only two weeks to go! Please see the poster attached to the email. Book your place at www.atascamps.co.uk

PTA News

Silent Auction – We need your help!

As you know we can't hold our Fireworks night this year, so we are doing an on-line Silent Auction instead and are in need of PRIZES! Please contact Bianca if you can help in anyway.

5p Challenge – deadline 19th October 2020

Pupils are being asked to collect as many 5ps, 1ps and 2ps as they can and we will see which class has collected the most!

IQ Christmas Cards – deadline 23rd October 2020

As per the email sent out earlier today, the PTA have organised the opportunity for the children to design their own Christmas Cards. All orders must be returned to the school office with payment **by Friday 23rd October 2020.**

Non-Uniform Day – 23rd October 2020

Children can attend school in non-uniform on this day. We ask for a small donation to the PTA of £1 which will help to raise funds for the school.

100 Club

Thank you for all of the support so far! You can make payment in cash or via PayPal:

<https://paypal.me/pools/c/8srZmFIGQo>

Mental Health Support Available in Gloucestershire

We have collated a list of mental health and wellbeing support organisations. This is now available on the school website - www.birdlipprimary.co.uk/covid_19/covid_19

COVID-19 – What symptoms to look out for and what to do next

If anyone in your household displays COVID19 symptoms your child should not attend school and you should follow the self-isolation guidance provided by the government along with arranging a COVID-19 test. **You should also inform the school office as soon as possible.**

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- 1) Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible; and
- 2) Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your result – only leave home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

You can choose to take the test:

- At a test site near you today and get your result tomorrow; or
- With a home test kit – you can order a home test kit via the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>