



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/birdlipprimary>
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 the first week back should be taken from the **week 1** selection on the Caterlink Spring Menu (as attached to this email).

Events in the First Week Back

Mon 4th Jan, Inset day for staff

Tues 5th Jan, First day of term for pupils

Forthcoming Events

Fri 15th Jan, Foundation Stage Sept 2021 application deadline

Fri 12th Feb, Last day of term

Mon 22nd Feb, Back to school for all

What an extraordinary year – the word unprecedented is often overused however I think it's truly justified on this occasion. I am sure that none of us imagined that we would see events like this in our life times and I hope that we will never see their like again.

Difficult times bring out the best in people in so many ways and that has really been evident this year – that is one aspect of 2020 that I firmly hope is carried into 2021.

We are a strong community – rather like a large family – there may be times when we rub each other up the wrong way but in a time of crisis we all have each other's backs.

Life of course carries on and we have had a fantastic last week of term with lots of festive themed events planned into the curriculum for the children to enjoy. Robins and Kingfishers have been doing some cooking as part of their PSHE, practising for their fantastic nativity and making Snowmen in art. Golden Eagles did some festive maths puzzles around volume, decorated Ginger bread jumpers in art and wrote some lovely poems which are winging their way home to you. Ospreys have been busy as well looking at 'fast fashion', recycling and upcycling and have even had a go at making their own bunting and flags from old clothes – it looks fantastic.

We're also celebrating the end of term with our traditional assembly today (albeit outdoors and socially distanced) – a huge congratulations to those who receive their Birdlip shield today.

Lastly on behalf of the whole team can I say thank you to you all for your support over this term and indeed the year, it really has been invaluable. Thank you as well for the gifts and cards, they are all very much appreciated, especially at the end of a year like no other.

Nadolig llawen a blwyddyn newydd dda,

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

Farwell...

I wrote a couple of weeks ago about the lovely Ms Dean who is leaving us today for the next step in her career – we wish her well and say thanks again for all her hard work and support of the school.

We also sadly will be saying goodbye to our Caterlink cook Miranda who despite only being with us since September has made a huge impression and is very much loved by the pupils and staff alike. Miranda is leaving Caterlink for pastures new so we wish her all the very best for the next step in her journey; she will be very much missed by all.

COVID-19 Christmas Update

As per the email sent on 8th December, please ensure that you contact the school using the school mobile 07990 118 742 during the holidays at the first opportunity to notify us if your child develops symptoms on either Friday 18th or Saturday 19th December **and** also receives a positive COVID19 test result at any point between Friday 18th December and Wednesday 23rd December.

In the unlikely event that we receive news of a positive COVID19 test amongst pupils or staff during this time period, Mr Metcalf will be contacting you to inform you that your child needs to isolate for 10 days over the Christmas period.

School Admissions for September 2021

For anyone wanting a school place for their child in foundation stage in September 2021, you must submit your application by midnight on **15th January 2021**.

Road Closure - A46 Coopers Hill – from 4th January

The A46 on Coopers Hill will be closed from 4th January 2021 for 12 weeks for landslip repair.

PTA News

Total raised so far = £6,000

We just wanted to say a massive thank you for all your support this year. Merry Christmas!!!

Chair and Vice Chair

A little reminder that Ellie and Bianca will be stepping down from leading the PTA in February. If you are interested in taking on a leading role for the PTA, please contact Ellie or Bianca who would gladly talk you through the role in the new year.

Atlas After School Club

We are continuing to provide after school care at Birdlip next term. Our coaches have been working hard to ensure children have a safe, fun and engaging time with us at afterschool club. We will be here when and if you need us. Please book your place for next term online at: <https://atlasclamps.co.uk/after-school-clubs/>
Thank you, From the Atlas Clamps Team

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 Christmas Holiday Camp

Atlas **will not** be hosting a camp at Birdlip this Christmas term but if you would like a day full of festive themed fun, book online at a nearby venue such as the Atlas Bussage Camp.

Amazon Smile

If you're doing your Christmas shopping online, the PTA can receive donations from every purchase made with AmazonSmile - <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1173968-0>

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 - [https://birdlipprimary.co.uk/parent-information/health_wellbeing/mental_health.html](https://birdlipprimary.co.uk/parent-information/health-wellbeing/mental-health.html)

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/>