



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://pmaschoolwear.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>

There is a mountain in Wales, Cadair Idris, where it is said that if you spend the night on the mountain that you will awaken either having gone mad or as a poet.

Wales itself has a long history of poetry and song stretching back into oral traditions that pre-date written history and which to this day are continued with annual Eisteddfods which are held locally and nationally across Wales. These celebrations of poetry and song have a competitive element and that got me thinking...

There are, I know, many budding poets out there amongst you all – both parent and pupils and so I'd like to announce Birdlip's first annual poetry competition.

There will be prizes for 5 age categories:

- EYFS,
- Yr 1&2
- Yr 3&4
- Yr 5&6
- Adult (open to all adults in the school community)

Entries can take any subject or form you wish and can also be anonymous under a pseudonym but should indicate which age bracket the entry is for.

There will also be an overall winner chosen from the entries who will be crowned 'Birdlip's Bard' for the year.

The closing date for the competition is Monday 1st March and entries can be submitted to the school office by post or email. The winners will be announced in the school newsletter.

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

Change4Life lunches and meal plans

Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week. Please go to the following website for more information and ideas:
<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>

Healthy Start Vitamin Scheme

Vitamins are now available free in Gloucestershire for some under 4 year olds as part of the Healthy Start voucher scheme. Please take a look at the attached leaflet to see if you are eligible and how to apply.

Message from Board of Governors - Headship Update

Dear parents and carers,

We wanted to provide you with a quick update on the progress made in our succession planning for the Headship of Birdlip Primary School. Following plenty of research, and with support from the Local Authority, the Board of Governors have decided to appoint an interim executive Head Teacher for the Summer term. This will be a Head Teacher currently employed by another school who will commit to splitting their time between the two schools in order to be responsible for the overall management of Birdlip Primary School. It is our intent to appoint a current member of staff to be a Senior Teacher alongside Mrs Harding, to be responsible for the day to day running of the school. We are aiming to announce both of these positions within the next two weeks.

Alongside this process, we will advertise and recruit for a full-time head to take on the role starting in September for the Autumn term 2021. We will keep you updated on the progress along the way.

If you have any questions or concerns then please feel free to get in touch with us via email (chair@birdlip.gloucs.gov.uk).

Have a good weekend.

Kind regards,

The Board of Governors

Sustrans Outside In

This is a free resource to help provide parents with inspiration and fun ideas to do with their children. They offer a four-week activity pack full of cycling, walking and scooting themed activities - www.sustrans.org.uk/Outsideln

Free eBook library from Oxford Owl for Home

Oxford Owl for Home are offering free eBooks developed for children aged 3-11 year olds - <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

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.

Atlas Holiday Club - February Half Term

Atlas will be providing a holiday club for February half term - Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021. Please visit the Atlas website for more information and how to book:

<https://atlasclamps.co.uk/birdlip/index.php>

Atlas After School Club

We are currently providing after school care for Key Worker and vulnerable pupils only. 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 online at: <https://atlasclamps.co.uk/after-school-clubs/>

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is currently available for use by Key Worker and vulnerable pupils only. For more information, please contact the play leaders on: bplaygroup@internet.com or 07914 091 427.

Birdlip Playgroup

Birdlip Playgroup remains open and runs on a Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 08:45am - 12:45pm (Term time only). You can register your child by contacting the play leaders at bbplaygroup@btinternet.com or 07914 091427.

Links for Mental Health Support and Online Safety

Online Safety **(recently updated)**:

https://birdlipprimary.co.uk/parent_information/health_wellbeing/family_support.html

Mental Health support available in Gloucestershire:

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/>