



Birdlip Primary School Newsletter



Friday 17th September 2021 www.birdlipprimary.co.uk Newsletter 2
"Helping each other prepare for a bigger world"
Respect Kindness Resilience

Useful Links

Head Teacher's email address: head@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk

School Emergency Phone No: 07775 203 435

Confidential contact for Governing Body: chair@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk

School closure website: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures>

Safeguarding: https://www.birdlipprimary.co.uk/parent_information/safeguarding/new_menu.html

Ofsted Parent View: <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Health Protection Agency Guidance http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374

Parental support: www.familylives.org.uk or glosfamiliesdirectory.org

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

Birdlip Wish list <http://amzn.eu/9pZsmG2>

Amazon Wish List – Library Books: <https://amzn.eu/cVgR1hs>

PTA fundraising via internet purchases: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/birdlipschoolpta/>

School Dinner Menu Choices

Menu choices for next week should be taken from the **week 1** selection.

Diary Dates

Events in the Week Ahead

Mon 20th Sept, Golden Eagles Swimming begins

Tues 21st Sept, Extra-curricular clubs start

Tues 21st Sept, Golden Eagles Trip – 'Black Country Museum' **(please ensure your child is brought to school by 8:20am)**

Fri 24th Sept, Family Fun Pop-Up Café (straight from school)

Mon 27th Sept, Deadline to return Flu Immunisation Consent forms **(newly added)**

Forthcoming Events

Tues 19th Oct, Parents Evening **(newly added)**

Thurs 21st Oct, Parents Evening **(newly added)**

Fri 22nd Oct, Last day of term

Sun 31st Oct, Deadline for Secondary School applications

Mon 1st Nov, Pupils return to school

Fri 5th Nov, PTA Fireworks Night / Sponsored event – tbc

Message from Mr Milner

Dear parents,

It was lovely to welcome the new reception children into school full time this week. Watching the Year 6 escort them individually to lunch and help them throughout the day was such a touching moment and evidence that school does not function well in bubbles; we are a fully inclusive school and it is vital that children can play with children regardless of class or age.

We have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that the food served at school is superb. We have had a few wobbles in recent weeks and I am really pleased that going forward from September 27th the food will be cooked off site and transported here on a daily basis. This will ensure quality and quantity control cooked by experienced chefs. The current menu choices will remain the same and the benefits of hot well balanced meals at lunchtime are beneficial to growing children. We will shortly be running class-based sessions as part of the PE curriculum with a focus on the benefits of a healthy lifestyle to include sport, food and well-being.

Yesterday we welcomed Eddie Parker into school to teach Ospreys music. Eddie, an accomplished Jazz musician, always brings a sense of fun and creativity to music sessions and ensures that all children have the opportunity to compose and create original music. He begins a 10-week programme and the addition of music professionals into the school environment alongside our peripatetic teachers, Mrs Roberts and Mr Meade, is always so rewarding. The peripatetic teachers offer individual and small group music sessions in school (please note that these sessions are very popular and therefore you may need to join a waiting list). Please contact the school office for more details.

I am pleased swimming will resume on Monday for Golden Eagles. Please ensure that the children arrive promptly as the coach will leave at 8.45am. Please send your child with their swimming costumes already on under their uniforms and a towel.

We are looking to appoint an additional teaching assistant as a maternity cover for Mrs Champion. The position is for an immediate start based in Kingfishers and Golden Eagles on Wednesday to Friday. We will be advertising the position next week and any interested parties should contact the office next week for an application pack.

We had a fantastic PTA meeting on Monday. It really felt like the community was coming back to normality and the idea to host a plethora of events this year is really exciting. Whilst I am looking forward to the welcome event next Friday, I am also really excited about some of the new ideas they are hoping to organise in the coming months. A huge thank you from the school for the donation to the school to purchase some tablets.

Technology

Thanks to the generosity of the PTA, we now have a full complement of tablet devices at school. Ospreys have the sole use of individual devices and they are used throughout the school day as an interactive textbook, a means to produce work and a platform to access school work. A second class set is shared between Golden Eagles and Kingfishers for computing, Google Classroom and for reference and a set of iPads is available for Robins. This infrastructure allows instant and reliable access to technology with e-safety always as the main priority. Our computing curriculum and information about e-safety can be found on the school website.

Andrew Milner

Message from Mr Pugh

Spelling and Vocabulary

Our first week with our new vocabulary system has shown fantastic results for the children - I am so impressed with how they know the meaning of incredibly complex words. This is all to help develop their vocabulary and knowledge of words which will have a profound effect on the quality of their reading and writing. The results from this were the best I've seen as a whole class since being at Birdlip and I'm delighted to see children using words like "tentative" and "malfeasance" in context correctly. The emphasis with these more complex words is more on the meaning rather than the spelling to aid in the broadening of your children's vocabulary.

With regards to the spelling rules themselves - these are all being taught discreetly within the class in an effort to improve their spelling in context. Whereas before you may have received lists with a "rule" this is all still happening but on a daily basis in the class. Moving forward, all the spelling activities we do will be available on Google Classroom if you wish to help your child at home. This will include statutory spelling lists as well as anything we've covered during the week.

With the Year 5/6 tablets potentially going home next week, all Ospreys classwork will be easily accessible and will not need to be printed off.

Football match report

Yesterday we had our first experience in a long time of competitive sport in school. It was such a relief and joy to be back out there with a team after Covid and the children represented Birdlip Primary fantastically well. We played a tournament at Elmbridge Primary playing three matches. We came third overall - being pipped to second place on goal difference only! The children can be very proud of their achievements in what is a very early stage for the team, we look forward to more games in the future.

On the subject of sport and well-being - I've been delighted with what we've received so far for our well-being wall. Please keep these pictures of children achieving outside of school coming in so we can build our well-being wall. We want to celebrate every achievement!

With all that in mind, I'd like to introduce our newly appointed house Captains and Vice-captains:

Green Deer:

Hello my name is Ellie-Mai and I will help your child in green deer because:

- I am always here for everyone
- I can cheer you up when you are sad
- If you can not do something I will help you
- If you fall over I will help you get back up again
- I will keep green deers going every step of the way
- I WILL NOT GIVE UP IN GREEN DEERS EVER

Hi my name's Liam and I am vice-captain for green deer and would like to tell you about how I will manage Green Deer. I will provide for the team, I will manage them well, I'm a reliable team player and most of all I will make everyone have fun!!!

Red Foxes:

Hello, my name is Freddie. If you don't know me, I like sport, lego and playing with my friends. I think I can change how people think of Red Foxes this year because I am very sporty and can cheer you on very well.

Last year I was a playground buddy, that was a great chance to meet lots of people and learn stuff about them.

The reasons why I am house captain are:

- I cheer everyone on well
- I am very sporty
- I love playing sport like rugby

I am so happy that I have been elected to be captain for Red Foxes so thank you for voting for me.

Hi, I am Ronnie and I have run to be house captain. Here is what I will do because I am vice-captain.

- I will keep the red foxes winning streak up with Freddie and house points too
- If any red fox student or adult needs help I will help them whatever it is and be a good vice.
- If any red fox is nervous about any upcoming event I will help and encourage them to do it

Blue Hedgehogs:

Hi my name's Ted. I knew most of the Ks2 from being a playground buddy for a year, I didn't know most of the year ones. But I know that you are all amazing, as you have picked me as house captain I will make you do the very best you can do, I want you to be the best version of yourselves.

Hello my name is Ollie as vice-captain these are the things I will bring to the table: I will support and engage with each and everyone. I think we will do better than ever if we stick together and work hard, if we all work hard now it will pay off.

Yellow Hedgehogs:

I am Tilly and I have been voted house captain. I ran for this position because I wanted to learn new skills; skills such as responsibility, good sportsmanship and teamwork. I will hopefully lead yellow hedgehogs to victory on fun days such as sports day. I will be a role model and a good captain.

Hi my name is Liberty and I'm vice-captain of yellow hedgehogs. I will make sure that everyone is ok, when they are hurt I will help them get back up again. If they are really hurt I will help them be resilient. As for myself I am kind, caring and supportive. On sports day me and the other captains will help get the trophy and this is why I'm vice-captain.

Hi, I am Lachlan and I believe I will be a good vice-captain because:

- I will make you and everyone else reach their full potential. For example when I was little I used to fall over and cry but now I just try to get on with it.
- I believe that I would help you be more respectful to me and the teachers. I will make sure you are doing the right thing.
- I will be also respectful to the teachers.
- I believe that I will be kind to you and every other captains and teams. I will especially be kind to KS1.

Childhood Nasal Flu Programme

You will shortly receive a letter outlining the Childhood Nasal Flu Programme. You will be asked to consent or decline the flu vaccination for your child. It is important that you complete the consent form and return to the school office by **Monday 27th September 2021**. Further information can be found at www.nhs.uk/child-flu

PTA News

PTA AGM

Thank you to those that attended the PTA AGM on Monday. Please see the Treasurer's Report and the AGM minutes attached to the email.

Family Fun Event

We are looking forward to seeing lots of you at the Family Fun Event on Friday.

School Value Certificates Awarded Today



House Cup awarded to Green Deer

Quick Reminders

No parking on the zig-zags

Please do not park on the yellow zig-zags outside of the school. They are there to protect our children and families.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Thank you for booking your children onto the fantastic extra-curricular clubs that are on offer. You will have already been contacted if your child secured a place on the cooking club for this half term. Those that were not successful this time, are on the waiting list to start after the half-term and you will be contacted closer to the time. **Please contact the school office if you would be able to help Mrs Harding run the cooking club each Tuesday 3.15 to 4.15pm.**

Well-Being Wall

Please continue to send in more photos (& a short explanation) showcasing your child's achievements outside of school, so that we can add them to our new Well-Being Wall. This could be anything from embracing the great outdoors, sporting achievements, or any new hobbies – any activity that helps improve mental well-being and promotes a healthy life-style. Please email them to: admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk

Milk

Every child under the age of five is entitled to FREE school milk. This is funded by the Government and provided via a company called Cool Milk. After your child's fifth birthday, if you wish for your child to continue to have a portion of milk each day, please contact [Cool Milk](#) directly.

If your child is unwell

Please contact the school office, before 9am, with the reason for your child's absence so that their attendance can be recorded accurately. If your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, they should remain at home until 48 hours AFTER the last episode of either.

Medication

If your child requires prescription medicine to be administered during the school day, please complete the 'Parental Agreement for Setting to Administer Medicine' form and hand it to the school office along with the medication. The form is available on the school website - https://www.birdlipprimary.co.uk/parent_information/health_wellbeing/illness.html

Spare shoes on PE days

If the weather looks to be wet on your child's PE day, please also send them in with some spare shoes (so they can change if they get wet). Please make sure they are clearly labelled with their name!

Speed check in Birdlip Village

A speed check was carried out on Thursday 2 September 2021 between 11am and 12pm. 35 motorists were detected all travelling 36mph or over. The results have been forwarded to the police who will issue warning letters to these motorists. As a reminder to all drivers, there is a voluntary 20mph speed limit throughout the village.

Wrap Around Care

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open to all pupils from 7.45am. Prices are based on arrival time and include breakfast:

- arrival between 7.45am-8am = £5.00 per session;
- arrival after 8am = £4.00 per session

To register and book spaces, please contact the playgroup leaders on: bbplaygroup@btinternet.com or 07914 091 427.

Atlas Camps After School Club

Atlas Camps provide after school care between 3.15pm to 5.45pm. For more information and to book your place online visit: <https://atlas camps.co.uk/asc/birdlip/index.php>

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

If your child 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 PCR test. **You should also inform the school office as soon as possible. Siblings can continue to attend school as long as they do not develop any symptoms.**

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 <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> and
- 2) Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your result – only leave home to have a test.

Links for Mental Health Support and Online Safety

Online Safety:

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

Government Guidance for parents and carers: COVID-19

The Government have published a collection of guidance providing [information for parents and carers of children attending early years settings, schools and colleges](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic. The collection brings together information and guidance for parents on:

- essential information for the spring term
- COVID-19 testing
- clubs and out-of-school settings
- home schooling and remote education
- support of children and young people

Playgroup and Holiday Clubs

Birdlip Playgroup

Birdlip Playgroup 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.

Atlas Camps October 2021

Atlas Camps October 2021 are open for bookings. Please visit their website for more information and to book your space: <https://atlas camps.co.uk/birdlip/>

