



Birdlip Primary School Newsletter



Friday 1st October 2021

www.birdlipprimary.co.uk

Newsletter 4

"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 3** selection.

Diary Dates

Events in the Week Ahead

Forthcoming Events

Tues 19th Oct, Parents Evening (booking details will be sent out shortly)

Thurs 21st Oct, Parents Evening (booking details will be sent out shortly)

Fri 22nd Oct, Last day of term

Sun 31st Oct, Deadline for Secondary School applications

Sun 31st Oct, PTA Halloween Pumpkin Trail

Mon 1st Nov, Pupils return to school

Fri 5th Nov, School Photographs

Thur 11th Nov, Nasal Flu Immunisations for pupils

Tues 16th Nov, Reception and Year 6 Vision Screening and Height & Weight check (newly added)

Wed 24th Nov, PTA film night

Message from Mr Milner

Dear parents,

Firstly, the PTA event last Friday was a triumph. It was lovely to see so many families back in school and be able to socialise without fear. We were lucky with the weather and it was great to finally meet the vast majority of families. A huge thanks to Mrs Maguire and Mrs Croft, the new co-chairs of the PTA, the remainder of the committee and all the many other parents who worked so hard to make such an enjoyable event. They have some amazing plans for other events throughout the year. The money raised was able to part fund the new tablets.

I'm not a particularly political person but I was intrigued to listen to Kier Starmer's education agenda. What he hoped to achieve in schools, if he gained power, was for children to learn digital literacy and be ready for the modern workplace. With the acquisition of a second set of tablets and using Google Classroom as a digital textbook, we have already achieved this target. Children in both Ospreys and Golden Eagles now use Google Classroom as a platform for guided reading, maths worksheets and a plethora of resources and links in all other subjects. Whilst this hasn't and will never replace traditional writing skills it allows children to learn in a more interactive way and more importantly a more independent way of learning - ready for the future workplaces. Children can also continue their learning at home, using Google and school logins, and they can show families what they have achieved in school.

Birdlip is sadly missing a playground, a vital resource for all communities. We are considering allowing primary school aged children to use our play space at weekends and evenings during the summer months. If you have any thoughts either way, please let me know before we formulate a plan.

Lastly, I am running the virtual London Marathon this Sunday. Unfortunately with a lack of training this year it certainly won't be a PB but I endeavour to raise money for Maggie's Cancer Care charity whenever I can so any kind sponsorship will go their way. The link can be viewed [here](#).

Andrew Milner

School Value Certificates Awarded Today



House Cup awarded to Blue Rabbits

Golden Eagles Trip - Black Country Museum

Golden Eagles had a wonderful time at the Black Country Museum! We visited a woman in role in a Toll house who told us about her family who ate rabbits that the dog caught. The children were amazed at how much of the house was the same as it is now, especially the windows and the food. In the Victorian school, Mr Griffiths the pretend teacher got Mrs Jowett-Moore and Mrs Davis out for punishment for playing kiss chase! We were amazed that the children only had to go to school until the age of ten and then they got jobs. These jobs were mainly the same job as your parents did; they would just take you to work! We saw the tram and found out that Queen Victoria passed through Dudley about 100m from where we were actually standing! The local area was viewed to be so dirty that they closed the blinds of Queen Victoria's train carriage so that she would not have to look at the poor area!

We also visited the chain factory, the shops, the canal, the mines, the street toy section and of course the playground. We had such a good day. So many children said that they were glad they did not live in Victorian times as the children had such hard lives. Success! We think they really got an understanding of what life was like. The children were so well behaved, we were very proud of them. Also a big thank you to the parent volunteers that helped on the trip (Mrs Shearing, Mrs Croft & Mrs Wiltshire).

Mrs Davis, Mrs Jowett-Moore and Mrs Pasquet.



Harvest Art Day – Today!

What a fantastic Harvest Art Day we have all had here at Birdlip. We began our day by discussing what Harvest Festival means and why it is important to us. The children had some really great insights!

For those of us in EYFS and KS1, we focused on the work of Guiseppe Acimboldo and create pieces around portraits using fruit. Robin children absolutely loved cutting, arranging and eating their fruity faces! Kingfishers impressed us with their fantastic observational drawings skills and even made their own versions of Acimboldo portraits. For children in KS2, we focused on the work of John Constable and his country landscapes. Children took inspiration from his 'Haywain' painting and created their own versions using oil pastels and acrylics. Children in Golden Eagles particularly enjoyed going outside to focus on the texture of clouds and Ospreys were so careful taking their time over their sketches that they decided to extend their activities all day.

I couldn't be prouder of the fantastic creativity we have in this school and we really do have some wonderful artists! Well done everyone!

Mrs Groves



Year 6 Responsibilities

We have to say a massive thank you to all of the children in Year 6 so far this year as they have done an incredible job adjusting to being the oldest in the school. We firmly believe that the children should be a huge part of running the school and they have really stepped up, taking on the responsibility of being buddies for the new reception children but also doing other roles around the school. This has been anything from being a librarian, tidying away the playground equipment after break, setting up for lunch, ensuring the correct things are being recycled or even delivering milk to those children who need it. We are so proud of your children and the way they have taken on these responsibilities - they're being incredible role models and helping to ensure everything at school runs smoothly.

Mr Pugh

National Child Measurement Programme - Vision Screening and Height & Weight – 16th November 2021

Each year in England, **school children in Reception and Year 6** have their height and weight checked at school as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. The information collected by the NHS is used to understand how many children are overweight, healthy weight or underweight. If your child is in Reception (Robins) or Year 6, please refer to the email sent yesterday (30th September 2021) for further information and how to opt out if you do not want your child to take part.

Well Being Courses for Parents

Family Learning run online wellbeing courses designed especially for parents/carers.

The latest course on offer is **Calming the Mind** - a 5 week introduction to mindfulness. Parents who attended this course last year have noticed a real change in their lives, which has resulted in building strong bonds with their children. This course is running on Monday evenings from 4th October and again on Tuesday mornings from 5th October. Please see the attached leaflet for more details.

PTA News

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who donated towards and came to the Family Fun Day last Friday. It was fantastic to have the school community back together again. **We raised an amazing £790.71 for the school!**



All the proceeds from the PTA fundraising events go back into the school to support the children's education. In the last year alone we have been able to:

- Support with purchasing tablets to use across Golden Eagles & Kingfishers
- Provide the coach for the Golden Eagles school trip to The Black Country Museum
- Provide over 200 books for the school library
- Refurbishment of the Kingfishers toilets scheduled for the end of the month

We have lots of fun activities planned for this year. Next event is the 'Pumpkin Hunt' on the 31st October which is going to be a fantastic afternoon of fun for all your friends and family. But there are lots of other ways to support the PTA. Just to remind everyone:

C&G Clothes Bank Recycling - <https://cgcollections-ltd.co.uk/>

Having a clear out? We have a clothes recycling bank in the village hall car park. This is regularly collected and all proceeds from the recycling go to the PTA. Head to their website to check what can be donated.

Amazon Smile - <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

If you use Amazon then switch to shopping via Amazon Smile and choose Birdlip PTA as your chosen charity and Amazon will donate to our PTA fund for all purchases.

Stampastic PTA Scheme - <https://stampastic.co.uk/pages/pta-rewards>

For every Name Labels Deluxe Bundle purchased via Stampastic, Birdlip School PTA will receive 15% commission and you will get a free white fabric pen.

Easyfundraising - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/birdlipschoolpta/?q=birdlip%20school%20&cat=cause-autosuggest>

If you shop via Easyfundraising over 4700 retailers will donate to the school PTA at no extra cost to you. All you have to do is set up an account with Easyfundraising and ensure you purchase your usual shopping via their website and select Birdlip School PTA as your cause to support. We have raised £2,089 via Easyfundraising.

Donations – You can do a one off donation or set up a standing order to the PTA account. Giving a regular amount will enable the PTA to continue its support of the school from providing learning resources, school trips, sports equipment, games, extra-curricular clubs etc. Every £1 really does help!

Bank details are:

- Birdlip School Parent Teacher Association
- 30-99-15
- 27670668

Quick Reminders

Childhood Nasal Flu Programme

There are still some outstanding flu forms. Please contact the office if you have not received 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. Further information can be found at www.nhs.uk/child-flu

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

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://atlascamps.co.uk/asc/birdlip/index.php>

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

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.

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 – 3 weeks to go

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/>

