



Birdlip Primary School Newsletter

Friday 8th October 2021

www.birdlipprimary.co.uk

Newsletter 5

"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/birdlipsschoolpta/>

School Dinner Menu Choices

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

Diary Dates

Events in the Week Ahead

Fri 15th Oct, Deadline to return Christmas Card (IQ Card) orders to the office (newly added)

Forthcoming Events

Tues 19th Oct, Parents Evening (please book via Arbor app)

Thurs 21st Oct, Parents Evening (please book via Arbor app)

Fri 22nd Oct, Celebration assembly at 2.15pm (parents welcome - location tbc) (newly added)

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

Wed 24th Nov, PTA film night

Fri 10th Dec, School Disco (newly added)

Message from Mr Milner

Dear parents,

Thank you for all the support and financial contribution to Maggie's Cancer Care charity for my virtual London Marathon last weekend. I was very lucky with the weather and chose to run my 26.2 miles across the Cotswold hills - so rather beautiful too. I endeavour to do quite a few daft events over the year to raise money for Maggie's, who have supported me and family so much in recent years.

We continue to be really impressed with the new positive behaviour system at school. The behaviour around school is very good and children are also really eager to be respectful and kind to each other not merely to gain awards but because they know how it makes others feel. We continue to have a zero tolerance to any violent behaviour or any verbal discrimination.

Reading continues to be one of the school's main strengths. The guided reading plan and the passion shown by the teachers exploring a variety of texts is inspiring. To reiterate the reading pamphlet we sent home last term (also on the reading section on the school website) reading at home with your child is all about asking questions about the stories and talking about the text, not just merely listening to words; this will enable them to really improve their reading skills. Helpful questions to ask are printed on their bookmarks.

Early reading is also vital and the phonics scheme to learn to read is vital in Reception and Year 1. Our current scheme, Letters and Sounds, has had a lot of bad press recently so we have decided to take the plunge and change to a new scheme called Read, Write, Inc. It is a big step to change, particularly mid-way through the year but we believe vital to accelerate our reading provision. Information about the new scheme can be seen [here](#). In order to train the teachers and teaching assistants in Robins and Kingfishers, they will be off site on Monday afternoon and Atlas shall be in to begin a new health related fitness programme - bringing PE into the classroom; also an exciting development.

Our school Harvest Festival was a delightful event at St Mary's church on Monday. In addition to a range of Harvest hymns and a reading, we asked the children to identify crops which are grown in Gloucestershire, such as Barley or Wheat and those grown elsewhere in the country, such as oats or peas - needless to say they knew most of the answers! One highlight was watching the Year 6 pupils walking to the church with their reception buddies and encouraging them to sing!



Unfortunately, we continue to be hit with illness at school. Several staff have succumbed and many children have been unwell. Although it is vital to follow advice regarding testing and isolation it is also important to remember that if children are genuinely unwell they should not be in school.

Andrew Milner

School Value Certificates Awarded Today



Message from Mr Pugh

EFSA small schools 7-a-sides

Yesterday we had the pleasure of playing in a football tournament at Oxtalls Sports Park. The tournament consisted of 6 schools from the surrounding area with the winners going on to represent the county on November 30th. We played some fantastic football over the five matches and our results were:

Birdlip 1 - 0 Croft
Birdlip 2 - 0 Norton
Birdlip 3 - 0 Hartpury
Birdlip 2 - 1 Shurdington
Birdlip 1 - 1 Longney

As you can see, we had an outstanding tournament winning 4 of our five games with only Longney taking any points off us. This meant that we were clear winners meaning that we'll be the team moving forward to the county finals. As you can see from our winners photo we had some very tired players due to the sheer amount of effort and application that they showed. I am incredibly proud of all of the children who took part and look forward to the rest of the season.



Continuing with our sport news, we have the Roman Road tag rugby tournament being hosted at the school on October 15th which we will be entering at least 2 teams in, we hope you can come and watch to support the children.

As mentioned by Mr Milner we've worked in conjunction with Atlas to bring mental well-being, health and exercise into the classroom starting from Monday. If you could make sure that your children are all wearing their P.E. uniform on Monday so they're ready for the afternoon of activities. On Monday we'll be rolling out the introductory session for the whole school, it will then continue in Ospreys for the rest of term and be rolled out into the other classes in the New Year.

I've been incredibly pleased with the uptake in children showing use what they've been achieving outside of school - our well-being wall has filled up nicely and looks fantastic. If you ever need assistance in finding a club or extra-curricular activity outside of school please don't hesitate to find me and ask as I'll do my best to provide you with a contact of a local club.

Finally, I have to mention again how proud we are of the older children in the school. This morning Ospreys worked with their buddies in the library reading to them and sharing their joy of books. They are really showing themselves to be outstanding role models and we are incredibly proud of how they're helping to settle the youngest children into the school.

Mr Pugh



PTA News

Birdlip Pumpkin Trail

The Pumpkin Trail will take place 1pm to 6pm on Sunday 31st October in Birdlip Village. There will be a £5 fee for anyone who enters with proceeds going to the local school. The fun trail will consist of numerous pumpkins placed at different points around Birdlip village for the whole family to enjoy. Prizes will be awarded for completing the trail.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in sponsoring a pumpkin for £50, please email birdlipschoolpta@gmail.com (preferably before Wednesday the 13th) and we will be in touch.

Christmas Cards (IQ Cards)

Every child has been sent home this week with a Christmas Card design form. There are some great cards and gift ideas that can be purchased (whilst raising funds for the school). If you would like to place an order, please ensure that your child's design (on the form provided) and payment is returned to the office **by Friday 15th October 2021**. Please ensure that payment is made in cash in a named envelope (so that it can be passed onto the PTA). There are plenty of spare forms in the office if you want to do more than one design.

100 Club

There are still plenty of numbers left if you would like to take part in the 100 Club and purchase a number for £10. Half of the total money raised goes straight to the school PTA and the remainder goes into a prize pot which is split into about 9 months of winnings!! Each month, we draw out two numbers and award 1st and 2nd prize! Please make payment via PayPal - <https://paypal.me/pools/c/8Di0nLuinq> - please make sure that you provide your full name as a reference and your preferred number/s (which we will allocate if available).

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Birdlip School PTA

The Little Princess Trust - Harvey's Hair

Just an update on Harvey's hair. He had it cut on Tuesday night and raised just short of £1100!! Thank you to everyone that donated.



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 **asap**. 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://atlas camps.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 – 2 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/>