



Birdlip Primary School

Helping Each Other Prepare For A Bigger World



Friday 21st January 2022

www.birdlipprimary.co.uk

Newsletter 17

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. **Please note that the Autumn Menu will continue to be used until the February 2022 half-term.**

Diary Dates

Events in the Week Ahead

Forthcoming Events

Tues 15th Feb, Golden Eagles Tree Planting Session

Fri 18th Feb, Last day of term

Mon 28th Feb, First day back

Wed 9th Mar, Kingfishers Trip to 'We the Curious'

Message from Mr Milner

What an amazing week to go to Warwick Castle; Golden Eagles were very lucky. It is a magnificent castle and the children returned buzzing about such a great day. Many thanks to Mrs Davis and Mrs Pasquet for arranging the trip and for the lucky parents who accompanied them.

We conducted some very clever reading tests this week with Year 4, 5 and 6. These allowed us to assess the children's reading age which proved to be significantly higher than their chronological age. This amazing progress has been achieved with the huge emphasis we have placed on reading, the vast range of books in our library and the embedded class guided reading Golden Eagles and Ospreys do three times a week. More importantly, it has really sparked a zest for reading within school.

As many of you are aware, we are due an Ofsted inspection any time soon. We have been working really hard behind the scenes to ensure that our curriculum and pastoral offer is the best it can be and that children at Birdlip have a happy, engaging and nurturing time at school. To help us with our preparations, I would be grateful if you could complete the attached questionnaire. Many thanks.

Andrew Milner

PTA News

The 100 Club Winners

The winners of the 100 Club for January are:

1st Prize – Mira Randall

2nd Prize – Dani Rosser

Congratulations to you both and your prize money can be collected from the office. Good luck for next month everyone and thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

School Value Certificates Awarded Today

House Cup Awarded to Red Foxes



Golden Eagles Trip to Warwick Castle

This term Golden Eagles are learning lots about Tudor times, and we thought a trip to the wonderful Warwick Castle would be a great way to learn about life in the 15th and 16th centuries. We were very excited as we entered the castle to see how huge it was! The towers and ramparts were very impressive and we discovered how these would have been used during times of war.

Inside the grand State Rooms we learnt all about one of the reigning monarchs of the 16thC, King Henry VIII. He was a very powerful man who dissolved the Catholic Church just so he could divorce his first wife! We had fun re-enacting some of the beheadings of his many future wives, too!



There was a fantastic exhibition deep below the main castle levels which showed us what life was like in the 1500's. The smell was disgusting as we walked through the streets, and we experienced the sights and sounds of life back then. There was no electricity so everything was very dimly lit by candlelight.

Outside, we had a great falconry show where we saw two birds of prey – a Peregrine Falcon and a Harris Hawk – show off their amazing skills and learn how they are used for entertainment and even pest control.

On our way back to the coach we managed to complete the Horrible Histories maze which guided us through British History from the Vikings all the way up to Victorian times. It was a lot of fun and we had to dash back to the coach so we didn't miss our ride home. We all loved our trip and want to go back to see more of it!

The Week Junior

Ms Smith is highly recommending 'The Week Junior' – providing news stories from around the world, suitable for 8-14 year olds. Please [click here](#) to see latest subscription offer (of subscribe and receive 6 free issues and a free e-guide).

Free School Meal support during February half-term from Gloucestershire County Council

This February half term, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to the Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'. The vouchers are funded through COVID-19 grant funding and is separate to that of the term time free school meals.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for the February holiday period are now open **until midday 14th February 2022**. Voucher emails will be sent out between 15th and 16th February 2022. Please check your junk/spam email folders during this period as sometimes the vouchers end up there. If you have not received your vouchers by then please email childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £15 for each child who is eligible for FSM which will cover the February half term week. The scheme is eligible for children aged 4-16 years old.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, and will have already been included.

Please [click here](#) for more information and to sign up if you haven't already.

Free online Yoga platform available to families until February 2022

YogaBugs virtual gives online access to hundreds of yoga and well-being videos for the whole family to take part in from the comfort of their own home. Perfect if people are worried about going out due to COVID but still want to get some exercise in. Please [click here](#) for a short video.

How to gain access?

Visit: <https://yogabugsvirtual.com/my-account/> - click on parents, enter the unique eCode **gloucestershire-1361** and follow the simple registration (it takes less than 60 seconds!)

Volunteer School Admission Appeal Panel Member Advert

Gloucestershire County Council are currently advertising for a School Admission Appeal Panel Member. This is a voluntary role. Please see the attached advert for more information and how to apply.

Quick Reminders

Spare Clothes

Please remember to wash and return any spare clothes that your child may have borrowed from school.

Outdoor Learning - Request to borrow some binoculars

Children will be birdwatching in Outdoor Learning for 3 weeks beginning Tuesday 25th January 2022. It would be wonderful to have binoculars for all the children to use during these sessions and therefore Mrs Cookson is putting out a request for families that are happy to loan their binoculars for these 3 weeks. Please ensure that they are clearly labelled and she will ensure they are used and stored carefully.

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 Aftercare

Atlas Camps Aftercare 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> **Please note that the emergency number for Atlas when your children are with them is 07522 909 409.**

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 – February Half-Term

Atlas Camps will be running a Holiday Camp at Birdlip this half term. Please see the Atlas Camps website for more information: <https://atlas camps.co.uk/>

Support and Guidance for Parents

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 COVID-19 symptoms, your child should not attend school and you should follow the [self-isolation guidance for households with a suspected or positive COVID case](#) provided by the government along with arranging a COVID-19 PCR test (you do not need to take a PCR test if you have already taken an LFD test and the result was positive). 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 and if over 5 years old, are advised to take an LFD test every day for 7 days, or 10 days after the household member who has COVID-19 started their isolation period if this is earlier.

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.

You may be able to end your self-isolation period before the end of the 10 full days. You can take an LFD test from 5 day after the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms), and another LFD test on the following day. The second LFD test should be taken at least 24 hours later. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result.

Continue to [report your LFD test results](#) after taking each test – reporting positive LFD test results means that NHS Test and Trace can get in touch with your contacts and advise them on what to do; reporting negative LFD test results helps improve understanding about the spread of COVID-19.