



Birdlip Primary School

Helping Each Other Prepare For A Bigger World



Friday 18th February 2022

www.birdlipprimary.co.uk

Newsletter 21

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. Please see new Spring/Summer menu attached.

Diary Dates

Events in the Week Ahead

Forthcoming Events

Mon 28th Feb, First day back

Mon 28th Feb, Booking window opens for Parents Evening (newly added)

Mon 28th Feb, Deadline for final payment towards Ospreys Residential Trip

Thur 3rd Mar, World Book Day - Dress as a character or non-uniform - details below (newly added)

Thur 3rd Mar, Deadline for Read for Good Readathon Sponsorship - www.readforgood.org/sponsor (newly added)

Fri 4th Mar, PTA/School Council Pop-Up Café straight after school (newly added)

Tue 8th Mar, Ospreys Residential Trip information evening at 6pm

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

Fri 11th Mar, Deadline for PE kit orders and payment (newly added)

Sun 13th Mar, Last chance to book a Parents Evening slot (newly added)

Mon 14th Mar, Year 6 Bikeability Cycle Training commences

Tue 15th Mar, Parents Evening – in the classroom

Thur 17th Mar, Parents Evening – via Zoom (Zoom link to follow)

Fri 18th Mar, Comic Relief Day - details to follow (newly added)

Message from Mr Milner

This has been a really long but successful term; we rarely have a seven week term at this time of the year and we have certainly noticed that the children (and staff!) have been particularly tired this week. Thank you for the positive response regarding our closure due to the storm; it is essential to stay safe. There will be no online provision as we all need a rest.

Our house flag day was a great success. The children worked in small groups across the year groups and had to find QR codes outside which revealed flag questions they had to research, such as the oldest flag in the world and the flag of Antarctica. The final project is to design a house flag, the winning design from each house will be made into a real flag and hoisted each week (if they win the house competition!). This competition has begun and will close on the Monday after half term - so please use half term to create a winning design!

Thank you also for the positive feedback about the grade cards this week. It is always important we keep you informed how children are performing academically as well as socially and these cards provide clarity and consistency.

Congratulations to the Year 3 and 4 gymnastic team competitors - they performed really well this week at Stratford Park with the girls team coming 6th and the boys team 3rd. Thank you Miss Higgs for helping to coordinate this event. Congratulations also to the football teams - Year 3/4 won last week's Stroud schools competition and Year 5/6 came 2nd, and yesterday we played Shurdington, winning 4-1.

Hope you all have a lovely, safe and restful half term.

Andrew Milner



School Value Certificates Awarded

The outstanding awards for last week are:



World Book Day - 3rd March 2022

When we return, World Book Day is on the first week back on Thursday 3rd March 2022. Reading is central to all our learning at Birdlip so we'd love to spend a day celebrating reading and books. The children will be working in their houses in the morning moving round the classes doing different book-related activities.

World Book Day is never complete without dressing up but we realise it's a lot to get organised and some children don't want to dress up. So, this year, we are asking to either dress up as a book character or come in non uniform if your child would prefer.

We would also like to ask if your child could donate a book (new or second-hand) to our library on the day. This is, of course entirely voluntary but we'd be most grateful if you are able to donate. We've put together a [Library Book Wishlist](#) on Amazon, compiled mainly by the children, of books they would like to see in the library.

Lastly, 3rd March is the final day of the Read for Good Readathon event. Please send donations to www.readforgood.org/sponsor by that day if possible so we can announce our total - note that we will not be able to accept cash or cheques in the office. Remember this event raises money for books/storytellers for children in hospital and 20% of the fund-raising will go towards books for our school.

If you have any questions about World Book Day, please speak to Mrs Harding.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Request for Photos

The children will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in school and would like to have a collection of any photos parents or grandparents have of people celebrating the Queen's Coronation in 1952. If you have any photos that you would be willing to share, please email them admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk or drop into the office so that we can take a photocopy.

Parents Evening – How to Book

Parents Evenings will be taking place on **Tuesday 15th March 2022** and **Thursday 17th March 2022**. Appointments will be the usual 10 minute slots and will be held after school with your child's class Teacher. Please note that meetings will take place in the classroom on the Tuesday and virtually (via Zoom) on the Thursday. **To book your appointment slot/s you will need to log on to the Arbor Parent Portal at any time from 9am on Monday 28th February 2022 until midnight on Sunday 13th March 2022.**

PE Kit - Order Deadline

You can now place your orders for PE Kit. The order form can be found on the school website (also attached to this newsletter for your convenience). Please ensure that all order forms are submitted to the school office or via admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk **by Friday 11th March 2022**. Payment must be made at time of ordering via ParentPay. Please note that the PE kit item on ParentPay is available to all (even if you haven't placed an order) and is set with a payment amount of £1-£70 so that you can amend the figure to the amount you actually need to pay. Please contact the office with any queries.

Golden Eagles Tree Planting Trip

On Tuesday 15th February 2022, we went on a field trip to Lilley Brook Golf Course and planted 31 trees. We did get a bit muddy but it was all worth it. We also planted 3 trees at the top of our school field. We learnt atleast three good reasons to plant trees: 1) trees absorb carbon dioxide 2) trees use this to create oxygen 3) trees create a home for wildlife.



New Caterlink Spring/Summer Menu

Please find the latest Caterlink Spring/Summer menu attached. This will take effect from Monday 28th February 2022 for the remaining school year. This has also been made available on the school website, along with a picture menu.

Peripatetic Music Teachers

We have peripatetic music teachers in on a Thursday to provide individual lessons to pupils. If you are interested, please contact them directly:

- Piano and flute lessons - Eddie Parker - eddiep730@gmail.com
- Guitar, ukulele and brass lessons - David Meade - tuition@david-meade.co.uk

PTA News

Sponsored Litter Pick – February Half-Term

This February half term enjoy the outdoors and clean up your local area. We are encouraging the children to litter pick in their own local area and ask for sponsorship through the [GoFundMe page](#).

When you have completed your litter pick, upload a photo to the GoFundMe page and tell us how many bags you collected. There will be a prize awarded to the child who collects the most rubbish bags. Good luck!

PTA & School Council Pop-Up Café – Friday 4th March (REVISED DATE)

Please come along to the Pop-up café straight after school on Friday 4th March 2022. You will be able to get tea, coffee, hot chocolate & cake. Second hand school uniform will also be available if anyone needs any! Cake donations are needed so if you can bake (or buy) we would be really grateful. Please drop them off at the office on the morning of 4th March. We hope to see lots of you there!

Thank you
PTA Team

Quick Reminders

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Just to confirm that all extra-curricular clubs will continue until the end of next term. It is slightly different for both Cooking Club and Baking Club because of the number of children signing up. They are split into two groups and have been completing 5 weeks each. Group 2 for Cooking Club and for Baking Club will start w.c. 28th February 2022 for 5 weeks. Any queries, please contact the school office.

Ospreys Residential Trip – Final Payment

Please ensure that the final payment towards the Ospreys Residential Trip is made **by Monday 28th February 2022**. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

Smart Watches

Please ensure that children do not bring their smart watches into school.

Absence from School

If your child will be absent from school due to sickness, please remember to inform the office by 8.45am either by phoning 01452 862 331 and leaving a voicemail, or email admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk.

If you know that your child will be absent at a future date e.g. for a doctors appointment, please also inform the office in advance.

If you are planning to take your child out of school for any other reason during term time, please complete an Absence Request form in advance (available on the school website). This must be returned to the office in advance of the absence for consideration by the Headteacher.

Half Term Activities

Gloucester Rocks Newsletter

Please see the Gloucester Rocks Newsletter attached for more information and inspiration for the half term holidays.

Please feel free to send any other events & activities to admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk so that we can share them with everyone in our community.

Online Courses for Parents - Adult Education in Gloucestershire

Adult Education in Gloucestershire are running some great courses online which are designed especially for parents/carers. All courses are open to all and free* to many.

- **Upgrade Your Maths** is a 6 week course running on Thursday mornings from 10-12. This course is designed especially for parents who are anxious about maths. Parents work in a small group online and are supported so that they soon feeling comfortable tackling a range of maths questions and develop confidence to support their children with their homework. Starting on Thursday 3 March. You can enrol by clicking on this link [Upgrade Your Maths](#)
- **Help Your Child with Reading for ESOL Parents** runs on Wednesday afternoons online. The focus of the class is to improve parents English skills and look at the techniques schools use to support children to learn to read in the UK. This class runs weekly in term time from 2 March. You can enrol by clicking on this link [English class- Help Your Child with Reading](#)
- **Calm Kids, Calm Home** is a 6 week course running on Friday mornings. The course looks at ways of making the home environment calmer, including discussing effective co-parenting, family routines, parents as role models and self care. Starting on Friday 4 March from 9:30-11:00. You can enrol by clicking on this link [Calm Kids, Calm Home](#)
- **Calming the Mind** is a 6 week introduction to mindfulness. Parents who attended this course last year have noticed a real change in their lives, and a greatly improved relationship with their children. Starting on Tuesday 1 March from 7:30-8:30. You can enrol by clicking on this link [Calming the Mind](#)

* The courses are free if you are over 19 years old, have lived in the UK for 3 or more years, or have a valid Residence Permit, and are one of the following: unemployed or earning below £17,374 per year; qualified below a Level 2 (less than 5 GCSEs); have mental health challenges, have a learning difficulty or disability.

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.