



Birdlip Primary School

Helping Each Other Prepare For A Bigger World



Friday 8th September 2023

www.birdlipprimary.co.uk

Newsletter 1

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 Guidance [UK Health Security Agency](#) and [Office for Health Improvement and Disparities](#)

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 week 1 of the Spring/Summer Menu 2023.

Diary Dates

Events Next Week

Sat 9th Sept, PTA Quiz Night, Rubys, Birdlip at 5.30pm 

Wed 13th Sept, Wellbeing day – Yr1-Yr6 pupils to wear PE kit (newly added)

Forthcoming Events

Mon 18th Sept, Golden Eagles Swimming sessions start

Fri 22nd Sept, Deadline to return Pupil Nasal Flu vaccination consent forms (newly added)

Wed 11th Oct, Golden Eagles trip to Copesgrove Farm (details to follow) (newly added)

Thur 12th Oct, Pupil Nasal Flu Vaccination – details to follow (NOTE amended date)

Thur 26th Oct, Last day of school (newly added)

Tue 31st Oct, Secondary School application deadline (newly added)

Mon 6th Nov, Back to school (newly added)

Message from Mr Pugh

Dear Parents and Children

We are delighted to welcome the children back to another year at school and are so proud of the fantastic start that they have all made in the first week. The weather has been positively sweltering but due to the heating upgrade we have put in place over the summer we now have air conditioning throughout the school which has made the learning environment much more conducive to learning.

Attendance has been fantastic so far this week and I will re-iterate from last year the expectation that all children attend 100% of the time that school is open to them barring illness. If attendance becomes an issue for your child at any point we will endeavor to work with you to formulate a plan for improvement.

School Values

Our core values at Birdlip are Respect, Resilience and Kindness. We feel that these are essential in the development of Birdlip pupils and we base our Friday assemblies around them; in reality they are at the core of everything we do. They align with our positive behaviour policy (found on our website) which reward house points for children displaying the values in every aspect of school. This could be: respecting their site or surroundings, showing kindness to others in ensuring they have someone to play with or showing resilience by not giving up when they face a difficult question in class. We are all a big team at Birdlip and the children have done an incredible job so far this term, displaying the values daily. We are very proud of how the children adopt the values of the school and it has been encouraging to see the Year 6 buddies setting the example for the new starters.

Homework expectations and Google Classroom

Google classroom is used daily in school by all classes and is a fantastic resource that can be used alongside school at home. If you haven't logged in at home yet please do - it has become a vital tool in the children's learning and this is where you will find their spelling tasks as well as anything they've done at school during the day. It is also a forum where you can ask questions if you aren't sure of something though please be aware if you post a public comment everyone with access to the classroom can read it, there is an option to post private comments in the assignment tabs. With regards to homework, we will be organising a parent information afternoon to introduce the new homework platform that we are using - ixl. In the meantime we ask that children read and complete their reading record on a daily basis - if your child does not have a reading record (due to the use of padlets in KS2), please encourage them to read every day so they can complete their class padlet in school. If you have the time reading to your child is one of the single most beneficial things you can do to encourage and develop their love of reading – please [click here](#) for more information.

How to contact the teacher

The office is the go to place for any general queries, if however you need to speak to a teacher they are always available in the morning and afternoon at pick-up and drop-off times. Our team are fantastic and also respond to enquiries through google classroom but please be aware if a question is asked after a certain time it may not be answered until the next day.

Next Wednesday (13th September) the children from Y1-6 will be having a well-being session with Atlas all day so please send them to school in their PE kit.

Mr Pugh

Birdlip Shields Awarded



Key Information

Morning drop-off

The gates open at 8.30am each morning to allow the children to socialise and run off some steam before school, which officially starts at 8.45am. **Please can you ensure that you stay onsite until the bell has gone at 8.40am so that there is a member of staff to supervise your child.**

Afternoon pick-up

Please collect your child promptly at 3.15pm and inform the school if you will be late. After this time, children may be taken down to Atlas After Care and there may be a charge. The school gates will remain open until 3.45pm (please ensure that you are supervising your children during this time).

Collection of your Child

Please inform the office if someone else will be collecting your child.

EYFS Play area

Please note that the EYFS/Robins outside area is **for Robins use ONLY**. The area is not for use outside of school hours. Unfortunately in the past we have had items broken and misplaced, which reduces the resources available that are used to enrich the learning experience of the children in Robins Class. Thank you for your understanding.

Parking

Thank you for your continued support with parking. All parents should **park on the road and not in the village hall car park**. This not only helps residents with access to their homes but also allows children to walk to and from school safely. Please avoid parking on the yellow zigzags and do not park on road junctions as this is illegal.

Illness and Medication

Starting school is often met with new illnesses and bugs. Whilst COVID has taught us invaluable lessons about hygiene children (and staff!) do get ill and schools are often a hotbed of bugs. Please do not send children into school if they are unwell and please refer to the guidance on the web site (or ask Mrs Wilson-Copp) regarding length of absence for particular illness. Please do keep us in the loop so we can share information as necessary - particularly the creepy crawly bug variety! Please inform the school office by 8.45am if your child will be absent from school that day.

If your child has any medication that needs to be administered during school hours, please hand this in to the school office, along with a completed 'Parental Agreement for Setting to Administer Medication' form (available on the school website and Edulink). Medication should not be kept in the school bag.

Other Absence

From time to time children need to be absent for family and ad hoc events. As a school, we are able to authorise (or unauthorise) absences, dependent on individual situations. However, whatever the outcome, it is imperative that you tell the school in advance of the absence, by completing the 'Absence Request' form (available on the school website and Edulink). Any unexplained absences have to be reported to Gloucestershire County Council.

Change of Address?

Please remember to inform the school office if you change your address. You can do this by emailing the change to admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk or by updating the address on Edulink. Either way, please also bring in a utility or driving license as proof of change.

Office Hours

The school office hours are as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – 8.30am to 3.15pm

Tuesday – 8.30am to 2.30pm

If possible, please inform the office by 12pm on the day of any changes to your child's normal pick-up or bus routine.

Are your details on Edulink up-to-date?

Each year, we need to check that the details that we hold for you and your children are up-to-date. Please log on to the Edulink Parent Portal and ensure that all sections are complete and correct. If you have any issues logging on, please do contact the office.

Uniform and water bottles

Uniform make sure all school uniform and water bottles are named! This is especially important with regards to PE uniform as often we have 60 identical hoodies and identifying each owner can be challenging!

Smart Phones and Smart Watches

Please do not send your child to school with Smart phones and/or smart watches.

PE Days

- Monday – Ospreys and Golden Eagles
- Wednesday – Ospreys and Golden Eagles
- Friday – Kingfishers and Robins

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing PE kit on the relevant day.

New PE kit can be ordered through the office on a big termly basis, via the PE kit order form (available on the school website and Edulink) - order deadlines will be advertised in the newsletter.

Term Dates

Term dates are available on the website and on Edulink (in the links section).

KS2 Dinner Payments

Please ensure that you keep your child's dinner money account in credit on ParentPay. It is possible to set up an auto top-up option which takes away the hassle of remembering to top up the account - for more information on how to do this, [please click here](#).

No Nut Policy

Please do not send food for snacks and lunch containing nuts.

Free EYFS/KS1 Dinners, Fruit and Veg

All children in Robins and Kingfishers are entitled to free school dinners, fruit and vegetables. Fruit is made available every break time.

School Milk

School milk is available for all under 5s. If you wish your child to continue receiving milk after their 5th birthday simply register with Cool Milk directly via their website (www.coolmilk.com) or contact the school office for assistance. The school milk is currently 28p per day.

School Website

We have a lot of information available on the school website and some useful links available through Edulink to things such as the school curriculum, PE kit order forms, Absence Forms, Administration of Medication Forms etc.

Well-Being

The well-being wall was one of the most beloved parts of the school last year and we are incredibly keen to show-off all the wonderful things the children do outside of school. Please email a picture to admin@birdlip.gloucs.sch.uk of your child doing something they do in their free time: this can be playing a sport or an instrument, producing some wonderful art or any other activity that they love doing!

Peripatetic Music Sessions – Piano, Flute, Brass, Guitar and Ukulele

We have two peripatetic music teachers, offering 1-2-1 music lessons with pupils during the school day on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please contact Eddie and David directly for more information:

- Mr David Meade - Guitar, Ukulele and Brass instruments - guitar@davidmeade.plus.com
- Mr Eddie Parker - Piano and flute lessons - eddiep730@gmail.com

PTA

A massive thank you to everyone who has ever been involved with the school PTA. This is an invaluable asset to the school, raising funds to enable us to provide fantastic learning opportunities for your children and some great events for families and the children to socialise together outside of school.

Applying for Free School Meals (this applies to all year groups)

For every child that is entitled to free school meals, the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

'Infant' Free School Meals are slightly different, in that your child will be able to get universal free school meals if they are in Reception (Robins), Year 1 or Year 2 (Kingfishers). We still ask that you apply for this via the normal free school meals applications because this may give the school access to additional funding.

Please [click here](#) for more information and how to apply.

Easy Fundraising

A great way to help raise money for the school is through Easyfundraising. It doesn't cost anything, but if used when online shopping, it can raise money for the school. Please [click here](#) for more information. If you follow the link and sign-up, the school will be in with a chance of winning £500!



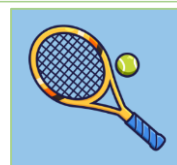
FACE - Family Advice Service

FACE gives practical, accessible and affordable support to parents, schools and organisations in raising children. Please see the leaflet attached or [click here](#) for more information.



Tennis Lessons available at Stratford Park

Please [click here](#) or see the attached leaflet for more information on the Tennis Plus Academy.



Men's Tour of Britain Cycle Race – Saturday 9th September

Stage 7 of this year's Men's Tour of Britain Cycle Race is taking place in Gloucestershire this **Saturday 9th September**.

The race starts in Tewkesbury at 11am and finishes in Gloucester Docks at approximately 3:15pm with the route going through both the Cotswold and Stroud Districts. For details of the route and timings, please follow this link <https://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/stages/stage-seven/>.

From 12pm, there will be an exciting finish event in Gloucester docks including a BMX display, Stunt cyclists, Smoothie bikes, Cycle Scalextric, balance bikes, mini racing bikes, a circus bike workshop, a watt bike challenge, live music and more.

Quick Reminders

Golden Eagles Swimming – Commences Monday 18th September 2022

Please make sure that your child has their swimming kit and a towel on Mondays. Payment can be made via ParentPay.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

The extra-curricular clubs should be available to book via Edulink from Monday (we will send an email out when booking goes live). Please note that the clubs are open to KS1 and KS2 only to allow Robins children to have a chance to settle into the norms of school life (Robins will be able to access the extra-curricular clubs from the Spring term onwards). Extra-Curricular Clubs will start week commencing 18th September 2023.

Childhood Nasal Flu Immunisation – 12th October 2023

Letters have been sent home with all pupils today, outlining the Childhood Nasal Flu Immunisation Programme. It is important that you read the information and return the completed 'Vaccination Consent Form' (one per child) to the school office **by Friday 22nd September 2023**. Please complete the form indicating whether you consent or decline the vaccination. The vaccination session will take place at school in the morning on Thursday 12th October.

Secondary School Application Deadline – Yr 6 Only

Letters were sent home yesterday with all Year 6 pupils regarding the Secondary School Application process. We will circulate dates of upcoming open days at local secondary schools as we receive them. Please note that the deadline for completing your secondary school application is **Tuesday 31st October 2023**.



School Quiz

Remember to come along to the quiz on Saturday (9th September) at Rubys, Birdlip. This is open to all, so please encourage friends to come along and join your team. The event starts at 5.30pm, with the quiz at 7pm, max. of 6-8 adults per team. You can pre-purchase your tickets via ParentPay or just pay on the door.

Wellbeing day –Wednesday 13th sept

We will be running a Wellbeing Day for years 1 to 6 (Kingfishers, Golden Eagles and Ospreys) on Wednesday. Please send your child in their PE kit.

Wrap Around Care

Birdlip Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open to all pupils from 7.30am. Prices are based on arrival time and include breakfast:

Prices

Arrival between 7.30 to 7.45am	£6.00
Arrival between 7.45am to 8.00am	£5.00
Arrival after 8.00am	£4.00

Breakfast finishes being served at 8.20am

To register and book

Contact the playgroup leaders on
bbplaygroup@btinternet.com
07914091427

Please remember to cancel your booking if it is no longer required.

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 07955 188 140.**