

OPAL NEWSLETTER

A year on from starting OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), it is wonderful seeing how much enjoyment the children are having. The children are developing creativity, imagination, resilience, social skills, emotional regulation and readiness to learn on returning to the classroom.

Parental Involvement

HUGE thanks go to Mr Relyea (Parent Rep on the OPAL Working Group) for heat pressing our Play Team / Leader High-Viz vests.

Many thanks also to Mrs Kampiotti who supported the school in applying for a grant with Veolia. We will create a Wild Garden and Bug Hotel with the £225 received.

Finally thank you to Mr O'Leary, who works for Wickes, who have donated storage containers, paint, paint brushes, soil, sinks etc. We appreciate all your help.

We are looking for more parents to join the OPAL Working Group. Do you have connections to businesses who may be able to make donations? Do you have some spare time to help us sort our donations or create new areas? Come and be involved in helping the children have even better playtimes.



Upcoming Events

OPAL Working Group Meeting - Wednesday 12th March at 9am

Come along and find out what is happening next and how you can help with OPAL. Please let Mrs Adams know if you are able to attend.

Bikeathon - Wednesday 19th March

The Bike/Scoot-a-thon returns! Each class completes laps of the playground. Sponsor forms are being sent home this week, so please ask your friends and family to sponsor your child. Parents may attend on the day - timings to follow.



Quiz Night - Friday 21st March at 7.30pm

A fun night of trivia and laughter. Why not form a team with other parents, your friends or family? Teams are 6-8 adults - £5 per person (Deposit of £30 per table) To book your table, please speak to Mrs. Adams.

OPAL Working Group to meet our new mentor Cath Prisk - Tuesday 25th March at 1.30pm

OPAL Working Party to meet with Cath and discuss our exciting next steps for the project.

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What is your favourite thing about OPAL? Children's survey

The Funky Playground shed / Fun with tyres

The bikes on the top playground gives more space

Love the sandpit - it feels like being on the beach. I never usually feel or touch sand / Being allowed to be creative

I love seeing people playing / Playtimes are happier

The boat place / Makes your mind grow whilst playing

Playtime is so much more fun with all the things to play with

I like the building area / Playing outdoors & learning at the same time

Using natural resources to play with & be creative

We are very lucky as we have so much to play with

It spreads joy and smiles.



What next for OPAL?

What would you love to have in the playground? Children's survey

Swings / Trampoline/ Tunnel / Rock climbing wall / Zip line / Monkey bars / Slide / Climbing frame / Assault course

Football nets / Extra footballs / Tennis net & rackets / Cricket or rounders equipment / Table tennis / Skipping area / Gymnastics area

More things for older children

Water play / Action figures & puppets / Toy cars

A place to talk / Teachers read stories to us

Outdoor sensory area

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We need your help

*We would love
donations of the
following:*

BUG HOTEL
Why not go on a
woodland hunt
in half term for
the following:

Dry leaves
 **Twigs** 
Pine cones
Bits of bark
Bamboo canes
Drilled logs
Scrap wood
Stones 

LOOSE PARTS

Tarpaulin,
decking boards,
planks, cable
drums, crates



GARDEN
Plants,
watering cans,
garden tools,
soil, compost

Buggies,
Trunkies,
Suitcases
of all
sizes
with
wheels



Parents and carers - We need your help.
If you can give some of your time to make playtimes **AMAZING**
for your child, please do join the OPAL Working Group. Come
along to the meeting on Wednesday 12th March at 9am.