

### Outdoor PLAY Afternoon - Friday 24th October

**Dear Parents & Carers** 

At Meridian we really value the importance of play as an essential part of childhood! Play helps children learn new things while building social skills, developing creative thinking, and exploring their interests and talents.

As part of the continued development of our OPAL initiative we are holding a Year 1 & 2 play afternoon on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October. We invite all parents and carers to join us from 1:45pm to play with the children and to experience what it is like for them during playtime.

To enable the children to have a positive experience of play we need lots of play equipment. As part of attending the afternoon we ask that you can bring any small world toys that you no longer need which you are willing to donate to the school (see suggested list below) or a cash monetary donation at the gates.

Please read the attached leaflet which gives you suggestions of the types of things you could bring in and our play expectations that both the children and yourselves are expected to adhere to during the afternoon.

Date - Friday 24th October

#### **Timings**

- From 1:45pm: families to bring in any small world toys, place them in the OPAL donation box. **Please** use the back and side gates to the school. You will not be allowed to enter via the main office.
- 2:00pm 3:00pm: all staff, children and families participating in play.
- 3:00pm: children go back into class to prepare for end of school. Parents are welcome to wait on the playground for their children.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and thank you for your continued support.

**OPAL Team** 

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# Play @ Meridian



Children develop their imagination and role playing through using small cars, lego and figures etc. This type of play is for those who like to relax and play quietly.

Cars
Diggers
Tractors
Trains
Small figures

Lego
Dolls
Dinosaurs
Farm Animals
Pretend Food

Bigger small world toys
Garages
Doll houses
Fire Engines
Train Tracks

All items must be of a good condition and suitable for children to PLAY with.

When playing with your child always think of the following:

THINK! Would you'let your children play with the items:



### Yes please...

- Let your child direct their play.
- Ask questions.
- Be silly (but still safe)



## Please avoid

- Directing your child / telling them how to play
- Let technology disrupt your play.
- Force activities on your child.

We ask anyone attending to kindly respect our play and behavior policy.

- \* No play fighting
- \* No throwing sticks, stones or mud.
- \* No hitting with sticks.
- \* Do not pick each other up.
- \* Respect the natural environment and our neighbours.

