

OPAL NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN EDITION 2025



Welcome to our first edition of our OPAL newsletter!

What is OPAL play?

To ensure that play time and our school grounds, are used to their full potential, we have become an OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) school. OPAL allows the children freedom to explore play in their own imaginative ways. The approach also promotes a more inclusive play environment in which all children can feel comfortable to express themselves. Through this approach to play, children are not only more active at lunchtimes, but they are also having the opportunity to further develop life skills such as problem solving, resilience, cooperation and teamwork.

What has been happening?

Children are thoroughly enjoying OPAL and now making use of the field. Lots of fun is being had with tyres, small world play and dressing up alongside tennis/badminton and of course football!

Over the past few months, parents have kindly given up their time delivering tyres and coming in to help us to create a digging area and sand many palettes that will be used across the school in future OPAL activities. A massive thank you to these wonderful parents for their time and dedication!

What is happening next.

- digging area to the juniors
- mud kitchens for all children to use on the field.
- Large loose parts such as barrels and crates will be added to the tyres so children can have lots of fun and use their creativity and teamwork skills to build dens.
- Water play in both the infants and juniors

In order for this to happen, children need to bring in a pair of wellies that will stay in school and a spare pair of socks.



Requests

- All children to have a pair of wellies that stay in school
- Make sure your child has a waterproof jacket with a hood when rain is forecast.
- Spare pair of socks
- Natural resources such as conkers, twigs and pine cones
- Any kitchen utensils
- Small world play such as lego, mobilo