



Opal Newsletter

February 2025



Our first half term of OPAL...

Opal's vision is that every child in every school has an amazing hour of high quality play every day - with no exceptions. We completely endorse this vision. We have had a brilliant first half term introducing new play items as part of our lunchtime provision. Over the coming weeks and months, we will continue to expand and develop our playtimes. We will include spaces and resources to enable our children to immerse themselves in all 16 play types. Watch this space!

What's have we introduced?

- Tyre Play
- Mud Kitchen
- Small World Play
- Dancing
- Dressing up
- Bubble machine
- Chalk
- Painting

Lots more to come!

Play Collective Worship

We have introduced Play Collective Worship every other week to the children. Within these we introduce each new item or area of play to the children and discuss:

How could we play with this?

What risks could there be?

Is this something you would enjoy to play with?

We then let the children know when these items, or this area, will be available for them to use. This gives the children an opportunity to process the change, absorb this information, and self-evaluate any potential risks for themselves.





Wellingtons

After half term we would like to use the forest school area as part of our lunchtime provision. Children will need wellington boots as this area can be muddy. If you have any spare pairs of wellingtons your child has grown out of, we would welcome them as donations. Please name your child's wellingtons and bring to school in a plastic bag.

Coming soon.. sand pit

We cannot wait to build a sand pit on our school grounds. We hope to do this towards the end of next half term! If this is something you feel you could help us with then please get in touch!



Donations always needed!

We are struggling to get donations of the following items of bale arm crates and bread crates. If you work for a business that would be able to donate some of these items then the children at St Laurence would be most grateful.

Loose parts

We are always on the look out for large loose parts as the children can use them in so many different ways!

Thank you for all your donations and support so far!

Ms White

OPAL Curricular Lead for Play

