



Headteacher: Mrs Helen Lammin (BSc Hons QTS)

Dear Parents and Carers

14<sup>th</sup> November 2024

We are thrilled to share that our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) journey is off to a fantastic start, with children already enjoying a range of exciting activities at lunchtime. To keep building on this success, we are reaching out to ask for your help in creating the best possible play environment for our children. The more resources we can provide, the more creative, engaging, and enriching their playtime will be — and that's where you come in!

We are currently seeking donations to support our OPAL activities, focusing on seven key areas. If you have any of the items listed below, we'd be incredibly grateful for your contributions. Every donation will help make our play spaces more vibrant and exciting for our students.

**Here is what we are looking for:**

1. **Arts and crafts:** Colouring books, pencils, crayons, chalk, paint, and especially **paintbrushes** - even thick DIY brushes that are used for wall painting would be wonderful!
2. **Plastic crates and lightweight building materials:** Sturdy but lightweight items for tower-building activities (milk crates are ideal).
3. **Dressing-up clothes and old instruments:** Any costumes or fancy-dress or musical items to inspire students' imaginations.
4. **Outdoor kitchen/mud kitchen:** Items like bowls, pots, and utensils, along with any outdoor kitchens that you no longer use and would be happy to donate.
5. **Lego and duplo:** These timeless building toys are always popular and help develop fine motor skills and creativity.
6. **Den-building supplies:** Weatherproof tarpaulins are especially helpful, but large sheets, tents, groundsheets, suitcases, or other items suitable for building dens are also great!
7. **Small toys, cars, and characters:** These smaller items are fantastic for imaginative play, and our students love using them.

Lastly, **outdoor storage** is essential to keep these items safe from the elements. Any plastic storage containers with lids or outdoor storage solutions you may have would be incredibly helpful.

**All items should be safe, clean, and in good condition.** Donations can be dropped off at our OPAL donation points — one by the tunnel entrance to the school and another at the Bellmouth entrance, from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Both will be clearly labelled.

Thank you for supporting us so far. With your help, we can continue to provide high-quality resources that bring excitement to every playtime, and positively impacting their experience.

Yours sincerely

Mr M Johns  
Curriculum Lead for Play  
OPAL Steering Group

Mr B Butterfield  
Assistant Deputy Head

Mrs J Reynolds  
Assistant Deputy Head

Mrs C Tiller  
Lead MDSA

