

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Lammin (BSc Hons QTS)

6th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 4, 5 and 6

OPAL Stay and Play Event

We are excited to invite you to a special Stay and Play OPAL event on **Monday 20th October**, where you will get a chance to hear more about the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme we have been developing at Ivy Lane. Most importantly, you can join your child for some additional creative, play and see OPAL in full flow on the school site.

This event is aimed specifically at year 4, 5 and 6 families. Numbers are limited to help us manage the site safely and make sure everyone has space to play

The plan for the afternoon will be:

- 1.30pm : Arrive at school
- 1.45pm–2.15pm : A short presentation by Matt Johns on what OPAL is all about and why it has been brought into school as well as how it is transforming play at Ivy Lane
- 2.15pm–2.45pm : Stay and Play session with your child on the field

Please note that children will return to class at the end of the session at 2.45pm and must be collected at 3pm, our normal end of school time, at their normal exit point. Parents/carers attending **will not** be able to take their child home early.

We would love to see as many of you as possible, however, due to restricted space in our Old Hall we have to limit one adult per child into school for this event. To enable us to plan appropriately and manage numbers, can I please ask you to complete a google form using the link below to indicate your attendance. **Please complete this form by Monday 13th October.**

<https://forms.gle/ruMyEcmkWkrMCZycA>

Please find on the other side to the information for your "Ticket to Play" which highlights items that we are after at the moment

Dress for the weather, expect a bit of fun, and come ready to play!

Many thanks for your continued support.

Matt Johns

Curriculum lead for play

Ben Butterfield

Assistant Deputy Head

Jo Reynolds

Assistant Deputy Head

Caroline Tiller

Lead MDSA

Ivy Lane OPAL Steering Group

Your ticket to play!

Every pupil is asked to bring in **1 item for play** to the **OPAL Stay and Play** to help build our collection of loose parts for the OPAL Primary Programme.

Here are some examples of loose parts that your child could bring in:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bike tyres with metal rims• Large empty spools (used for wire, chain, rope, etc)• Thick rope• Plastic pipes, tubes, or hoses• Body boards• Astroturf• Mechanic boards with wheels• Pallets – in good condition• Toy characters/dinosaurs/animals | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sand pit toys• Tarps• Fabric scraps (the bigger the better!)• Small trowels and gardening forks• Crutches• Instruments• Old wagons, and buggies• Washing baskets• Bath toys• Suitcases |
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