Pickwick Academy Trust

Ivy Lane School

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Headteacher: Mrs Helen Lammin (BSc Hons QTS)

2nd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of, YR, Y1 and Y2

OPAL Stay and Play Event

We are excited to invite you to a special Stay and Play OPAL event on **Friday 16th 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 Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 families (*we are hoping to run a similar event for KS2 families later this academic year*). Numbers are limited to **one parent/carer per family** this is 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 Ivy Hall
- 1.45pm–2.15pm : A short presentation by Matt Johns on what OPAL is all about, why it has been brought into school, how it is transforming play at Ivy Lane and the latest improvements we have made to our OPAL provision.
- 2.15pm–2.45pm : Stay and Play session with your child on the playground and 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.

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 12th October.**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 OPAL stay and play event - Friday 16th October 2026 – Fill in form

We do not OPAL equipment donations at this point, however there will be a donation bucket if you have any spare cash on you!
Dress for the weather, expect a bit of fun, and come ready to play!

Many thanks for your continued support.

Matt Johns	Helen Fahey	*Ben Butterfield*	*Jo Reynolds*
Curriculum lead for play	Deputy Head	Assistant Deputy Head	Assistant Deputy Head