



Opal Newsletter

April 2022 Term 5 Week 1



Opal Launch

WELCOME TO OPAL PLAYTIMES AT REPTON MANOR

After much excitement (and a few cheeky teasers) we are now ready to launch our Opal playtimes at Repton.

OUR VISION

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 - our aim is to ensure that all of our children experience at least an hour of high quality play every day.

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, we will explain these in more detail in our upcoming newsletters.

In order for us to not overwhelm the children, and to be able to teach them the skills they require to manage their own risks, we need to take small steps. The resources we provide will grow week on week.

We are being guided by our fantastic Opal Mentor, Cath Prisk. Cath will work closely with us over the next 18 months.

WHAT'S NEW

- MUD KITCHEN
- STAGE AREA (now with music and dress-up)
- WATER WALL
- DEN MAKING AREA
- SAND PIT TOYS
- OUTDOOR CLASSROOM CRAFT AREA
- MINI CLIMBING WALL



PLAY ASSEMBLIES

One of the first changes the children will encounter will be our new Play Assemblies. These will take place weekly and this is where each new item or area of play will be introduced to the children. We will ask them;

How could we play with this?

What risks could there be?

Is this something you would enjoy to play with?

We will 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.





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How can you help?

PARENT SURVEY

We are extending the opening date of our parent survey. Please, if you haven't done already, scan the QR code to complete.

Please ensure that your child has a spare pair of outdoor shoes and a waterproof jacket in school everyday so that they can access all areas at playtime. If your child has out grown their old shoes or jackets we will also be collecting these should you wish to donate them to school.

Thank you!

A big thank you to Flynn Interiors Ltd who donated over £600 worth of brand new equipment including our new music system.

Another huge thank you to every one who gave up their time to help on our family working day. It was amazing to see how much was achieved on this day. We really can't do any of this without your continued support. Thank you!

Last but by no means least, thank you to all those who have given donations so far. These have helped create lots of new play opportunities for our children.



Keep an eye out for our next newsletter where we will be giving you a sneak peak of how our playtimes are going and what exciting new items we have arriving next! We will also look into some of the different play types in more detail and how these are seen in our playtimes.

Don't forget to check the Opal Playtimes section of our new website for updates

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