



Opal Newsletter

May 2022 Term 5 Week 3



Opal Is In Full Swing

OUR FIRST TWO WEEKS OF OPAL AT REPTON

Here is just a snippet of some of the comments we've heard:

Child (I've heard this a lot): "It's been the best playtime I've ever had."

Child Y2: "Thank you for my playtime."

Child Y5: "I just can't wait for our turn in the mud kitchen."

Child Y4: "I loved the boxes, we had the best fun ever."

Parent: "I've heard so much about Opal play, they love it."

Staff member: "It's completely reignited my passion for teaching."

Staff member: "It's been so lovely to feel that buzz around the school, it feels like a different place."

Governor: "The children were so free to express themselves."

Governor: "It was lovely to see the older and younger children playing so nicely together."

Governor: "Our children are so lucky to come to school here."



What I've Spotted At Playtime

Wow, where do I start? We have had the most amazing start to our Opal journey at Repton. The children have fully immersed themselves in their play and I think one of my favourite parts is seeing the different year groups intergrated together and sharing their play. There has been so much creative play happening and there has been a real buzz at playtimes.

The Mud kitchen has been a huge hit and is getting nice and mucky! This was introduced to the children in our play assembly and each year group was then given the opportunity to have a day which only they could use it, before it was then open to all years. The children have ensured that I have been fed and watered - with hot chocolate, curry, spaghetti and meatballs, pies, cakes and even some sushi! There has also been some fantastic pancake flipping; the challenge was set by our first successful flipper Miss Gorania!





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What does it look like?

Child enacts adult, or other, behaviours
e.g. driving, cooking

Plays a family character, community
person or celebrity.

Takes on different state e.g. dead or
asleep

Mimicking and imitation of mannerisms,
voice, dress and actions.

Role Play

What do children gain through this type of play?

Access different ways of being,
interpreting them from their own frame
of reference. May be of an intense
personal social, domestic or
interpersonal nature (though not
always).

Some of the skills and dispositions developed

Narrative skills, point of view, observation,
social and groupwork, language
development, communication skills.

I said in my last newsletter that we would explain more about the 16 play types, First up is Role play. The children have been exploring this play skill in the mud kitchen, with the dressing up clothes and generally with all of the play equipment.



Come and play! Please join us and come and see our Opal playtimes for yourself.

Outdoor Learning Day on 19th May

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

<https://www.reptonmanorprimary.co.uk/our-children/opal-playtimes/>

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