



Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) update



May 2025



We are currently in the process of revamping our OPAL provision as we adjust our activities with the changing of the season. Children have been excited about the opening of the sandpit and we have also begun construction of St Mary's very own bug hotel.

Due to the glorious sunny, warm weather, we have also had the slip and slide out for the very first time this year. It was such a success which was clear from all the smiling faces.

Reminder: children need spare clothes to go on the slip and slide. This must not be PE kit as children will need them during their PE lessons.



CLOTHING



To enable all our activities to take place, wellies are vital. Even though we are experiencing warm, sunny days, the British weather can be unpredictable and we don't want children to miss out on play opportunities by not having wellies in school.

PLAY LEADERS

This term, children in year 5 have volunteers to become our new PLAY LEADERS. It is their responsibility to make sure our OPAL provision is set up and monitored. They also help to support children when it is needed and choose our Golden Welly winners for the week. If a child is a Golden Welly winner, it means they have been spotted following our OPAL charter and will receive a certificate to take home during our Friday Celebration Worship.

DONATIONS

We are always grateful of any donations of items that can be used as part of our OPAL provisions. In particular, we are in need of the following:

- sheets (including bed sheets)
- Toy cars
- Dolls
- Dinosaurs

SUPPORT FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES

We have some ambitious play opportunities that we are working towards which we think the children will love! They are big jobs and we could use some help. If you or anyone you know is part of a local business and could offer help in any of the following ways, we would be extremely grateful for:

- **Donations of materials or supplies** for the construction of the play structures.
- **Financial donations** to help fund the project.
- **Volunteers** who could lend a hand in building these fantastic creations.

Below are some pictures of what we have in mind.

Wooden role play structure



Wooden boat



Theatre



Thank you for your continued support.

To check out the OPAL philosophy go to www.outdoorplanandlearning.org.uk

