



Opals Class Newsletter

Autumn 1 – September 2026

Working together to

inspire nurture empower

Welcome Back & Updates

My name is Meg, and I am so excited to be your child's class teacher this year, alongside our amazing team of teaching assistants: Dylan, Lucy, Evie and Claire. We will also be joined by Jim, who will be teaching Opals on Tuesday Afternoon. We are truly looking forward to building strong relationships with each child, celebrating everything that makes them unique, and creating a happy, calm and engaging classroom where everyone feels safe, valued and ready to thrive. Throughout the term, we will share photos and updates on Evidence for Learning so you can see the wonderful activities your child has been enjoying at school. Families are warmly welcomed to upload photos and videos from home so we can celebrate these achievements together. If at any time, you need to ask questions or talk to us please don't hesitate to email me any time on Megan.Farnley@ivy.set.org and I will be happy to help.

Key Concepts and Skills

In Opals Class, we follow the are focusing on the curriculum areas, **Communication, Physical Development, cognition, and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)**. Your children will experience a wide variety of lessons and activities which cover these areas. This half term, our topic is '**Joseph's coat**' where we will explore colours, friendship, belonging and celebrating what makes each of us unique. Throughout the term we will be enjoying sensory stories, Attention Autism (Bucket Time), music, messy play, cooking activities, community visits and lots of exciting sensory experiences linked to our topic. This year we will also be promoting self-care and independence as part of our daily routines. The children will be encouraged to use the mirrors to brush their hair after swimming, brush their teeth and wash their faces after lunch, helping them to develop independence, confidence and important life skills.

Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice.

Please send in spare clothing, we are an all weather classroom meaning we will access outdoor learning when your child needs to.

Timetable:

Tuesday- PE. Please send your child into school in their PE kit.

Wednesday- On the Bus.



Cognition

Colour Hunt!

For cognition, you could go on a rainbow walk and see how many different colours you can spot. You could also sort socks, toys or ANY objects into colours, or build and knock down towers using colourful blocks. We'd love to see your colour hunts and sorting activities on EFL!



PSED

Celebrating Me

For PSED, you could spend some time together looking in the mirror. Brush hair and teeth together, make silly faces, smile, locate different body parts or use massage rollers. Celebrate everything that makes your child unique and encourage independence. Upload a photo of your child's self-care routine or proud smile to EFL.



Communication

Read and sing together

Enjoy reading 'Elmer', 'Colour Monster' or 'My Many Coloured Days' together. Sing colourful songs such as 'If your wearing red', 'I can sing a rainbow' or 'The colour song'.

Pause during favourite parts to encourage anticipation and interaction.

We'd love to see videos or photos of story time and singing together on EFL.



Physical development

Move and explore!

Throw colourful scarves or fabric in the air, chase bubbles, kick colourful balls, dance to your favourite songs or visit your local park.

To work on fine motor skills, you could explore making different marks on paper using colourful paint, stamps, chalk, or fingers in a colourful layer of crushed cereal, sand or coloured shaving foam. Every movement helps children build confidence and coordination.

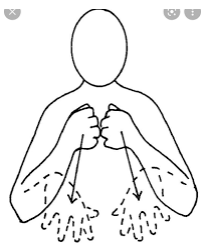
Share your adventures with us on EFL!



Makaton Signs



more



finished



colour



look