

Tanworth-in-Arden

OPAL Newsletter

Summer Term 2025 update



"To ensure that every schoolchild has an amazing playtime every day with no exceptions" (OPAL)



OPAL
OPAL stands for Outdoor Play and Learning and is a programme endorsed and supported by Sport England.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As many of you know, Tanworth began its OPAL journey in October 2024. Since then, our approach to play has gone from strength to strength, with children clearly enjoying their playtimes more and more each day.

Below, you'll find our Summer Term OPAL updates, including what's new, donation requests and some photos.

Thank you for your continued support as we develop and grow our OPAL journey together.

What's happened so far?

Since beginning our OPAL journey in October 2024, we've been working to make playtimes more exciting, inclusive and imaginative for all our children. We've added a wide range of equipment including tyres, crates, small world toys and set up a stage for performances. Our OPAL shed is now fully in use and we've created new areas such as a mud kitchen, mud slide, digging and sand zones, along with planting a willow arch. Music has become part of our playtimes, with extra speakers to keep the energy high, and children with packed lunches can now enjoy outdoor eating on picnic benches and blankets. We've also formed an enthusiastic pupil OPAL committee and introduced wheels to play. OPAL now runs every lunchtime, and it's been wonderful to see the children's enjoyment and creativity grow.





What's new?

This April and May, we've been busy adding more fun to our playground! Scooters are now out and zooming and we're preparing a new slide for the field.

The children are loving the new gym bars, dressing up on the stage and getting messy with our new water play! Football and ball games are now part of field play and we are hoping to expand this to cater to all years.

Everyone is enjoying the sunshine and exciting new play opportunities!



How you could help...

Although OPAL is up and running well now, we still need a constant flow of donations for play times. Please see below for the sort of items we are after:



- Loose parts - crates, palettes, guttering
- Cardboard
- Bird food and feeders
- Buckets
- Mud kitchen play food and washing up items (sponges, gloves etc)
- Dolls and pushchairs
- Blankets, cushions, chairs, bean bags
- Road signs
- Pool noodles, foam panels, gym mats



Donations of clothing that no longer fits your children:

- wellies
- raincoats
- sun hats



Please drop any items into school and we can sort them from there. Thank you!

REMINDER

You are invited to a parent/carer stay and play session on Friday 13th June at 1:30-3pm!

Children will need to bring in long trousers if they want to use the slide.

Please ensure they have a named hat and water bottle for the Summer Term.

Please visit the OPAL web page for more pictures and information about our OPAL journey



<https://www.tanworthschool.co.uk/opal-1/>

