

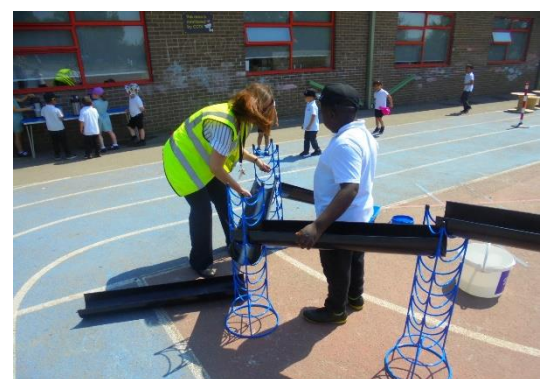


### What is OPAL?

OPAL stands for outdoor play and learning and is a really exciting scheme we have begun to use here at Grove House. It is a scheme which allows children to manipulate their environment with lots of different types of equipment in order to improve a vast range of skills such as creativity, resilience, negotiating, teamwork and perseverance. One day the children may be building a den, the next day they may be chilling out in the quiet zone reading a book.

Since the start of the OPAL scheme we have created an environment allowing the children to take some ownership of their play and lunchtimes. Grove House have really started to transform and so far, the feedback from the children is that they are really enjoying their time outside.

Here's what we've been getting up to.



### Your child may come home a little messy...

We will be playing outside whatever the weather so please send your child to school with a rain coat and wellies/ spare shoes.



What is coming soon?

Sandpit – we are hoping to have some sandpits on the playground really soon so that children from all year groups can enjoy sand play.



Mud kitchen – We can't wait to see the children cooking up a mud pie or worms on toast in our mud kitchen!



How can you get involved?

Throughout the year we will be running sessions where by parents can come into school and get involved with their children using the OPAL equipment.

We are also looking for donations and any of the following list would be really appreciated:

1. Sweeping brushes
2. Wooden pallets
3. Tyres
4. Tarpaulin/ cargo nets
5. Gardening equipment (not sharp)

6. Wellies
7. Guttering
8. Old kettles, pans, pots
9. Pushchairs
10. Suitcases

Look out for the OPAL coffee morning which will be happening later on this term...

(Link to play policy)

We would love to hear your feedback on the parent survey.

(Link to parent survey)