

## Opal Play Update

It is great to see that so many children are beginning to find their intrinsic play, this is when children realise what motivates them and this then fuels their creativity and enjoyment. At OBS, we believe that play should be freely chosen, self - directed and intrinsically motivated. Children know how to play. If we provide the right environment and materials for play, children will do the rest.

However, we have realised that as the weather is changing, we need to adapt our play provision until we are completely prepared for the winter months ahead.

We have a wonderful resource in our field and we want our children to use it. Already we have observed that several of our children find that their intrinsic play involves 'being messy'. We appreciate that this can be inconvenient for you when your child and their clothes get dirty.

As a result, we have taken the decision to close the field for Opal Play, until after half term. This will enable everyone to have time to prepare for play on the field. We will ensure that each class has a welly rack and we ask you to ensure that your child comes to school with the appropriate clothing, for example waterproof trousers or all in ones, especially if you know that your child enjoys this type of play. After half term, we will only be allowing those children who have wellies and a suitable coat to play on the field. If you wish for your child to have waterproof clothing in school, please send it into school named and in a bag.

In summary, please:

- Send your child to school with appropriate warm/waterproof clothing EVERY day.
- Send your child to school with a pair of wellies that will stay at school all the time. These wellies MUST have your child's name in each one and be in a plastic bag.

### Ways that you can help

To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to freely play, we would appreciate any donations of unwanted / outgrown wellies and waterproof trousers/cagoules to school.

Thank you for the feedback that we have had since beginning our Opal Play journey. We will continue to listen, adapt and evolve.

The Play Team