



# Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers

## OPAL UPDATE

As you are aware, we have now been running our OPAL lunchtimes for a year. This has been an ongoing development project and the impact has been huge. The children have so much more to do at lunchtime, and we are now using the whole of our amazing grounds. Children are also spending more time outside thanks to wearing appropriate waterproof clothing.

The areas we have developed include:

A scooter track

Mud kitchen

Sand pit

Large construction with loose parts on the field and playground

Suitcases and buggies to use

Quiet areas and a reading area

Playground chalk

Willow Den

A stage with music, dancing, and props

Tree swings and a slide

Goal shooting

A water play area

Tree climbing

We are extremely proud of what we have achieved at lunchtimes so far and have noticed a significant difference in pupil engagement and behaviour during and after lunch. OPAL is proven to lead to happier, healthier, and better-behaved pupils by transforming playtimes into engaging, creative, and social learning experiences. It also increases physical activity.

We really appreciate the support from parents and our local community, and it is great to see so many children now coming to lunchtime in their waterproof clothing. If you require support accessing waterproof clothing, please contact Mrs Barber, our Home School Support Worker.

We will be holding some parent sessions for OPAL later this academic year, where you can come in and see what the children have access to. Dates for these sessions will be shared at the end of this term.

We are currently looking into other equipment the children have suggested such as monkey bars.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create the best possible play experiences for our children in a safe and beneficial way. Have a good weekend!

Kind regards

Mrs Robson

Headteacher

**2025-2026**

**Term 2**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

## Upcoming Events:

**1.12 – FS Tours 1:30pm  
and 2pm**

**2.12 – Year 6 Carol  
Concert at Rochester  
Cathedral**

**3.12 – Fire Brigade Visit**

**4.12 – Reception  
Hartbeeps visit**

**5.12 – Christmas Fair**

**10.12 – Reception  
Christmas Songs – 2pm**

**11.12 – Christmas Dinner  
and Christmas Jumper  
Day**

**16.12 and 17.12 – KS1  
Nativity at 2pm**

**18.12 – Stories with Santa**

**19.12 – Last day of term  
with ‘Carols Around the  
Tree’ at 2pm and finish at  
2:30pm.**



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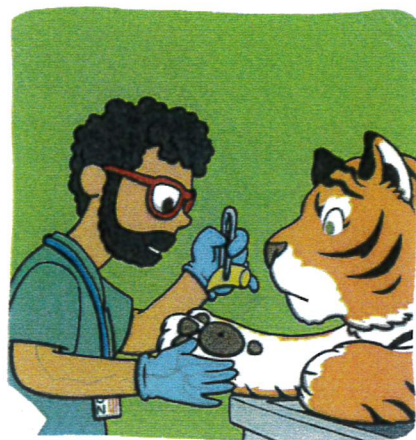
01634 623500



**This week we are celebrating....**  
Cayson – The Nest

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November

WALT: Use our phonics to write a sentence.



to bevet

to look it out

Cayson was able to write his sentence independently, using his sound mat to help identify graphemes needed.