

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING



Newsletter

Spring 2023

At Benedict Biscop we are continuously working with the children to improve opportunities for physical activity, socialisation, co-operation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment through improved play over playtime and lunchtime. To keep you updated the children have produced a newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Dear parents and families,

As the warmer weather grows ever closer and hopefully we begin to enjoy sunnier days we look forward to developing more play opportunities for the children to enjoy. Over recent weeks we have been working hard on creating lots of new areas and are extremely grateful for the ongoing donations we receive from the families and friends of B.B.



We would like to say a big thank you for the kind donations of football strips, this has helped to keep some of our players clean(ish) when playing football!

A donation of small world toys has kept the children entertained in some amazing imaginative play.



Half-term challenge!

We are challenging our children, over the half term holidays, to share their ideas with us about something we could do that would make playtimes even better. The children can work on this independently or with family to come up with some ideas. They might want to draw and label their design, share some photographs of fun play areas they have seen or share images from the internet of their favourite idea. It would be really useful if the design could include a list of resources that we would need if we were able to make your designs.



We are looking to set up an OPAL ranger community team made up of staff members, parents, family members and people from our local community who would be willing to give up a little of their time to help us create, plan and build some of the projects that have been suggested by the children. So, if you're confident using a saw, drill, screwdriver or paintbrush and think you could help then please let us know.

If you are able to support or develop OPAL in a different way then we'd love to hear from you too!



Our 'playtime buddy' system has been a fantastic way for our year one children to settle into their new playtime routines. Each child was assigned a buddy from year 6 who helped them to show what activities were available outside, where to find things, where to line up or just have someone to play with. This has really helped the younger children and given them lots of confidence.

We recently asked the children what the best part about playtime was, take a look at what they told us.

I like playing with the wooden Jenga blocks

I love playing out in the rain

I like that I can play with all my friends.

I like that I can go on the field in all weathers.

I like my playtime buddy who plays with me.

I like the scooter zone where I can play on the scooters.

I love playing girls football on the field we even have our own strips.

I like learning new sports.

I like that we have a choice of fun activities like digging, arts and crafts and going in the sandpit.

I like hunting for bugs



Golden Welly Award



At Benedict Biscop we want to celebrate individual children who have demonstrated a fantastic attitude to their play. The Golden Welly award is nominated each week by staff.

Congratulations to the following children who have received this award so far.



Our construction area is currently.....

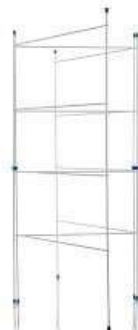
‘under construction’

As so many children love to build we are currently in the process of improving this play zone. Once completed children will have the opportunity to construct whatever their imagination desires using a range of resources. See our donation page for items we are still looking for.

Opal OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING Opal

We are looking for donations of the following items, please let us know if you can help.

- Wooden pallets (in good condition)
- Cable drums/reels
- Clothes airers
- Milk crates
- Picnic blankets
- Old pots and pans
- Small world toys
- Large fabric pieces
- Plastic or metal baking items



Our current play offer allows the children to access and play.....

Scooters and bikes
Large sandpit
Basketball
Tennis
Mud kitchen
Tree climbing
Arts and crafts
Digging area
Music and stage area
Boys football
Girls football
Quiet reflection/ reading area
Prayer space
Role play
Small world
Dressing up
Water play
Free play



We are looking to introduce more play opportunities for the children and are looking for some donations to help us do this. Please see our wish list of items we are looking for.

My idea is.....

Name

Year

Resources, equipment or materials I will need.....