

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to announce the launch of a new project to make playtimes even better here at GWPS. We are working with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL), a programme that was awarded Best Active Schools Programme in Europe in 2018 and has been recognised in parliamentary reports for outstanding practice.



OPAL promotes more active childhoods, which is why we are improving our playtimes. Our goal is to provide more opportunities for your child to socialise, cooperate, build coordination and resilience, and enjoy creative and imaginative play.

The project will officially start on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September with a special launch assembly to introduce the initiative to the pupils. We hope this will change the way we think about play and how we play together.

To make this happen, we will need to buy new play resources, rearrange parts of the playground, and collect “loose parts.” Loose parts are materials that children can move, combine, and use creatively during free play. These might include items such as crates, ropes, tyres, wooden planks, and fabric.

We would be very grateful for any donations of these kinds of materials to help us create a richer play environment. If you have any suitable items or would like to support the project in other ways, please get in touch with the school office.

Thank you for your support in helping us make playtime more fun and engaging for all our pupils. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

*Mrs Boyle and the OPAL team*

We are looking for donations of:

- Plastic milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/plastic bread trays



- Old tool kit boxes with a closable lid so we can make up toy boxes



- Old toy cards, trucks, aeroplanes, dinosaurs, action figures and barbies



We will be asking for regular donations of all sorts of things as OPAL really begins to get underway.

Examples of OPAL play settings

