



July 2024

Welcome to OPAL Play at Godinton



Hello everyone! I'm Mrs Carr and from September I will be Godinton's OPAL Play Coordinator. Myself, and our amazing Play Team will be working to ensure that your children have the best fun at lunchtimes, with lots of different play zones and activities to choose from. Part of my role is to source equipment to create fun, calming or inventive play areas. To do this I will need some help from our wonderful Godinton School Community and so over the coming months you may see my name pop up a lot in your inboxes asking for help or guidance sourcing various items. Any donations or offers of help will be gratefully received.

My first priority is to ensure that every child has the correct footwear so they can enjoy our play zones no matter what the weather. Welly boots will become a firm part of the Godinton School Uniform from September, so please can you start thinking ahead about purchasing some for your child that can stay in school on our special welly racks which each class will have. Mr Rowson is already busy making these. We will also be asking for any donations of unwanted/outgrown wellies that we can use in our "spares" storage. So look out for an email in September detailing where to drop off any that you are happy to donate. Waterproof coats/all-in-ones will also be useful for your children, especially for the wetter months of the year as we plan to play outside in all weathers.

Happy, smiley, contented children at lunchtime is my ultimate goal and with OPAL Play Scheme we have the perfect opportunity to achieve this. We will be regularly feeding back to you what we are doing and I'm sure the children will let you know what's new as it arrives. We will be starting slowly, adding new activities and zones throughout the school year; we already have an amazing wooden TeePee the children have been enjoying. This is just the tip of the iceberg and with your help and support we can make lunchtimes much more exciting for every child.

Read on to find out more about our first Donation Day, coming on **Friday 19th July** so that we can get some new activities in place over the summer ready for September.

Thank you in advance for your help and support.

Mrs Karen Carr (OPAL Play Coordinator)





OWN CLOTHES DAY

FRIDAY 19TH JULY 2024

HELP GET OPAL PLAY AT GODINTON OFF TO A FLYING START!

On Friday 19th July 2024 we will be holding our very first OPAL Donation Day! Your children will be invited to come into school that day in their own clothes in exchange for a donation towards some of our new OPAL Play areas. On this Donation Day, we will be asking for the following:

- Pots, pans, wooden spoons/spatulas, colanders, baking trays, plastic jugs, beach buckets and spades, trowels. If you haven't already guessed, we are making our children a wonderful digging zone/mud kitchen – one of the most popular requests we received.
- We are also looking for any spare fidget toys (spinners, poppets etc.) you may have floating around for our “Festival Corner”.
- A slightly unusual request is that we'd really like some old car tyres – the bigger the better, so a tractor tyre or two wouldn't be turned away. If anyone works in an environment where they can source a bulk supply of these to us, please speak to Mrs Carr on the gate on the morning of the 19th or telephone into the school office before making a donation.

Please look out for Mrs Carr who will be in our “Donation Corner” at the beginning of school on the 19th, ready to collect any donations you may have for us or just come and say hello.

Thinking ahead, we will be holding Donation Days regularly and so if over the summer holidays you are having a clear out and happen upon any old dressing up clothes, hats, large shirts, small world toys (cars, trucks, plastic animals), please hold onto them for future donation requests. Any old/no longer needed wellies will also be wonderful as we will be having a “spares shed” for anyone without appropriate footwear.

As always, thank you so much for your continued help and support. We can't wait to show you and the children all the fun things we have planned to help make their lunchtimes so much more enjoyable.

