



# OPAL NEWS

February 2024

We are very pleased and excited to confirm that the Friends of Westfield have agreed to donate us a large sum of money to fund some very exciting Opal projects. Our 'Friends' work extremely hard to raise money for the school and we are extremely grateful for all their support – and yours! The projects that we have planned this year are:



## Reading & Quiet Social Space

The area that has previously been used for digging is having a complete facelift. The area will be levelled and finished with artificial turf and a small picket fence. There will be a small reading shed, filled with books and bean bags for the children to access.

Sheltered Area - There will also be a sheltered area to the side of here too!

## Sandpit

We are having a large sandpit dug out at the side of the new Year 5 block too - with the dug-out dirt/spoil being used to create feature mounds. We will be working closely alongside FOW to find ways to fundraise to purchase the sand to fill it.



## Fundraising – Friendship gifts

Thank you also to everyone who supported the OPAL Play Rangers with their classroom sales this week; they have enjoyed the experience of running their own pop-up shops and made lots of sales – in fact they sold out of the stock we sourced for them! We are super proud of how well they have done - not only have they raised the £200 they needed to fund a range of different sized waterproof trousers, but they also have another £100 to use towards their wish list! What a wonderful achievement for them. Thank you to everyone who made a purchase.

## Tree Planting

Some of the children have begun planting all the small saplings that were donated to us by the Woodland Trust. Planting trees and hedges will benefit all of us - and the wildlife too! They have the natural ability to capture pollution, reduce noise, mitigate flooding, and provide food and shelter to wildlife (not to mention they make great play spaces!)

We have some Blackthorn and Hazel saplings spare if anybody would like some? Please contact us to let us know!

*'The one who plants trees,  
knowing that he will never  
sit in their shade, has  
started to understand the  
meaning of life.'*

## Parent Play Date

We would love to share our Opal Play with you all – we will be planning a date for you all to come in and see exactly why we all love it so much. Watch this space!

Thank you for your ongoing support with our Opal play. We are very proud of all our children and the amazing play we see every day.