



Berkeley Primary School

OPAL Newsletter Autumn 2026



Welcome to our Autumn OPAL newsletter. It is lovely to see the children back in school and exploring the OPAL provision in their new outdoor areas. Over the summer term, we worked hard to extend and adapt the provision on offer for the children and are keen to continue to do so as we navigate the changing weather throughout the Autumn term.

What we have introduced this term:

- Sand pits on both the Trent and Humber sites.
- Free-flow break times - The children can access both the Humber and the Trent areas via the gate on the field.



What we will be introducing this term :

- Free-flow lunch time play after the October half term. Children will remain on their side until they have eaten and will then be free to choose where they play.
- Revamp the mud kitchen.
- Golden Welly Award launch.



OPAL Parents Afternoon

On Friday 13th November, parents and carers will have the opportunity to come into school to learn more about our OPAL provision. Jess, our OPAL mentor, will be giving a short presentation in the Trent hall and will be available to answer any questions you may have.

You will then be welcome to stay and spend the afternoon exploring our OPAL provision with your child.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Wellies and Waterproof Coats



All children will now need to wear wellies if they wish to access the field or to travel from one site to the other. We do have a selection of spare wellies at school, but would appreciate if you could send your child a **labelled** pair of wellies to stay at school. Children will also need a waterproof coat as we will be accessing outdoor provision in all weathers. If possible, please also send some spare clothes in your child's bag.

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day



A Big Thank You



We would like to say a huge thank you to Gunness Parish Council for their generous donation towards our OPAL provision. Their donation has enabled us to purchase 3 new sandpits for OPAL - 1 on the Humber site and 2 on the Trent site.

We will be relaunching our Golden Welly Awards this term. These will be awarded to children who are showing exemplary behaviour during play.



Thank you to Chris at The Outdoor EYFS for creating our incredible new sandpits. They have been a fantastic addition to our outdoor provision and the children are thoroughly enjoying them.



Thank you to our wonderful school caretaker Mr Mackay. He has spent lots of time of the summer holidays tending to both the Humber and the Trent site and ensuring that they are ready for the children to explore.



How can you help?

We would be very grateful for donations of any of the following :

- Plastic dress up props for use during wet weather such as hats, shields, crowns, role play resources
- Plastic toys such as small world characters and vehicles
- Buckets and spades etc for use in both the digging and sand areas.

Thank you for your support

Please put these in the collection box located in the front entrance on the junior site.