

PARKSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL
21 Wellington Avenue, Chingford E4 6RE
☎020-8559-4278☎

Friday 31st March 2023



Dear Parkside Parents/Carers,

We need your help!

At break time and lunchtime, the children have access to a fabulous array of materials and up-cycled resources all donated by the staff and careers of the school. The materials are made up of a whole range of unwanted household/recycled items, for example, pots & pans, fabrics, guttering, and suitcases, the list is endless. It's incredible to see the children use these items to come up with the most fascinating playtime activities, anything from Potion Creations, Den making, Obstacle Courses and Treasure Hunts..... **Their imaginations never fail to wow us, they are all so creative!**



The children of Parkside have been enjoying the New OPAL play scheme (Outdoor Play and Learning) for the past 12 months, the children LOVE the new set up and since the children will spend 1.4 years at play during their seven years at Parkside we feel passionate about making this time as unforgettable and rewarding as possible for them.

Why outdoor play and learning are so important

Traditionally school playtimes have been about the children having a breath of fresh air, burning off energy and socialising just amongst themselves **but offering the OPAL play scheme allows the children to really get creative** and have 'REAL' resources to have endless opportunities to use their imagination and have **A LOT OF FUN** during **their break time.**



As a result of the OPAL scheme, the playtime dynamic has a far most positive effect on the children's relationships and behaviour. Behaviour improves dramatically due to the children not being bored, children play better together and include each other in activities which makes a very positive environment where it's easy for children to get involved and eliminates situations where children are without opportunities to make friends and or being left on their own.

How you can help

Do you have any of the below items unwanted at home? We desperately need to keep the playground stocked with these everyday resources to keep the children with a steady flow of items to play with. We are especially in need of small toys (such as Lego, Cars, Animals, and Dolls) as the children use these items for role play, treasure hunts and the creation of miniature worlds.



If you have any of the unwanted items on the list that you're able to donate (or know anybody or businesses that have any wanted items) please could you kindly drop them off at the 1st bike shed at the school entrance (we have put an 'OPAL PLAY' sign marking the location) or alternative please email the below address and we can arrange collection from you directly if it's tricky or inconvenient for you to bring the items in.



We are so grateful for any donations you may have, however big or small.

Email:

Kelly.brett@parkside.waltham.sch.uk

Lizzie.powell@parkside.waltham.sch.uk

Thank you so much in advance for taking the time to donate any unwanted items, the staff and children are incredibly grateful (and we look forward to sharing with you some of the amazing games and creations the children come up with on our Parkside Facebook Page and

Twitter)

Kindest Regards,
Lizzie Powell-Clarke and Kelly Brett

A hand-drawn sketch of a green tent with orange and black accents, secured with ropes. The tent is depicted with simple lines and flat colors, showing a green body, an orange triangular section on the left, and a black triangular section at the bottom left. It is held up by ropes attached to stakes in the ground.



A red tricycle with black wheels and handlebars. The frame is red, and the wheels are black with spokes. The handlebars are black and curved. The seat is black and positioned in the middle. The pedals are black and attached to the frame. The tricycle is shown from a side profile, facing right.

A small illustration of several pink flowers with green stems and leaves, located in the bottom right corner of the page.



imals, dinosaurs

