

CLIFTONVILLE PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

Northumberland Avenue, Margate, Kent, CT9 3LY

Telephone: 01843 227575

Head Teacher: Ms Claire Whichcord



May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

In conjunction with Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) CIC, we are about to launch our exciting new project to make our playtimes even better.

In 2018, OPAL won the Best Active Schools' Programme in Europe Award and has been cited in two parliamentary reports as delivering outstanding practice. OPAL is working closely with Sport England to promote more active childhoods, which is one of the many reasons we are improving our playtime, as well as to create more opportunities for socialisation, cooperation, coordination, resilience, creativity, imagination and enjoyment for your child.

The project will start in **June** and our hopes are that it will change the way we think and how we play together. To facilitate this project, we will need to buy some new resources, move some things around on the playground and acquire some "loose parts". Loose parts are any materials that can be easily moved, combined, and incorporated into children's free play. The items we are looking for will enable us to enjoy a wider range of play experiences during playtime. We will be starting with a calm shed that we have prepared on both Key Stage 1 and 2 playgrounds, along with Small World play. If you have any of the below, please could you deposit in the blue wheeled trolley situated either by the Year R drop off door in the morning or at the Key Stage 2 bottom gate:

- Lego
- Small world such as playmobile, dolls house furniture, barbies, dinosaurs etc
- Toy food/ Till
- Plastic milk crates/supermarket delivery crates/plastic bread trays
- Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, work tables, wooden spoons, chopping boards
- Tools like small spades
- Tubes of various sizes and various materials
- Keyboards/torches/laptops/calculators/desk phones/cameras that are no longer working
- Fabric (large sheets/brightly coloured fabric)
- Cable drums
- Guttering
- Noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!)
- Dressing up clothes - Hats/scarves/jazzy shirts/elasticated skirts/waistcoats/wedding dresses/character costumes
- Pegs (to help to set up dens)

We will be holding a collection week beginning Monday 8th June. Please do not bring your donations in before this date as we will have nowhere to store them. If you would like to see more about how OPAL works, please take a look here: [What is special about an OPAL Playtime? Come see...](#)

We are holding a parent meeting on **Tuesday 19th May at 2.15pm** for anyone who would like to get involved with OPAL by being a parent representative or has time to make/source things for OPAL. If you are interested in coming along please email Mrs Frith of afrith@cliftonvilleprimary.co.uk

Kind regards
OPAL Play Team

