

# Spire Junior School

Jawbones Hill, Derby Road, Chesterfield S40 2EN  
Telephone: (01246) 234546

**Headteacher: Mrs C Vernon**

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Tuesday 22nd April 2025



Dear Parents or Carers,

Welcome Back!

I am writing to update our families about our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) scheme that we have started this academic year. We remain committed to making play and lunch times better for our pupils and are keen to encourage them to learn how play in a positive manner with their peers. OPAL encourages the children to play with what they want (unless imminent risk is apparent), so if they want to play with the fancy dress clothes or make a mud pie then brilliant, the Play Team will actively encourage this. Please see the website here: [The OPAL Primary Programme - Outdoor Play And Learning](#)

OPAL Bingo

## Get ready to play... OPAL BINGO

As we move into the summer term, we are gradually increasing our play equipment to adapt to the (hopefully) drier weather.

We have enclosed a copy of OPAL bingo for your child's class. Each year group has a different bingo card and we are aiming to collect something in every box to complete the card.

**The first class with a complete card will win an extra hour of OPAL play this term!**

Unique Donations

Some of our staff have been to see OPAL schools across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, and the resources they have had donated to them are varied and impressive. We have seen children sat in rowing boats, on jeeps, in trees and under willow domes. If you have any ability to donate anything weird, wonderful and wacky, please contact school and we can have a chat about the options surrounding it!



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## Parental Feedback

We appreciate your feedback from Parents' Evening regarding OPAL. Please see a collection of the responses below:

100% of families said playtimes were important to their child/ren

85% of families said their child has had more positive lunchtimes since we started OPAL!

76% of families said there was a suitable range of equipment and activities for their children

74% of families said they felt their children's positive friendships had improved since introducing OPAL

Many thanks in advance,

Miss Horton, Mr James, Mrs Vernon and the Play Team.

