

Our Vision:
**EXCELLENCE
IN ALL WE DO**



Our Mission:
**TO GROW,
LOVE AND LEARN
FOLLOWING JESUS**

5/5/23

Dear parents/carers,

Some of you have asked me about our new sandpit and been concerned regarding the cleanliness of it. As I have mentioned previously, we are working with a company to develop our 'Outdoor Play & Learning' ([OPAL](#)). We are supported by a mentor who gives us advice and helps us to safely develop our outdoor area for our children. We followed their guidance when installing the pit and I thought that some may be reassured to know:

- Our new sandpit is 0.5m deep and has a gravel base and a permeable liner. This means that rain soaks into the sand (as it does at the beach).
- Healthy sand is full of microorganisms that will keep it looking and smelling clean. These microorganisms need lots of air to keep working - this is why our sandpit is not completely covered. The worst thing to do with a sand pit is to cover it with a material where air and light are cut off. Covering it fully will develop black and green bacteria and algae.
- We cover our sandpit with a scaffold netting each evening. OPAL has found that the best solution to keep the sand healthy and prevent animal fouling is the use of netting, because it allows the sand to breath and animals don't like the feel on their paws.

I hope that this answers some of your questions.

Please do not hesitate to raise any questions/concerns that you have in the future. Thank you for your continued support,

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