

Headteacher: Mr J Graves
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Doyle
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs J Devine
School Business Manager: Mrs S Paterson-Fay



Tel: 01204 333070
www.ssoarc.co.uk
Email: office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk
Facebook:

Our Next Break:

School closes at 3.15pm on Thursday 2nd April 2026.

We reopen at 8.45am on Monday 20th April 2026

Park and Stride

The safety of our children is our absolute priority, which is why I am writing to share some serious concerns regarding traffic on **Brodict Drive** during drop-off and pick-up, including parking at bus stops.

Recently, we have received a worrying number of "near miss" reports. These include children being knocked off their bicycles, wing mirrors being damaged, and vehicles travelling at speeds that make it impossible to react to a child entering the road. We are also aware of several incidents that have required police intervention.

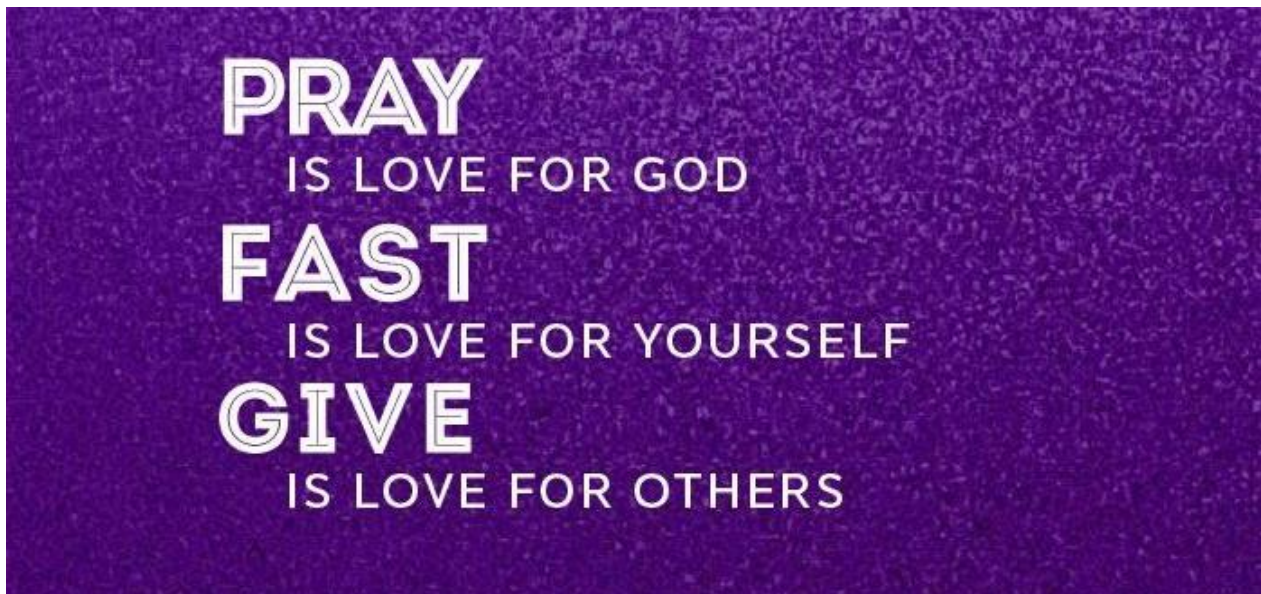
How you can help: We kindly ask that, where possible, you "**Park and Stride.**" By parking even just five minutes away from the school gates, you help reduce congestion, keep our children visible to drivers, and—ironically—usually enjoy a much quicker and less stressful exit than those caught in the bottleneck.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.

Thought for the Week:

Please chat through at home with your child(ren) the school's Thought for the Week which is:

In Lent I try to pray more.



The Sacramental Programme

The next date is to attend is:

Sunday 8th March 11am Mass at St Osmund's Church.

All dates for the Sacramental Programme can be found [here](#)

Attendance

Last week, whole school attendance was 97.38% This is fantastic!

High rates of attendance ensure that children maximise their progress as learners. We endeavour to ensure that the time children spend at SS Osmund & Andrew's is happy, fulfilling and full of wonderful achievements.

Thank you for your support in relation to attendance.

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March



Our theme this year is "Books Under the Stars". It will be all about cosy reading. Children can come in their pyjamas or anything cosy and bring their torches to read in the book corners and dens throughout the school. Children to bring in a book to read (please put the child's name in the book).

Please can children bring suitable footwear and a coat for playtimes. Children will be bringing home National Book Tokens which they can use to choose a free World Book Day book at participating shops.

Red Nose Day



On **Friday 20th March**, we will be supporting **RED NOSE DAY**. Children can come to school in their own clothes, preferably something **RED**. Donations can be made online using the following link: [Donate](#) | [Comic Relief](#)

Sustainable Easter Garden Competition

We are asking children to make a **sustainable** Easter Garden this year. The competition is open to all year groups with prizes given to the winner of each year class. An information leaflet has been emailed home with a 'How To Guide'.

Ideas of what you may need:

- An old plant pot
- Two twigs/sticks to make a cross
- Twine or wool to hold the cross together
- Soil or compost
- Stones
- Cress or any other seed/living plant
- Water



Please bring in your pots on **Tuesday 31st March** with judging happening on **Wednesday 1st April** and prizes given to the winning Easter Gardens on **Thursday 2nd April**.

Easter Bingo

On **Tuesday 31st March**, we will be holding our annual family Easter Bingo. This is going to be a great event for all the family. Entry is £1 per person, payable on ParentPay. Bingo tickets / books will be available to buy on ParentPay or on the night, for those who have paid for entry. There will be hot food and refreshments for sale. All prizes will be chocolate related! In order to assist with prizes, we will be holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 13th March**, when we will be asking for donations of Easter eggs / Easter chocolate. The first game of Easter Bingo will start at **4pm**, entry from **3.20pm** for refreshments. Thank you in advance for your support.



EDSTART – Easter Holiday Club

EdStart, who provide our PE lessons each Monday and our very successful Sports After School Clubs on Mondays and Tuesdays, are holding an Easter Holiday club at St Maxentius Primary School which you can book at <https://edstart.org.uk/franchise-areas/bolton>



DATES FOR DIARY

Below are important Dates for Diary for the next few weeks.

5.3.26 – World Book Day

8.3.26 – Sacramental Programme Mass in Church 11am

13.3.26 – Own clothes day – donations of Easter Eggs.

20.3.26 – Red Nose Day. Wear something **red**. [Online donations](#)

30.3.26 – Parents Evening – further information next week.

31.3.26 – Easter Bingo 4pm

More dates for diaries can be found [here](#).

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

All parents and Carers invited into school to watch their children: 9am start

- **Foundation** – Friday 1st May
- **Class 1** - Friday 13th February
- **Year 3** - Friday 22nd May
- **Year 4** – Friday 19th June
- **Year 6 (Leavers)** Assembly Thursday 16th July

ROLL OF HONOUR

Class Awards

Attendance Award goes to the class with the best attendance – **Class 30 99.26%**
Caritas Award for the Class of the Week, for politeness and showing Love, Faith and Hope – **3A**
Golden Bin for the class who have kept their classroom the tidiest – **6O**
House Points – well done to **Yellow House** for winning this week!

Roll of Honour!

The parents of all children on the Roll of Honour for getting a certificate are warmly invited to our school assembly on Monday at 9am to see their child receive their award.

Foundation: Darcie D-M for showing such enthusiasm in story telling! Well done, Darcie!
Obehi I for super caption writing! Well done, Obehi!

Year 1: Daniel D He has been amazing with his arts and crafts and had a fabulous time in his music lesson!

Year 1 / 2: Mtab E-S- for working so hard and writing a superb springtime acrostic poem

Year 2: Bonnie O for continuing to try her best everyday even with her arm in a sling!

3O: Luna C for a beautiful picture for our Caritas RE lesson showing we are people of peace. Well done Luna.

3A: Scarlet K for her unique, interpretation, to create a beautiful picture of world peace during our CARITAS lesson.

4O: Anthoney D for growing in confidence with his Maths! Well done!

4A: Harrison T for his increasing maturity and perfect manners.

5O: Daniel L for fabulous mathematical skills and knowledge which he applies independently! Well done!

5A: Hugo L for super work on decimal fractions!

6O: Evie M for great progress in her grammar score. Well done Evie

6A: Ena C for her outstanding attitude to learning in all lessons. Her progress and quality of work are an inspiration to all!

Guitarist of the Half Term: Ena C (6A), Chloe B (6O), Evie M (6O), Natalia N (5A), Zofia S (6O), Harry S (6O) for playing “Colours of Day” so beautifully and putting the practice in.

Handwriting and Presentation Award: Tommy G (5A) for not giving up his quest to improve his handwriting skills!

Reading Award: Ella M (5O)

Assistant Head Teacher Award: Axel D (Foundation) for demonstrating super number skills when working on a number line

Deputy Head Teacher Award: Ava G for fantastic sentence writing! **(Foundation)**

Head Teacher Award: Arabella G (1/2) for giving her all in all subjects... well done!!!

‘But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded’

The Gospel Reading of the Week
John 4: 6-42
Please share this with your child.



Jesus had been walking all morning and was tired and thirsty. He stopped to rest beside a well called Jacob's Well when a Samaritan Jesus asked her, "Will you give me a drink?" woman came to fill her water jug at the well. The woman was very surprised because the Jews and Samaritans hated one another and rarely spoke. "Surely sir, you are a Jew, why would I share my water with you?" Jesus said, "If you knew me, it would be you asking me for a drink, for I would give you the water of life." The woman was puzzled, "The well is deep and you have no bucket, so how would you reach this 'living water'?" Jesus said, "When you drink the water from this well, your thirst always returns. Anyone who drinks the water I can give will never be thirsty again. The water will become a spring inside them, and fill them with eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, share this water with me." Then Jesus told the woman many things about herself that no other person knew, and she believed that he truly was the Son of God. When she told the people of the town what had happened by the well, they too came to believe that this man was the Son of God.

Jubilee Pledge

We are making the Jubilee Pledge!
 As part of the Jubilee Year, we are called to make the Jubilee Pledge this summer. With an invitation that came from Pope Francis to be 'Pilgrims of Hope', we are joining together with all Catholic schools and committing to be a 'sign of hope'. Together with all Catholic schools, we are promising to put faith into action, be agents of change and work for the good of all.

The Jubilee Pledge:

We are pilgrims of hope. We walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide, sharing challenges and celebrating joys. We promise to be agents of change, working together for justice, love and peace, locally and globally. We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

Wednesday Word

The latest edition of the Wednesday Word can be found [here](#).



Prayers

Sometimes we all need that extra support and as a school we come together every day to say prayers.
 If you would like the school community to pray for you, your family, friends or any other intentions please email the office (office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk), speak to the office or write a little note and send it in with your child.

ATTENDANCE

Well done to **Class 30** who had the highest attendance last week. Their attendance was 99.26%

Whole school attendance last week was as follows:

Foundation	99.15%
Class 1	99.17%
Class 1/2	97.33%
Class 2	96.67%
30	99.26%
3A	98.33%
40	95.33%
4A	91.00%
50	93.87%
5A	92.28%
60	93.60%
6A	95.86%
Whole School	97.38%



PARISH INFORMATION

Mass Times this Weekend

- Saturday: 5.30pm at St Osmund's
- Sunday: 9.30am at St Teresa's
- Sunday: 11.00am at St Osmund's

The latest Parish Newsletter and further Parish information, please visit the Parish [website](#).

Our Mission Statement

Together in **Love**, Growing in **Faith**, A journey of **Hope**.
 Together in **Love**, **Faith** and **Hope**.

St Osmund was a bishop. In **Faith**, he inspires us to pray.
 St Andrew was an apostle. In **Love**, he inspires us to serve.

Blessed Dominic Barberi was a student. In **Hope**, he inspires us to work hard to become the best we can be.

Parent Support

Parent / Family Support

At school, we receive lots of information about various support / family groups which are held within our community. We have created a dedicated page on our website where parents can access this information [SS Osmund & Andrew's RCP School - Community Groups](#)

Mental Health

Please see Bolton Council's website on Mental Health for support and ideas on how to look after ourselves. Please go to <https://www.bekindtomymind.co.uk>

Woodbridge SEND Parent Workshops

Woodbridge SEND Service are running various parent workshops, for example 'Supporting Your Child's Self-Regulation' and 'Neurodiversity Family Support'. Please use the following link to search and book these or future courses: [Training | Woodbridge SEND](#)

Bolton Family Hub

Bolton Family Hub are running a Free Workshop for Parents/Carers of Children Under 5 – Supporting Early Language Development [SS Osmund & Andrew's RCP School - Community Groups](#)

This Week's Reminders:

Valuables and Money

Please remember that school does not take any responsibility for loss or damage to valuable items including money, and thus we ask children not to bring them into school.

Sickness in school

Please note guidance of the Health Protection Agency that we follow which states that after a child vomits or has diarrhoea, the recommended period to be kept away from school is 48 hours. More information can be found at: https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct PE kit. Football shirts, hoodies and tracksuit tops are NOT school PE uniform and are not to be worn.

The PE kit is:

- White t-shirt (*The school polo shirt can be worn or a 'round neck' white t-shirt*)
- Blue shorts
- Black slip on pumps for indoor lessons
- Black pumps or trainers for outdoor lessons
- Black tracksuit bottoms for (winter) outdoor lessons
- School jumper for outdoor lessons (over the top of the t-shirt)

Sometimes children turn up in a kit for PE that includes branded (eg Nike, Adidas, Puma, etc) t-shirts and tops, hoodies, football shirts, and so on, often without their parents' knowledge.

When it is your child's PE day, please ensure that they come to school in the correct PE kit. If your child is unable to wear the correct kit, please send them with a letter so that we know that you are aware they are wearing something different.

We do not allow make up in school as the principle of other children not being able to afford make up / not being allowed to wear make up applies, as it does to trainers and branded PE kits.

We have said to the children that if they come in trainers, make up and branded tops, this may look bad if seen by the public, for example parents who visit Little Ozzie's who will have a good view of the playground when they enter their premises. Therefore, there is the possibility that we will not allow children onto the playground who are not wearing the correct uniform so that our reputation remains strong in the community.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Inclusion

As a Catholic school, it is only natural that we are committed to welcoming everyone at SSOA, regardless of race, colour, gender, circumstances, and it is our job to help everyone develop, no matter who they are. Our school community is fantastic at instilling these messages of tolerance into our children, and our community is wonderful at working with school when our children make mistakes, enabling our children to take responsibility which leads to their growth. **Instances of racism are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.** On behalf of all at our school, we say THANK YOU to all our parents for their support in these matters! 😊

Parking

As a school, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all parents who have parked a little further away from school and walked to drop off their child(ren), or to pick them up. We would ask all parents to park a little further away from school. **Please do not park on Falkirk Drive or any side of Brodick Drive where you are parallel to our green fence as this congests the road where families have to cross.**

This plea is made in the interests of the children, as we have near misses on a regular basis. The safety of our children is paramount, and by parking further away from school and walking we are all reducing the risk of one of our children being injured in a road accident.

We also thank our parents for parking with great consideration towards our neighbours. We would respectfully request all our school community to continue to park with consideration towards the residents who live around school. Thank you.

Scissors in Nursery & Reception

When your child is at home, please reinforce our Scissors rules which are:

- Only use scissors when you are sat on a chair.
- Only use scissors on card (not your hair, someone else's hair, their ribbon, etc)

The Early Years Curriculum that we are obliged to follow insists on children developing their fine motor skills and their independence. One way all Early Years settings do this (including our own at SSOA) is to have scissors available for children to choose as a resource. The scissors we use are safe, but strong enough to cut paper.

The children are shown how to use scissors and we would ask you to reinforce this at home, including using them on paper.

Many of the activities are not to be 'adult-led' in accordance with the curriculum, therefore children may not always be supervised with the scissors. Whilst we have enough adults in our classrooms to fulfil the legal ratios, we cannot guarantee that a child will not use scissors on their own hair.

The curriculum (called "Development Matters") states:

Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.

You can begin by showing children how to use one-handed tools (scissors and hammers, for example) and then guide them with hand-over-hand help. Gradually reduce the help you are giving and allow the child to use the tool independently.

Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.

Help children to learn to form their letters accurately. First, they need a wide-ranging programme of physical skills development, inside and outdoors. Include large-muscle co-ordination: whole body, leg, arm and foot. This can be through climbing, swinging, messy play and parachute games, etc. Plan for small muscle co-ordination: hands and fingers. This can be through using scissors, learning to sew, eating with cutlery, using small brushes for painting and pencils for drawing. Children also need to know the language of direction ('up', 'down', 'round', 'back', etc).

Please understand to remove scissors from our school or to make all scissor activities adult-led or supervised when the scissors we use are safe will put limits on what our children can learn. I believe that this stance is in line with other Early Years settings. It is certainly necessary to meet the expectations of the sample of the curriculum stated above.

All of our reminders and important information can be found on our [website](#).