



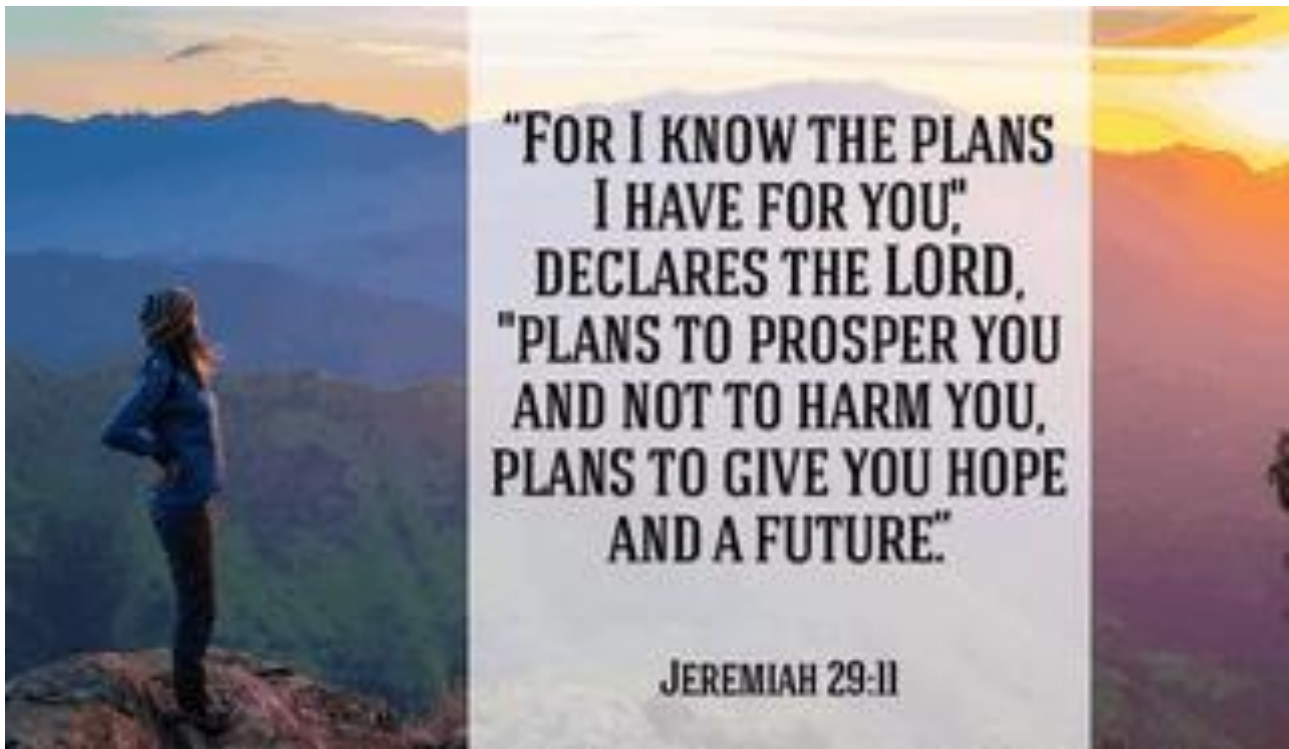
Headteacher: Mr J Graves
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Doyle
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs J Devine
School Business Manager: Mrs S Paterson-Fay

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

Our Next Break:

School closes at 3.15pm on **Friday 22nd May**
We reopen at 8.45am on **Tuesday 2nd June**

School will close for Summer at **2pm** on **17th July 2026**.
The term dates can be found on our [website](#)



Thought for the Week:

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

I try to keep going when things are difficult and not give up hope.

The Sacramental Programme

The next date is to attend is:

Tuesday 9th June 6pm – Parent Meeting at St Osmund's Church.

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

History Celebration Day – Tomorrow, Thursday 21st May

As per the letter emailed home, we are delighted to announce a History Celebration Day on **Thursday 21st May**. This will be a day filled with historic enquiry, artefact handling and storytelling.

Dressing Up We invite all children to come to school dressed as a person from the past. This could relate to our current class topics:

Year 1 & 2: [e.g., Victorians or Famous Explorers]

Year 3 & 4: [e.g., Romans, Stone Age, Ancient Egyptians, Vikings or Anglo-Saxons]

Year 5 & 6: [e.g., World War II or Ancient Greeks]

EYFS to come in sports clothes

Please see the letter emailed home for more costume information and ideas.

New Uniform Policy – September 2026

As we look forward to the next academic year, we would like to share an important update regarding our school uniform. From September, all children from Year 1 upwards will be moving to a new formal uniform consisting of a shirt and tie, replacing the previous polo shirt and no-tie policy.

This change comes after careful consideration and a joint decision between the children on the School Council and our Board of Governors. Our student representatives were keen to bring a sense of pride and a "grown-up" feel to our school attire, and the governors have fully supported this vision for our school identity.

Understanding the New Tie Options

To keep the morning routine as stress-free as possible, we have decided not to use manual (self-tie) ties. Instead, we have selected options that are easy for children to manage independently:

Infant Pupils: We have comfortable elasticated ties designed for smaller hands.

Junior Pupils: We have smart clip-on ties.

Parental Choice: While we recommend the clip-ons for older children, parents are more than welcome to choose the elasticated ties for their child all the way through their school years if they prefer.

Where to Buy

To make the transition easier, ties will be available through the following outlets:

- In-School: We will be stocking ties directly at the school office.
- Smart Clothing: You can also purchase them from Smart Clothing on Bolton Market, where they stock our full uniform range.

Supporting the Transition

We understand that any change can bring a bit of anxiety. Here are some tips to help your child get ready for September:

Practice Makes Perfect: During the summer break, have a few "dress rehearsals." Letting your child practice buttoning their shirt in a relaxed environment can build great confidence.

The "One-Finger Rule": Ensure collars are not too tight. You should be able to fit one or two fingers comfortably between the collar and the neck.

Sensory Advice

For children with sensory sensitivities, we want to ensure they remain comfortable while looking smart:

Soft Fabrics: Look for "easy-iron" or "soft-touch" shirts, which often have softer seams than standard cotton.

Washing First: Washing new shirts a few times with a familiar fabric softener before September can help remove factory stiffness.

Tagless Options: If labels are a distraction, many retailers now offer tagless shirts. Alternatively, labels can be carefully trimmed away at home.

We are very proud of our School Council for leading this initiative and thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils look their best as they represent our school community.

Catholic Family Holidays in the Lake District

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during August and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room chapel and lounges. Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families or groups. Contact via: www.castleriggmanor.com

Parent Governor

Thank you everyone who voted in the recent Parent Governor election ballot. We are delighted to announce that the successful candidate was Martin Brooks. We are excited to welcome him to the team and appreciate his commitment to supporting our school community. Thank you to both parents who put their name forward for the position.

DATES FOR DIARY

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

21.5.26 – History Celebration Day

8th & 9th June – 6A Bikeability. Please give consent using the link on the letter.

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

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

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

- **Year 3 - Friday 22nd May**
- **Year 4 – Friday 19th June**
- **Year 6 (Leavers) Assembly Thursday 16th July**

ROLL OF HONOUR

Class Awards

Attendance Award Winners – 3A (99.09%) you get the biscuit tin this week! What a score!!

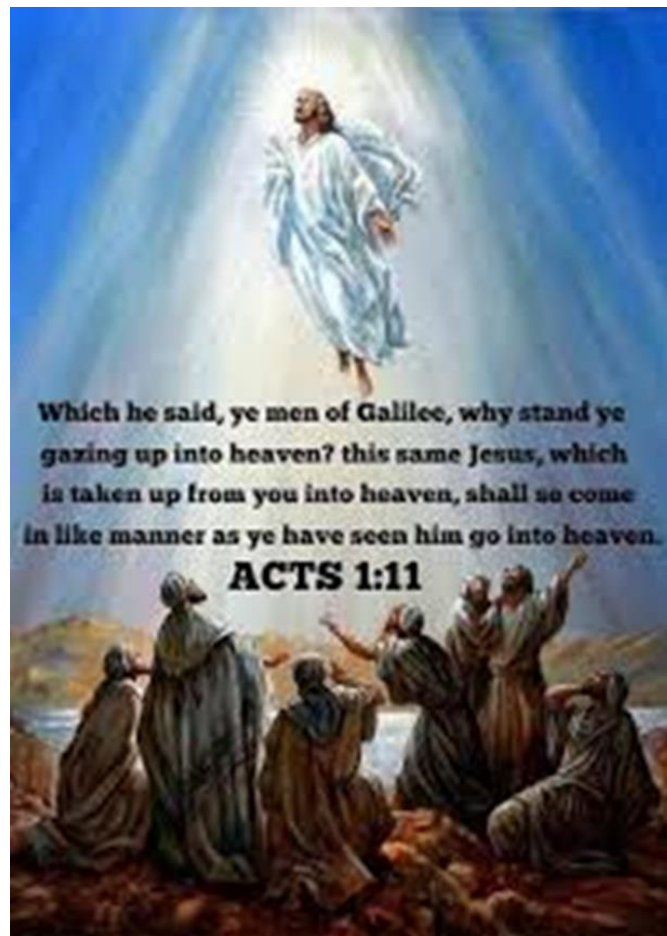
Golden Bin – Class 2 you have the Golden Bin as your paper bin all week!

Caritas Award – Class 1 you get an extra break for being the class of the week!

House Points – Green House are this week's winners!

Our next rewards assembly will be on Monday 8th June at 9am. Certificate winners will be announced on the next newsletter.

The Gospel Reading of the Week - Please share this with your child.



Reading from the Acts of the Apostles The story of the Ascension

After His Resurrection, Jesus spent forty days teaching His disciples about the Kingdom of God. Leading them to Mount Olivet, He gave a final command: "Go and make disciples of all nations."

As they watched, Jesus was lifted up into the clouds until He was out of sight. While the disciples gazed at the sky, two angels appeared in white robes, promising that Jesus would one day return in the same way.

Filled with joy and purpose, the disciples returned to Jerusalem, ready to share the Good News with the whole world.

The Interpretation

The Ascension marks the end of Jesus' earthly journey and the beginning of ours. Though He is in Heaven, His Spirit lives within us. We are now His witnesses, called to build His Kingdom through our words, actions and kindness.

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.

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](#)

ATTENDANCE

Well done to **Class 3A** who had the highest attendance last week. Their attendance was 99.09%

Whole school attendance last week was as follows:

Foundation	93.11%
Class 1	96.09%
Class 1/2	97.14%
Class 2	96%
3O	95.56%
3A	99.09%
4O	93.10%
4A	94.14%
5O	92.33%
5A	94.81%
6O	96.80%
6A	96.21%
Whole School	94.28%



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.

This Week's Reminders

Valuable Items

We ask that children do not bring in valuable items, including branded clothing. School cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.

Parents Code of Conduct

Thank you for:

Respecting the school's caring ethos.

Working with teachers for the benefit of children.

Always remaining calm and respectful.

Always resolving issues through school.

Always correcting your child's behaviour when you need to.

A more detailed version of the Code is on our school website.

Mobile Phones

Please note that only Year 6 children are allowed mobile phones in school without prior agreement and this is under the strict conditions of the phones not being switched on when in school, and that they must be handed in when children arrive and collected at hometime. This includes all events such as discos, etc. Any child breaking this rule will not be allowed to bring their mobile phone into school.

Please note specifically:

- That the phone is switched off AT ALL TIMES on the school premises (in the building or in the outdoor areas). It cannot be switched on again until the child has left through the gate.
- The phone is stored in school – it goes in a box in Y6 that is sent to the office.
- No-one is to touch, or be allowed to touch a phone that belongs to someone else.
- That the phone is brought into school at the child's own risk – school cannot be held responsible for any damage or loss which may occur as a result of the child bringing the phone into school.

If a child breaches these rules, restrictions will be put in place. These include, the phone being confiscated, a parent will be asked to arrange the collection of the phone from school and the child will not be allowed to bring a phone to school.

Facebook

I would like to think that we have demonstrated that as a school that we respond effectively to issues that parents bring to our attention. However, from time to time there are a small number of comments that have been posted by members of our school community on social media, including Facebook. This is unfair as social media is not a forum that the school can respond on. It is also not very productive as it is not a forum where the problem can be solved.

Furthermore, negative comments on social media about our school that come to our attention will be checked to see if they are breaches of the Parents and Visitors Code of Conduct, and if they are, action will be taken by the school.

Thank you to all our parents who use choose to address our school directly to solve problems that have arisen.

Leverhulme Park

We regularly receive reports of incidents from Leverhulme Park which include bicycles being stolen, hats being taken, mobiles phones being taken, threats being made, fights, intimidation, children being forced to try cigarettes or vapes, children being assaulted by other children – and some of the other children involved are older. Our strong advice, and also that of our local police, is that children should not go to Leverhulme Park without an adult to accompany them to ensure that they are safe.

Sun Cream – in the warm weather...

In hot weather, children may bring sun cream and sun hats (with your child's name in) into school. Sun cream must be in a bottle with your child's name on and must be stored in the area designated by the classteacher. Staff are not responsible for administering sun cream. During the day, the child can self-administer the sun cream. Alternatively, an "all day" sun cream is available that can applied before the school day starts (please check the various products before you decide which "all day" sun cream is the most suitable for your child).

Coats

Please ensure that your child is coming into school wearing a coat when the weather is wet. Thank you.

Headlice

Every so often, there is an outbreak of these determined little creatures in every school. Please could you assist us by checking your child's hair regularly and treating accordingly if you come across the little beasts before your child returns to school. Thank you for your co-operation. Apologies if you have read this and it has made you scratch your scalp!!!!

British Values

We talk about these assembly. British values are Christian values and underpin our school. They are the same as Love, Faith and Hope. If your children ask, they are:

Democracy – When everyone has a say.

The Law – Keeps us all safe.

Liberty – Having the freedom to choose.

Tolerance & Mutual Respect – Treat all people equally and fairly.

Relationship & Sex Education

At SS Osmund & Andrew's, we appreciate that a great level of care and sensitivity has to be taken towards the teaching of Relationship & Sex Education (RSE). We use a Catholic scheme (called Journey in Love) to deliver this, and another Catholic scheme (called Ten Ten) which completes the full legal requirements of the Department for Education. We also have a visit from the School Nurse to discuss puberty, changes and how they are linked to growing up into adulthood. This of course leads into a discussion about the functions of the reproductive organs, so your child may have questions about this when they have been studying in the lessons.

All lessons in the scheme are taught in an age appropriate way that is approved by Salford Diocese. Please be assured that we have worked hard in sourcing the right materials so that they are ones for the children in our school. If you have any worries or questions about these materials, please do not hesitate to contact school where we can show the Catholic context in which they fit.

“igo” Cards

ATTENTION TO ALL CHILDREN IN YEAR 6 CATCHING THE BUS TO HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER!

If you are aged 11 to 16, you must have an “igo” card to travel using any child ticket on buses in Greater Manchester. You can also use your igo card as proof of age for travelling by tram with a child ticket. You will need proof of age ID from age 11 on Metrolink.

Do you qualify?

To qualify for an igo card you must be:

- aged between 5 and 16
- be a permanent resident of, or go to school in, Greater Manchester

For more information, please go to: <https://tfgm.com/tickets-and-passes/igo-pass>

Smart Watches

Please note that watches are allowed to be worn in school as they hold educational value in maths. However, any smart watches that have the capability to take photos must not be brought into school for obvious reasons. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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