

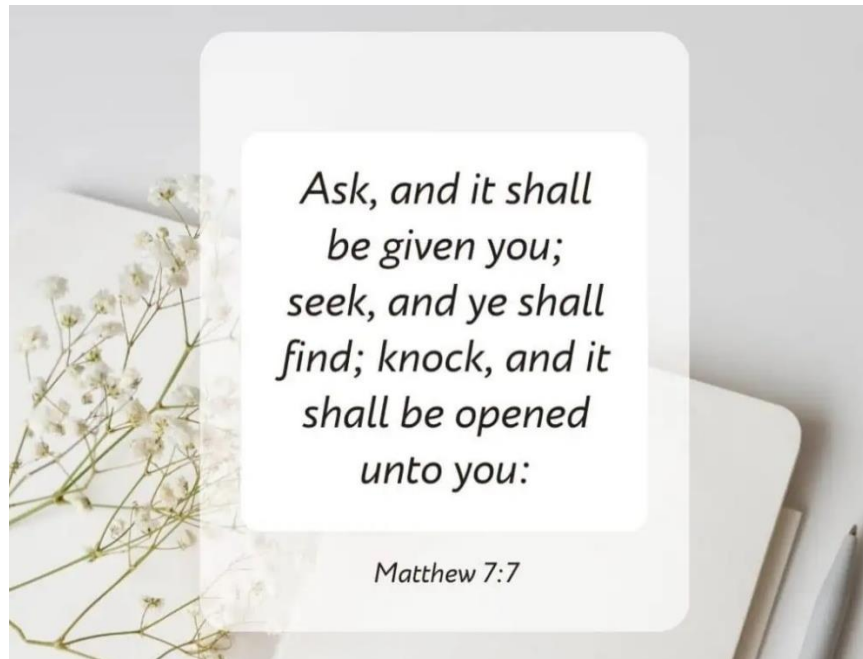


Headteacher: Mr J Graves  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Doyle  
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs J Devine  
School Business Manager: Mrs S Paterson-Fay

Tel: 01204 333070  
www.ssoarc.co.uk  
Email: [office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk)  
Facebook:

### Our Next Break:

School will close at **2pm** on **17<sup>th</sup> July 2026**.  
We reopen at 8.45am on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.  
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 know when to ask for help and who to ask it from.**

### Sports Day

Sports Day will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026 (weather permitting!)

AM – EYFS and KS1  
PM – KS2

### The Sacramental Programme

The next date is to attend is:  
**It's the First Holy Communion service this weekend!!!**

To all our pupils celebrating their **First Holy Communion** this weekend:  
We are incredibly proud of you as you take this special step in your faith journey. May this day bring you joy, peace, and a deep sense of God's love. Enjoy celebrating with your families and friends and know that your whole school community is cheering you on.  
**Congratulations to each of you.**

### Non-Uniform Day

Congratulations to **Yellow** House and **Green** House, joint winners of the House Points last half term. Your prize is a non-uniform day this **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> June**. If you are in Blue House or Red House – it's uniform as normal!

## Attendance Raffle

Just a reminder that all children with an attendance rate of 98% for the term will be entered into the Attendance Raffle at the end of term: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £50 Amazon Voucher. 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £30 Amazon Voucher, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - £20 Amazon Voucher.

## Move Up Morning

As consistent with previous years, your child will find out who their teacher is next year on Move Up Morning, which is **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**.

## 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](http://www.castleriggmanor.com)

## 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.

## DATES FOR DIARY

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

**13.6.26** – First Holy Communion

**18.6.26** – Year 1 trip

**18.6.26** – Welcome visit for Reception September 2026 parents 5.30pm-6pm

**19.6.26** – Year 4 class assembly

**22.6.26** – Year 3 swimming starts. Daily for 2 weeks.

**22.6.26** – Year 2 Trip

**23.6.26** – Year 4 Trip

**24.6.26** – Year 3 Trip

**25.6.26** – Year 6 Trip

**29.6.26** – Sports Day – EYFS & KS1 am, KS2 pm.

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

## CLASS ASSEMBLIES

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

- **Year 4** – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June
- **Year 6** (Leavers) Assembly Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July

# ROLL OF HONOUR

## Class Awards

**Attendance Award– Class 1 (97.92%)** you get the biscuit tin this week! What a score!!  
**Golden Bin – 4A**  
**Class of the Week – 5A**  
**House Points – Blue House**

Each week the parents of all children on the Roll of Honour are warmly invited to our school assembly on Monday at 9am to see their child receive their certificate.

**Foundation:** **Levi A** for excellent independent writing  
**Annie G-H** for developing confidence and becoming more independent.  
**Ely Y** for settling well into our school.

**Year 1:** **Phoebe-Ann H** for making a super start to our Year 1 team!

**Year 1/2 :** **Marziya L** for having a super first week in our school. A lovely girl and such a hard worker!

**Year 2:** **Reuben V** for an excellent first week back showing a positive attitude to learning and determination to improve his handwriting.

**30:** **Helen H** for great work in English with her Year of Reading Build a Vocabulary dream team. Well done!

**3A:** **Derrick F** for superb recall of the Ascension and Pentecostal story and understanding of recent scriptures we have been studying.

**40:** **Grace D** for a great effort in writing her narrative in English and trying her best in every lesson.

**4A:** **Hakim S** for being a kind and polite member of 4A and for continuing to improve his handwriting and presentation!

**50:** **Oscar N** for an excellent attitude to his learning and for approaching tasks with resilience. Well done!

**5A:** **Teddie Y** for excellent dramatic skills during our RE lesson!

**60:** **Alexander M** for being a fantastic peer partner during English this week, you were so helpful to the other children in your class. Well done!

**6A:** **Esther H** for her massive improvement in her writing. She has put in maximum effort to achieve. Well done!

**Artist of last Half Term:** **Elkanah A (4A)** for amazing sketch work and drawing using tone. Well done!

**Guitarist of the Week:** **Kai T (4A)** for lovely playing on two pieces.

**Handwriting & Presentation Award:** **Luna Rae C (30)**

**Assistant Head Award:** **Erin H (6A)** for fantastic effort in her writing.

**Deputy Head Award:** **Tamara H-E (40)** for fantastic work on her projects.

**Headteacher Award:** **Harper R (60)** for becoming very mature over the last few months and for representing our school in the “have a go” football competition.

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

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

**John 6:51-58**

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my life, given so the world may live."

This made the people argue among themselves. They asked, "How can this man give us his life to eat?"

Jesus explained to them: "I tell you the truth, unless you share in the life of the Son of Man, you will not have true life in you. But anyone who eats this bread and drinks this cup has eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day. My life is real food, and my love is real drink.

Whoever shares in me lives in me, and I live in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I bring His life to the world, the person who shares in me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. It is not like the bread your ancestors ate long ago, because they eventually died. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever."



**The Interpretation** - Jesus uses the idea of food to show how deeply he wants to be part of us. If we let Him, Jesus will fill our hearts, making us one team.

### 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](mailto:office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk)), speak to the office or write a little note and send it in with your child.

### 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.



## ATTENDANCE

Well done to **Class 1** who had the highest attendance during the last week in school. Their attendance was 97.92%

Whole school attendance during the last week before half term was as follows:

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Foundation   | 94.84% |
| Class 1      | 97.92% |
| Class 1/2    | 97.88% |
| Class 2      | 97.5%  |
| 30           | 94.44% |
| 3A           | 96.59% |
| 40           | 96.12% |
| 4A           | 89.66% |
| 50           | 91.67% |
| 5A           | 92.59% |
| 60           | 87.50% |
| 6A           | 84.48% |
| Whole School | 94.02% |



## 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

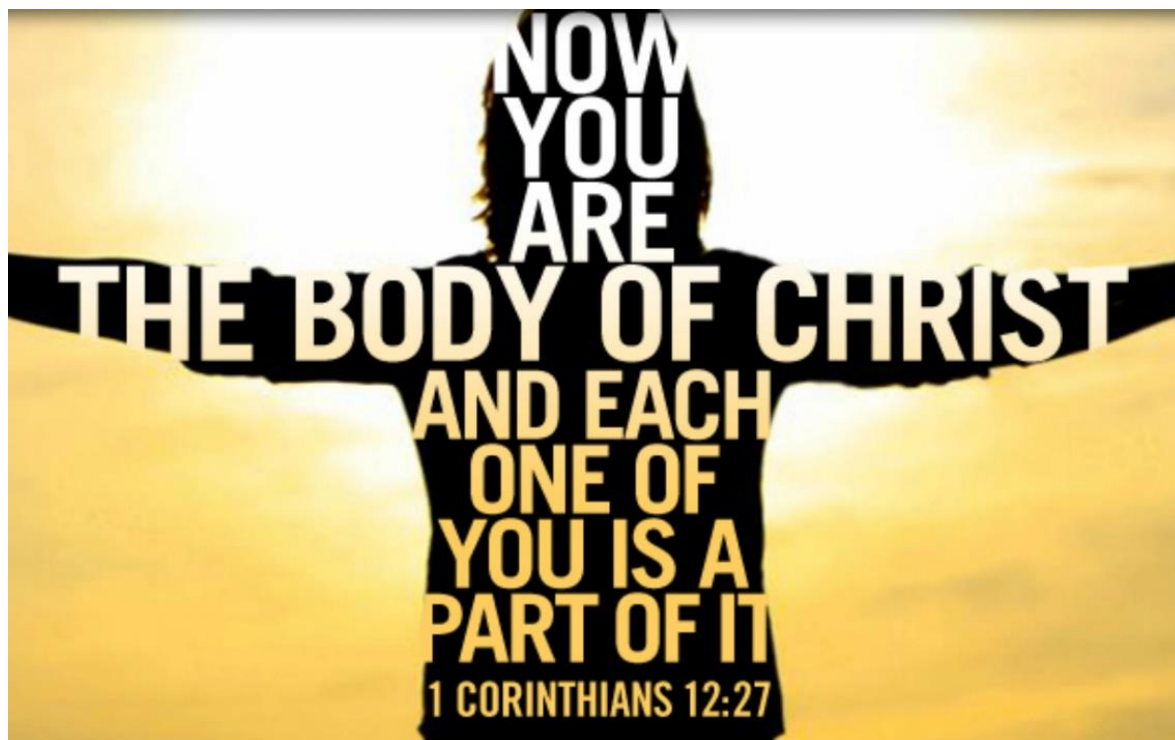
Please see Bolton Council's website on Mental Health for support and ideas on how to look after ourselves. Please go to <https://www.bekindtomymind.co.uk>

### 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

## Cycling to School (Y5/6)

Children will only be allowed to cycle to school if:

- Children dismount at the school gate and walk their bikes on school grounds
- The child wears a helmet.
- The bicycle is in good working order making it safe (eg: the brakes work, the handlebars are on straight, etc)
- Children cycle outside the school grounds with care and attention, obeying traffic laws and not engaging in dangerous behaviour (there will be cycle patrols by staff).
- Children in Year 4 or below should be accompanied by an adult.

If a child fails to comply with these rules, permission to cycle to school will be withdrawn.

This action is to reduce the number of incidents where our children have put themselves at risk.

## Lip balm

Children can be allergic to lip balm, and the worry is that if a child who is allergic uses their friend's lip balm.

Therefore, lip balm can only be used in school if a parent is able to come in and administer the lip balm (and take the lip balm off site with them when they leave). This can be arranged with the office. Many thanks for your co-operation.

## Fidget Toys

Only fidget toys (and [popping mats) supplied by school are the only ones that can be used in school. This is because they are assigned to certain children who our team feel their use will help them concentrate. If your child has not been identified, then their use will usually mean that they distract both themselves and those around them. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

## Mobile Phones

Please note that only Year 6 children are allowed mobile phones in school without a letter 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 home time. This includes all events such as discos, etc. Any child breaking this rule will not be allowed to bring their mobile phone into school.

## 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](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance%20on%20infection%20control%20in%20schools%20poster.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](#).**