

SS OSMUND & ANDREW'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLTON

NEWSLETTER: Wednesday 9th September 2026

Headteacher: Mr J Graves
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Doyle
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Our Next Break:

School closes at 3.15pm on **Friday 23rd October**
We reopen at 8.45am on **Monday 2nd November**

The term dates can be found on our [website](#)

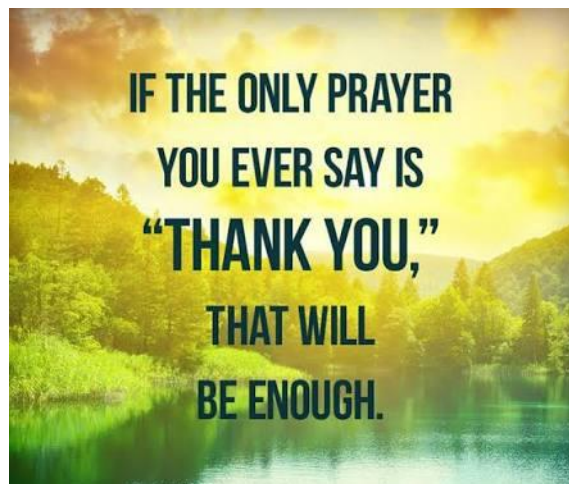
Roll of Honour

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

Thought for the Week:

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

We are all special.



Parking

Please do not park on Falkirk Drive. Thank you for parking respectfully for our neighbours. Thank you.

School Car Park

Please note that we have had a few near misses this term already. As a result, unless there is a special condition, parents are asked not to use the staff car park. Thank you for your co-operation.

Code of Conduct: Parents & Visitors

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.

ROLL OF HONOUR

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

Foundation: **Freya H- B** for a great start to her Reception Year!
Sama B for drawing a beautiful picture of his family!

Year 1: **Jacob D** for making such a positive start to Year 1 and trying his best!

Year 1/2 : **Charlie L** for taking so much pride in his work & for having a super attitude towards his new learning already.

Year 2: **Jax G** for his mature attitude and for his kindness towards others! You have made a great start to Year 2!

Year 3: **Ashton B** - Cool, calm and collected Ashton has shown a fantastic attitude towards everyone and everything he does. A brilliant approach to all his work and a great example to others.
Keep it going, Ashton, well done!

Year 3/4: **Lydia F** for making an outstanding start to the year with beautiful work across the curriculum!

Year 4: **Blake H** for settling in brilliantly to SS. Osmund and Andrew's and being a delightful member of our school family!

5O: **Florence D** for a fabulous start in Year 5 showing a great work ethic! Well done!

5A: **Lenny McD** for a fantastic start to Year 5. Lenny is always ready to learn, tries his best and is a pleasure to have in class!

6O: **Logan P** for starting the school year off with a positive, mature attitude

6A: **Oscar R** for his amazing effort and maturity - he is already showing how wonderful he is!

Guitarist of the week: **Emily D (Y3)** for an excellent first lesson, providing a lot of knowledge coupled with good listening skills.

Handwriting and Presentation Award: **Theo S (6O)** for such a great effort!

Reading Award: **George E (6A)**

Assistant Head Teacher Award: **Louisa W (6A)** for being such a kind and mature member of her year group

Head Teacher Award: **Callen L (6A)** for a great start to the year!

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

2 Chronicles 15:7

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



Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said, "If your friend hurts you, go and talk to them privately and kindly. If they listen, you have won back a friend. If they do not listen, take one or two others with you to help make peace. Whenever two or three of you gather together in my name to sort things out and love one another, I am right there with you."

Interpretation

Jesus reminds us that arguing is normal, but making up matters most. When we talk through our problems honestly and treat each other with love, Jesus is truly with us.

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

Each week, we will report on class attendance.

To encourage and reward excellent attendance, we have some fantastic initiatives running throughout the year:

The Termly Attendance Raffle: At the end of every term, all eligible pupils (who have an attendance of 98% or above for the term) will be entered into a draw to win some brilliant prizes:

1st Prize: £50 Amazon Voucher

2nd Prize: £30 Amazon Voucher

3rd Prize: £20 Amazon Voucher

Attendance Certificates: Presented at the end of each term to recognise children who have achieved our attendance targets.

The Class Biscuit Tin: A weekly treat awarded to the class with the highest overall attendance percentage to enjoy together.

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.

Attendance Procedures & Absences

Please note these cut-off times for reporting absences to ensure the safety of all pupils:

- **10:00 AM Deadline:** If your child is not in school and we have not received any contact from you by **10:00 AM**, their absence will automatically be marked as **unauthorised**.
- **Communication Limits:** If a child is absent without explanation, we will attempt—if *staff capacity allows*—to send a text message, and again, *if capacity allows*, to make a follow-up phone call. However, please understand that our office is incredibly busy, and these courtesy contacts may not always be possible. The responsibility to inform us of an absence lies with parents.
- **Retrospective Changes the Register:** Bolton Council have instructed us that we are not permitted to change absence codes in the register retrospectively after we have submitted them. This means that if your child is absent and you do not contact us on the day, we cannot change the “unauthorised” mark after the event—even if you provide an explanation the following day – as the information has already been submitted to the Local Authority the day before. It is therefore absolutely vital that you communicate with the school office before 10:00 AM on the actual day of your child's absence.

Legal Framework & Fines

We work closely with the Local Authority to monitor persistent absenteeism. Please be aware that if a child accumulates **10 unauthorised sessions** (which equates to 5 school days) within a **10-week period**, this may result in a formal penalty notice (a fine) being issued by the Local Authority.

Celebrating Great Attendance!

While we must enforce these rules, we much prefer to focus on the positives! We love celebrating the children who show great commitment to their learning. To encourage and reward excellent attendance, we have some fantastic initiatives running throughout the year:

- **The Termly Attendance Raffle:** At the end of every term, all eligible pupils (who have an attendance of 98% or above for the term) will be entered into a draw to win some brilliant prizes:
 - **1st Prize:** £50 Amazon Voucher
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- **Attendance Certificates:** Presented at the end of each term to recognise children who have achieved our attendance targets.
- **The Class Biscuit Tin:** A weekly treat awarded to the class with the highest overall attendance percentage to enjoy together.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support in making sure our children arrive on time and ready to learn every day. By working together, we can give them the very best start in life.

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

Park and Stride

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.

Jewellery

Jewellery, including earrings, should not be brought into school or be worn by the children on the grounds that it can be dangerous to self and others in many school activities, in particular playtimes and PE. Earrings should not be worn and children will be asked to remove them. The school cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage to personal property. If your child is thinking of having their ears pierced, please can this happen in the first week of the summer holidays. This way, you will have plenty of time to allow earrings to be worn over the summer so that the holes do not heal up. This will avoid your child and school placed in the awkward position of an individual being asked to remove their earrings which are stopping their newly pierced ears from healing up! If a child cannot remove their earrings, we will ask that they do not run around at breaktimes – they will be asked to sit on a bench to keep them safe, or to be inside with a book or a friend at the office, or doing a job. It will not be treated as a punishment.

Thank you for your support with this issue.

The Association for Physical Education state:

"Schools have a duty of care to ensure students are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. A clear and consistently applied policy for the removal of personal effects should be in place. The Association for Physical Education (afPE) strongly recommends the practice of removing all personal effects at the commencement of every lesson to establish a safe working environment. This applies to all ear and body piercings, including retainer and expander earrings."

The Football Association (The FA)

Law 4 of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) Laws of the Game states: *"A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player, including any kind of jewellery."*

Furthermore, the rule around earrings shares a principle with the rules around trainers, PE kits and make-up: Specifically, that there are some families in our community who cannot afford for their children to wear earrings and to keep the children from those families feeling included, the wearing of earrings and jewellery is not permitted.

Reading at Home – It Improves Achievement!

Thank you to those parents who, despite having to juggle all the home tasks in an evening such as making a meal, getting uniforms ready for morning and putting children to bed, they are still able to ensure that their child reads every night at home.

A landmark study by the **OECD** found that reading enjoyment is a more important indicator of a child's future academic success than their background.

- **The Findings:** Children from lower-income families who read for pleasure regularly often perform better in school than children from higher-income families who do not read.
- **Life Impact:** This suggests that reading is the single most effective tool for **social mobility**, helping to level the playing field regardless of a child's starting point in life.

The evidence is clear... children reading at home perform much better than those who do not!

Items not permitted in school

Please note the following are not permitted in school:

- Toys, however small, unless a teacher has requested them to be brought in. If toys are seen, they will be kept in a teacher's drawer until the end of the day whereby a parent/carer may collect it
- Pencil cases
- Keyrings or keyrings with lip gloss
- Make up
- Mobile phones unless in Year 6 who are walking home on their own, with permission from a parent/carer. Mobile phones in school are at the parent/carer's own risk
- Toys / dolls
- Jewellery
- Please do not bring in rucksacks or extra-large water bottles as they both take up a lot of room

Every day is a learning day

Please do not think that on the last few days of the term the children are learning nothing – every day is a learning day at SSOA. Each day missed is 5 lessons missed. Each week is 25 lessons missed. Please ensure your child attends every day of school – even the last day! Please note that if your child has 91% attendance for the whole year, he/she will have missed over 85 lessons, and this will obviously hold up their progress. Thank you.

Holidays in Term Time

Please note that our school does not have the power in law to authorise absences for family holidays. We are now obliged to issue a fine when there are 10 unauthorised sessions (5 days). Please do not put school in the awkward position by taking holidays in term time as they cannot be classed as exceptional circumstances and thus cannot be authorised. Please note that the government regulations mean that a fine will be issued by Bolton Council for unauthorised absences such as holidays taken in term time.

Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child's name is in their uniform. We seem to accumulate a lot of lost property and without names, it is very difficult to return the items to their owner. Please note that all lost property will be disposed of regularly. Thank you.

Vaping

Please can I remind our parents that smoking and vaping are banned on our school premises to support our message to children to not partake in vaping and smoking. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

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