



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 NEWSLETTER IS NOW EVERY MONDAY!!

Deputy Head – Mrs Doyle

During the autumn term, Mrs Doyle will be carrying out her duties from home to support her recovery from an illness. Mrs Devine will be Acting Deputy Head. We all wish Mrs Doyle a speedy recovery!

Our Next Break:

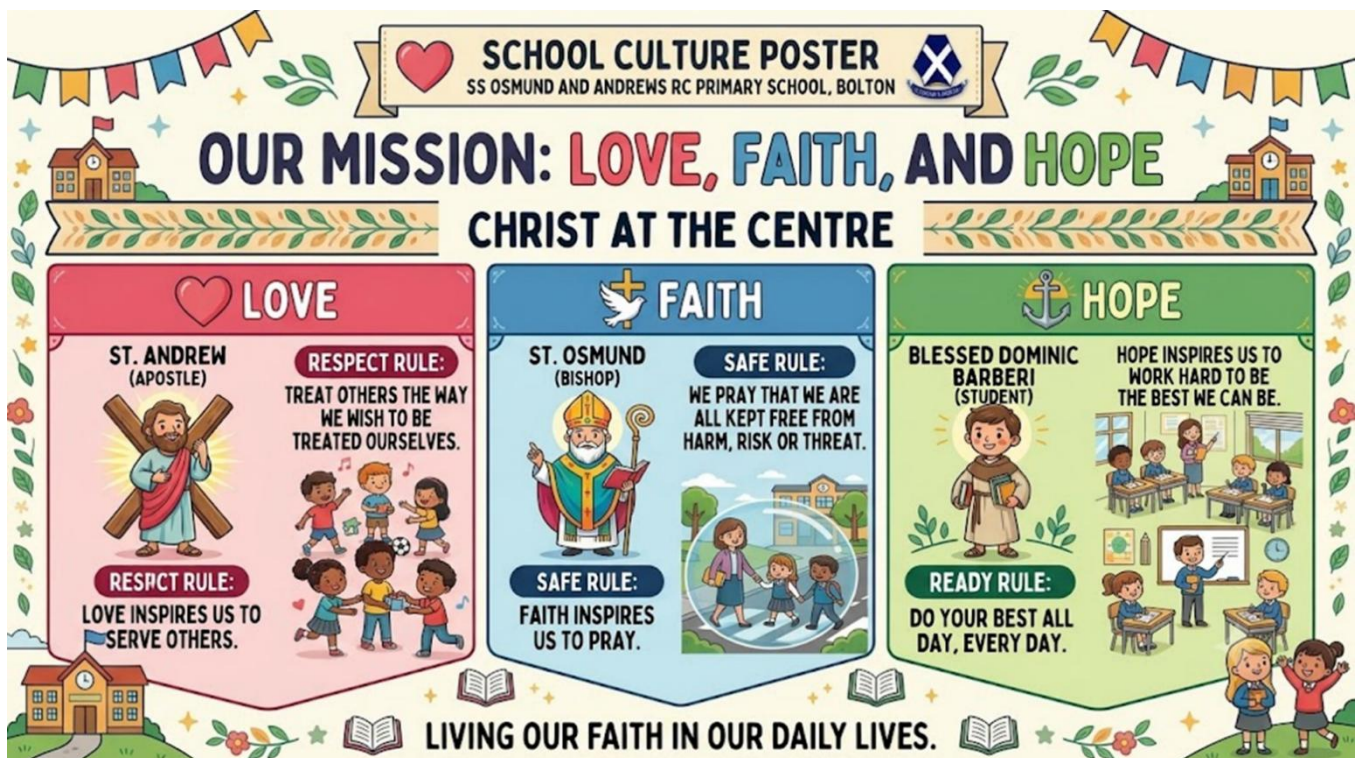
School will close at **3.15pm** on **Friday 23rd October**
We reopen at **8.45am** on **Monday 2nd November**.

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

Thought for the Week:

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

I can say one good thing about myself.



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.

Meet the Teacher

You can meet your child's new teacher on the dates below, 3.15pm to 3.45pm.

Tuesday 15th September: **Year3, Year4**
Wednesday 16th September: **Year 3/4**
Thursday 17th September: **Year 2**
Monday 21st September: **Year 5, Year 6, Year 1/2**
Tuesday 22nd September: **Year 1**
Thursday 24th September **Foundation**

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:
 - o 1st Prize: £50 Amazon Voucher
 - o 2nd Prize: £30 Amazon Voucher
 - o 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.

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/

DATES FOR DIARY

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

15.9.26 – Year 3 & Year 4 Meet the Teacher

16.9.26 - Year 3/4 Meet the Teacher

17.9.26 - Year 2 Meet the Teacher

18.9.26 – Year 6 Heights & Weights – see letter emailed home.

21.9.26 – Year 1/2, Year5 & Year 6 Meet the Teacher

22.9.26 – Year 1 Meet the Teacher

24.9.26 – Foundation Meet the Teacher

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

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

Foundation Class – 26th May

Year 1 - 18th November

Year 1/2 - 2nd December

Year 2 - 20th January

Year 3 – 17th March

Year 3/ 4 - 21st October

Year 4 - 5th May

Year 5 - 7th July

Year 6 - 14th July

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 **FRIDAY** at 9am to see their child receive their award.

Foundation: **Lena P** for having such an enthusiastic attitude to her learning!
Bonnie R for fantastic listening and taking part during carpet activities!

Year 1: **Marshall M** for trying so hard with his reading in Phonics and learning his spellings in class!!

Year 1/2 : **Esme McH** for always helping others and for being a terrific role model at all times.

Year 2: **Hannah A** for working hard on her handwriting and presentation and for always staying on task.

Year 3: **Ayaan I** for having the right work ethic and attitude to all work, including reading, homework, and learning. Well done

Year 3/4: **Rogan K** for some amazing poetry work displaying a tremendous vocabulary!

Year 4: **Ethan P** for being a polite and well-mannered member of the class who always tries his best in his learning!

50: **Charlotte W** for excellent listening skills and contribution during lessons. Thank you!

5A: **Elliott P** for a fantastic attitude towards learning and super maths work!

60: **Oliver D** for a massive improvement in his handwriting!

6A: **Leo B** for his amazing scores in his baseline tests! He smashed it!

Handwriting & Presentation Award: **Natalia N (6A)**

Reading Award: **Charlie D (50)**

Assistant Head Teacher Award: **April G (Year 2)** for such a fantastic start to her new school!!

Headteacher Award – **Rose G (Y3/4)** for settling in so well!

'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 18:21-35

Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times should I forgive my friend who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "Not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!"

Jesus told a story. A king wanted to settle accounts with his servants. One servant owed him a massive fortune—millions of pounds—but could not pay. The king felt sorry for him, cancelled the debt, and let him go free.

Soon after, that same servant met a fellow servant who owed him a tiny amount of money—just a few pounds. He grabbed him roughly and demanded payment. The man begged for patience, but the servant refused and threw him into prison.

When the king heard about this, he was very angry. "I forgave your huge debt! You couldn't forgive this small debt?" he said. Because the servant showed no mercy, the king punished him.

Jesus finished by saying, "Just as my Father forgives you, you must be ready to forgive others with all your heart."

Interpretation

Just like the king forgave the huge debt, God forgives us when we make mistakes. We must pass on that same kindness by choosing to forgive others every time they say sorry, no matter what.

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.

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 **Year 3/4 and Year 4** who both had the highest attendance last week in school. They both had attendance of 100%!!

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

Foundation	96.49%
Year 1	93.33%
Year 1/2	96.07%
Year 2	97.95%
Year 3	93.87%
Year 3 /4	100%
Year 4	100%
5O	93.79%
5A	94.29%
6O	96.79%
6A	97.24%
Whole School	96.4%



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

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 5/6 children who have been given parental consent to walk to / from school are allowed mobile phones in school without a letter. 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

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 onehanded 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](#).