



Week commencing: 7th September 2026

Whole school

Welcome back to an exciting new year at Strathmore. We hope you all had a lovely summer break and are so pleased to see you all settling into the new term so happily.

Communication – As a reminder, you will receive this Monday memo once a week, sharing all of the information that you need to know for the coming weeks at Strathmore. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to speak to the school staff on the gate or to a member of staff in the office.

Every Friday, each year group will share their learning on their weekly blog posts, which can be found on the school website using the link below. The first blogs will be published this Friday so don't forget to click the link to see what your children have been getting up to each week. <https://www.strathmore.herts.sch.uk/news-and-events/weekly-blogs>

Reading books – Over the next couple of weeks, your children will start to have their reading books sent home with them. We send two books home with each child, a Little Wandle phonics book to support learning the skill of reading and a Strathmore library book to support developing the will for reading. Please share both books with your children at home during the week, with your child reading their Little Wandle book to you. They will have read this book in school 3 times already so they should be able to read it with only a little effort, if it feels too easy that is a good thing!

There is lots of information for parents on the Little Wandle website, including information about the books that are sent home and how you can best support your child to learn to read. [For parents | Letters and Sounds](#) We will also be holding phonic workshops for Reception and Year 1 parents in September, look at the upcoming dates section below for more information.

Free School Meals - changes and eligibility

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools are entitled to free meals under the [universal infant free school meals](#) policy. This means every child at Strathmore will receive their school lunch for free.

However, some children are also entitled to additional school funding under the benefits-based free school meals (FSM). If you are a family in receipt of universal credits or Asylum support, the school will complete the relevant checks and your child will be noted as a benefits-based FSM. This provides the school with extra funding for us to further support your child in school including, and not limited to, help towards the costs of trips, uniform, and more.

You do not need to do anything at this time, unless you feel the school needs to be updated on your circumstances or you need to provide an Asylum support reference number (previously NASS reference number).

If your child is eligible, we will inform you as soon as possible. Eligibility lasts for each academic year.

If you have any concerns about school expenses and need financial support, please do not hesitate to contact the office to discuss how we can help.

Class reminders

[Weekly Blogs | Strathmore Infant and Nursery School](#)

Early Years – We really appreciate any junk modelling resources that you are able to bring into school for us, the children are always so creative we get through the boxes very quickly! If you have any non-food related recycling items, please consider bringing them in for the children to use.

Upcoming dates for parents / carers to be in school	Monday 21st September – Phonics workshop for Year 1 parents, 9:00am in the school hall. Wednesday 23rd September – Phonics workshop for Year 2 parents, 9:00am in the school hall.	
FOSSA events	Wednesday 9th September – Uniform sale and new parents welcome morning, 8:45 – 9:15 am. See attachment for more information. Please also check our future dates poster, to make sure you have all of the FOSSA dates for the year in your diary.	
Did you know?	Rebecca Dainton is our therapeutic practitioner who works with our pupils Mondays-Wednesdays. For more information about the work she does at Strathmore, please visit the support section of our school website: Your Child's Mental Health Strathmore Infant and Nursery School	
General upcoming dates Calendar Strathmore Infant and Nursery School	9 th September	FOSSA nearly new uniform sale and new parents welcome morning – 8:45 am
	21 st September	Year 1 parents phonics workshop – 9:00am
	23 rd September	Reception parents phonics workshop – 9:00am
	16 th October	FOSSA quiz (adults only)
	26 th – 30 th October	Half term
	2 nd November	Children return to school for Autumn B
	7 th November	FOSSA fireworks event
	19 th November	Children's Individual photos day
	27 th November	Occasional Day – School closed
	13 th December	FOSSA Christmas Carols
	16 th December	FOSSA crafternoon (date TBC)
	18 th December	Last day of term. School closes 1:15pm