

**Week commencing: 17th March**

**Whole school**

**OPAL wishlist** - We are really looking forward to the launch of our new play time initiative, OPAL, after Easter and we want to share with you our new [play policy](#) and introductory booklet '[The power of playtimes](#)'. We will also be running a parents' workshop to introduce this new initiative on Wednesday 23rd April at 9:00am.

We want to be as prepared as we can with our resources. OPAL prides itself on using used items as much as possible and we would like to ask for donations to help get us started. Attached is our [OPAL wishlist](#) of items we would love to have donated to the school over the coming weeks. If you have any of the items on the list you no longer need please could we ask that you bring them to school via your child's classroom. If you do not have any items to donate but would like to support us, we do have an [Amazon wishlist](#) which we would be incredibly grateful for any donations through here too. Thank you!

**Uniform reminders** - please do not send your child into school with big bows and fancy headbands. The uniform guidelines are simple headbands only. As we move towards OPAL lunch times, children will be climbing, sliding, etc and we do not want these to get ruined or cause health and safety issues.

**Class reminders**  
(when relevant)

**Reception** - Knebworth House Trip Friday 21st March

**Upcoming dates for parents / carers to be in school**

**OPAL launch workshop** - Wednesday 23rd April 09:00 - 09:30 come and hear about OPAL, our new playtime initiative, before we launch to our pupils next week.

**Grounds Day** - We would love to ask for helpers on 26th April between 10am - 1pm to help us set up our play areas ready for beginning OPAL.

**Reception:** Assembly to parents 14:15 in the hall. Please come through the main foyer entrance and into the hall.

**Sports Day** - We will be holding our Sports Day on Thursday 8th May from 09:15. More details to follow.

**FOSSA events**

**Cupcake decorating workshop, Sunday 23rd March 2-4pm** 🍰🐰🍌

Join us for a fun Easter cupcake decorating class for parents, carers and pals! On Sunday, 23rd March, from 2-4pm at the school, you'll learn how to craft adorable bunny-themed cupcakes with expert guidance from one of Strathmore's talented parents. Each participant will receive four cupcakes to decorate, plus a drink to enjoy while you work. Perfect for a relaxed afternoon of sweet treats and creativity. Tickets are £20 and all profits go to the school. There are limited spaces, so contact [fossachair@gmail.com](mailto:fossachair@gmail.com) to book your place.

🌻 **Spring disco, Friday 28th March 4.30-6.30pm** 🌻

Come celebrate the arrival of warmer weather and longer days! As well as a disco, there will be hot and cold food, kids and adults bars, and lots of fun activities. This year, each year group will be responsible for a stall e.g. tombola, hook-a-duck, more details to follow...

Tickets are £2 and 2 and under free. This event is only open to Strathmore families but siblings at other schools are welcome to attend. Buy your tickets here:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/strathmore-school/index.cfm?event=upcoming-events>

	<p><b>We need you: Join the FOSSA team!</b></p> <p>FOSSA is looking for new members for the next school year (2025/26). The following roles need to be filled to keep our PTA going and raise vital funds for our lovely school:</p> <p>Chair / Co-chairs Co-treasurer</p> <p>Some of the current committee members are leaving at the end of the school year, so we want to allow time to handover and intro the new team before September. If you are interested, or just want to find out more, please email <a href="mailto:fossachair@gmail.com">fossachair@gmail.com</a>. The new committee will be voted in at FOSSA's AGM in July.</p>	
<b>Wraparound updates / FAQs</b>		
<b>General upcoming</b>	Thurs 27th March	Reception assembly to parents 2.15pm. If you wish for your child to be ready to leave to collect siblings from Wilshire-Dacre please let the school office know in advance.
	Wed 2nd April	Reports out to parents and carers
	Fri 4th April	School finishes 1.30pm - 1.45pm
	Mon 7th April to Mon 21st April	Easter holidays
	Tues 22nd April	INSET day - school closed for pupils
	Sat 26th April	Grounds Day: 10am - 2pm
	Thurs 8th May	Sports Day from 09:15