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24th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to you with further information regarding the **NEU (National Education Union) Strike Action on Wednesday 1st March** and thank you for your patience regarding this matter. At present and following the first day of strike action the indications are that the number of staff choosing to take industrial action will mean it is not possible to run lessons as normal. For this reason, our school, like many schools across Norfolk and England, **will partially open**.

Government advice asks schools to prioritise children in examination years. Therefore, as was the case on the first strike day, the school will remain open for the following year groups only:

- **Year 6**
- **Year 11**

**We ask that children in all other year groups work at home on this day.** Please note, this day does not count as an absence for children who are asked to stay at home.

There will inevitably be some disruption to learning for those in school, but we will endeavour to keep this to a minimum. Lessons in school will run for Y6 and Y11, but we are likely to make changes to the curriculum for that day for some classes. At present, the planned Y11 Drama trip and Exams will go ahead as scheduled.

This partial closure is very different from that which we experienced during lockdown(s) and as a result our remote offer and in-school provision will differ. Work will be provided via Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize - this will be communicated in a separate message. Children who do not have internet access will be issued with a physical pack that they can work through. Please contact the school office if you would like a pack stating your child's name and class/Year Group by 4pm on Monday.

We have limited places for children of critical workers (*those who are frontline NHS or emergency services only*) or who are deemed vulnerable\*. Please complete the google form ([click here](#)) if you would like to request a place within this provision which will be confirmed via email on Tuesday 28th February. **Please note, to support our planning, forms must be completed by 4pm on Monday 27th February.**

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals (*this does not include Universal Infant Free School Meals*) they will be given a packed lunch to be taken home with them at the end of the school day on Tuesday.

I want to reiterate that this strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and not because of any issues or disputes with our school.

Negotiations are ongoing at a national level between the Trade Unions and Government Ministers. The information in this letter is therefore subject to change should any agreements be reached over the coming days and we will continue to communicate with you as soon as such information becomes available.

I recognise the disruption that this may cause to you and your family and appreciate that many of you will be faced with some significant juggling over the coming days.

Thank you for your understanding,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Connelly', with a small flourish at the end.

Rob Connelly  
**Headteacher**

\*are assessed as being in need under section 17 or section 47 of the Children Act 1989, (including children and young people who have a child in need plan or a child protection plan) and children who are looked-after by the local authority, have an education, health and care (EHC) plan, have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance