

Oaklands Junior School

Headteacher - Mrs H West

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27th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

NEU Strike – Wednesday 1st February 2023

Firstly, may I confirm that only teachers in the National Education Union (NEU) are being called to strike (there are other teaching unions that are not affected this time) and secondly, the NEU has indicated 4 days for this strike. Please be aware that this does not mean that if a teacher strikes on 1st February that this will automatically mean they will strike on 2nd March and again on 15th and 16th March. Each day will be a choice for teachers to make and we will try to inform you in plenty of time before each date as to which classes will be affected. This is not a decision that teachers have taken lightly; whenever a teacher goes on strike to support their union, their pay is stopped for that day. Financially, in the current climate we are all struggling to meet the rising costs of living. The profession as a whole generally faces a recruitment and retention crisis with around a third of teachers leaving the profession after 5 years on current pay levels, according to the NEU.

On Wednesday 1st February, the following classes will be closed, due to a reduction in teaching staff in school, and taking account of safeguarding all children, health and safety and sufficient cover for lunchtime:

Class	Teacher
3L	Mr Lee
4D	Miss Davidson
4JG	Mrs Jones/Miss Green
5B	Mrs Broadhurst
5H	Miss Hanks

If your children are in these classes [click on this link](#) to be considered for a place in school; this is only for our vulnerable children and essential key worker families. This must be completed by midday on Friday 27th. We know that there are many categories of key workers and we will need to prioritise critical workers such as the emergency services and particularly single parent families in this category due to limited staffing. If two parents are both critical key workers and have the same hours, of course these families will also be prioritised where possible.

We would encourage our children during this strike day (as families may be working from home too) to work independently to complete their homework, have some time practising their spellings, Doodle English and maths, as well as practising times tables. For those very creative children, there were two competitions shared by Miss Hanks for King Charles III's coronation – to make a crown out of recycled materials and to write a creative poem.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. H. West
Headteacher