

24th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As I mentioned in my letter of the 21st January, our school is going to be affected by the strike action called by the National Education Union on **Thursday 2nd March**.

As they did before, the teachers who are going on strike wanted to give the school plenty of notice about their intended action so the school community could make arrangements for the day of the strike action. I am sure you will agree, any decision taken must place the health, safety and welfare of our pupils and staff first.

Strike action is the NEU's response to a disagreement with the government. However, this approach may not be the view of all members. Conversely, staff who do not belong to a union may choose to go on strike in support. There may also be staff who would choose to go on strike but are not allowed to, due to their union membership. It is a difficult decision for many colleagues, and a choice the individual must make, as they are not paid for the day they are on strike.

Recognising and respecting the right of our staff to make their own decision on this matter is important. We ask that all members of our community continue to treat each other with respect during this period of strike action. On the day of the strike, it must not be assumed that if a member of staff is not in work then they must be on strike. Staff may be absent for many other reasons.

We will be closing 7 classes on Thursday 2nd March. They are:

- Apple
- Pear
- Ash
- Cherry
- Maple
- Willow
- Hawthorn

Oak, Birch, Beech and Poplar classes will remain open from 8:40 – 3:05pm and children in those classes are expected to attend school. My reading group will still be available to children who attend those clubs from Beech or Poplar.

Children who receive free school meals

If your child receives a free school meal, we will still provide a hot meal for your child. Please bring



your child to school at 12pm on Thursday 2nd March and pick them up at 12:50pm. They will be able to come into the hall to eat lunch and play in the playground afterwards as they normally would.

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast and after school club will still be available for the children in Oak, Birch, Beech and Poplar on 2nd March.

Further Strike Action

The NEU has planned two further strike days on 15th and 16th March. I will write to you in advance of those days to explain how they will affect the opening of our school.

As always, please come and speak to me if you have any questions about the 2nd March.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Lee Dallinger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Mr Lee Dallinger