

Hollydale Primary School

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Headteacher: Ms R.G.Reid B.Ed (Hons), NPQH, FCCT

Tuesday 27th June 2023

Strike Action 5th & 7th July

Dear Parents and Carers,

On 16th January the National Education Union (NEU), one of the trade unions representing the teaching profession, announced its intention to strike. The NEU has said it will hold strikes on:

- **Wednesday 5th July (England and Wales)**
- **Friday 7th July (England and Wales)**

This is the 7th and 8th days of teaching strikes across England. Having reviewed our options based on the impact of staffing (to what we are aware of at this point) and pupil safety, the school will be closed to all children on **Wednesday 5th July & Friday 7th July 2023.**

Whilst the school will be open to non-striking staff, they are not permitted to undertake duties that they would normally not do, such as covering for colleagues who are on strike. It is therefore not possible to provide a safe environment for any children on that day.

If you wish for your child to undertake learning activities at home you may wish to explore the following: – BBC Bitesize has a range of primary age learning activities: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> – The National Academy <https://classroom.thenational> Oak Academy – Any activities on google classroom that they have not yet engaged with or completed

Having discussed matters with union representatives, we will be taking a case by case approach, assessing the likely impact of each strike action date closer to the time. I will do everything I can to keep you informed when I receive the information I need to update you. At the end of this letter is a message from the National Education Union on why they are taking strike action.

By the end of this week we will be discussing industrial action as a 'current affairs' topic during assembly and in class. We will talk about what unions are and why they may wish to take strike action, in a variety of industries. I appreciate that this closure will impact families and I am sorry for the inconvenience caused. However, as an experienced headteacher, I will add that the financial situation for schools is more challenging than at any time in my leadership experience and I hope that any pay increases awarded are fully funded, which has not been the case so far.

If you have any questions or queries, please do contact me or other senior leaders in the usual ways including on the school gates.

Regards
Ms Reid Headteacher



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