

26 January 2023

Dear Families

As you will probably be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced the results from their ballot and teachers who are members will be commencing strike action.

This action will take place on the following dates:

Wednesday 1 February (national strike)
Tuesday 28 February (regional strike)
Wednesday 15 March (national strike)
Thursday 16 March (national strike)

The vast majority of teachers at St Charles' are members of the NEU. Whether our staff choose to exercise their right to strike is a personal matter. Staff do not have to inform school of their intention to strike until the actual day of the strike. This means that schools have to risk assess the potential disruption and make the necessary arrangements.

Other non-striking unions have issued guidance to their members about how they should respond, including not to cover for striking colleagues.

The staff at St Charles' work extremely hard to ensure that your children receive the very best education, support and care and they do not wish to disrupt this. The action they decide to take is not one that will be taken lightly, and is one that they ultimately believe does have the best interests of the children at its heart.

With all of this in mind, school will be closed to the following classes on Wednesday 1 February 2023. Further information regarding the subsequent strike days will follow in due course.

Class	
Nursery	Open
Reception	Open
Year 1	Closed
Year 2	Closed
Year 3	Closed
Year 4	Open
Year 5	Closed am and open pm. Children to come to school from 12.10pm for lunch. Year 5 children will be asked to choose their lunch Tuesday 31 January.
Year 6	Open

School will also be open for vulnerable pupils, parents of those pupils have been informed. If you have any concerns about your own child please contact me at school.

Children in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 who would normally have a benefits related Free School Meal will be given a packed lunch to take home on Tuesday 31 January.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

Yours sincerely



Mrs Nealings
Head Teacher