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JC/jfh

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Dear Parent

As you are aware from previous correspondence, further strike days are planned with the next taking place on Thursday, 2 March. This may disrupt your child's learning on this day. 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.

We are working hard on contingency plans for 2 March if we are unable to fully open for all children, and will keep you informed as we know more. Please do not assume the position will be the same as last month. This is because individuals may not make the same decision as last time and find themselves unable to decide until the day itself. As a precautionary measure, we would ask again that you look at alternative arrangements for childcare. However, you should assume your child will be attending school unless informed otherwise.

I am sure you will agree, any decision taken must place the health, safety and welfare of our pupils and staff first.

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. Similarly, there may be activities planned on the day which means your child's class teacher is working elsewhere in the school.

I will write to you again as soon as I can provide further details, and take this opportunity to remind you that there remains two further days announced for strike action on 15 and 16 March.

Thank you again for your support and understanding during this challenging time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Cooper
Headteacher