



Grange Primary School

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Headteacher: Miss Rebecca Benjamins
Assistant Headteacher: Ms Amanda Matheson

Interim Deputy Headteacher: Miss Farhana Sultana
School Business Manager: Mrs Kim Edwards

Friday, 24th February 2023

Dear Parent/ Carers,

Notification of closure on Thursday 2nd March 2023

You will have heard in the press, that the National Education Union (NEU) has declared another strike action which will take place on: **Thursday, 2 March 2023.**

The NEU is one of several teaching unions and different schools will have different numbers of striking staff. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government. The NEU explain: "This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. Teachers have lost 23% in real terms since 2010, and support staff 27% over the same period. The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation".

As Headteacher, I have assessed the impact of the strike action on the school and after careful consideration have decided that the school will have to close to pupils. Due to the numbers of staff involved, there will be serious operational difficulties which could impact the safety of pupils and staff.

As a result of the strike action we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 3rd March 2023; further details will be shared in due course.

As children will have recently received their topic homework we are asking that they use this day to complete the activities provided. A world book day letter will also be sent out with some suggestions of activities and home-made costumes which you could complete on this day.

Our sincere apologies for the difficulties that these arrangements will cause parents and carers but unfortunately these are circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware there are two further proposed strike dates which are 15 and 16 March 2023. We will update you with our plans as soon as we can.

The school will open as normal on **Friday 3rd March 2023.**

If you have any queries or concerns, please let me know.

Yours Sincerely,

Rebecca Benjamins
Headteacher