



# Joy Lane Primary School

*A Love of Learning, for Life, for All*

Oyster Bay Nursery & Oysters SRP (ASD)

Executive Headteacher: Ms DJ Hines

Head of School: Mr M Ashley-Jones

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Proposed strike action: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

I wrote to you on Friday raising the awareness of the impending strike action by the National Education Union for next Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The Chair of Governors and I have looked through our risk assessment and considered all options open to us, including looking at non-teaching staff that we can use for cover, but combined, these do not compensate for proposed teacher absences to safely open the whole school.

**On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2023**, our school will **be open for the children in year 2 classes, Oysters SRP and our privately-run Oyster Bay Nursery**. The school will be **closed to children** who attend **classes in Years R, 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6**.

**On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2023**, our school will be **open to children in Oysters SRP and Oyster Bay Nursery only**. The school is **closed to all other classes of Years, R, 1, 2, 3, 4 5, & 6**.

We will not be able to offer any wraparound care or extra-curricular clubs on the above dates. After School hours, private swimming lessons will go ahead as normal.

The strike is continuing due to a national dispute between the unions and the government over working terms and conditions and pay and not because of any issues at our school. As previously, I have consulted with colleague Headteachers across the CACoT schools in Herne Bay and Whitstable (14) so that, where possible, we have a consistent approach, and one that is easy for parents to follow. As per DFE guidance, schools are expected to remain open wherever possible, but only if there are sufficient staff available to do so safely. As previously, we have been in the process of assessing the extent to which we can do this, on an individual school basis. Whilst this will vary from school to school, it seems certain that the vast majority of our schools will be significantly affected.

We will provide a packed lunch for any child who is eligible for Free School Meals and a link will be sent to eligible families to order and will be available for collection from 11.30am on July 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

We acknowledge the disruption that this will cause parents, but this disruption is the inevitable and intended result of impending strike action of course, and a decision that no teacher will have taken lightly, and I ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

Should the National Education Union come to an agreement prior to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. I will inform you as soon as I am aware.

Yours sincerely,

Ms D J Hines  
Executive Headteacher



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