

Thursday, 22 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Strike Action 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

Whilst I have not been formally notified by the NEU of the proposed two days of industrial action planned for Wednesday 5th July & Friday 7th July it is my understanding from the press coverage that they will be happening. It is with this in mind; I am writing to inform you that we will keep the arrangements as in previous days of strike action.

**The school will be closed to all year groups on both the 5th & 7th July.** We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for your children, which again means we will not be able to remain open as there will be insufficient staff members on site for us to do this.

We are mindful that the first strike day falls on the Early Phase beach visit and will be writing separately to all families involved in the visit with arrangements to support us to ensure the visit can still go ahead safely.

As you are already aware, the National Education Union (NEU), NASUWT, Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) and National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) have rejected the government's pay offer. The NAHT have deemed it both inadequate and unaffordable. Dr. Mary Bousted and Kevin Courtney, Joint General Secretaries of the National Education Union, have outlined that the Education Secretary has refused to re-enter negotiation on the grounds that she and her department were waiting for the publication of the School Teachers' Review Body's recommendation on pay. However, this week she has written to the NEU saying: "I can confirm that I have received the (STRB) report and its recommendations and that she will publish the report in her own good time" This is causing huge uncertainty for schools and is hugely disrespectful to headteachers as we are unable to properly plan for the year ahead.

Whilst we are aware of the inconvenience that the strike will cause families, teachers across the UK are asking the Government to listen to their concerns and reconsider their stance to protect education and enhance the recruitment and retention of teachers.

The Senior Leadership Team and the governors have agreed to identify our vulnerable children and families who will be offered support. However, if you are not contacted by the end of Tuesday next week (27<sup>th</sup> June), and feel that your child not being in school puts you and your family in a vulnerable position, you need to email either me at [headteacher@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk) or Nicola at [safeguarding@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk)

Teachers will not be providing school work on strike days. However, if you would like learning activities, please be directed to The [Oak Academy resources](#) or [Primary Home work help](#) or [BBC Bitesize](#)

The Senior Leadership team and governors are working closely with our union representatives to keep up to date with the situation and I will inform you if there is any change.

Yours sincerely

*Julie*

Julie Loffstadt  
Headteacher