

## URGENT UPDATE

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I have been informed, as of yesterday, as part of the ongoing funding dispute with the Department of Education, all teaching unions are staging another episode of industrial action which will impact on the school day on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The action will begin at 00:01 on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and will cease at 12 noon.

My position as Principal is that I am not permitted to ask my staff which union they are in, nor am I entitled to ask if they intend to strike on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

As this will be a half-day of strike action, school will be closed to pupils until 12:00pm. The remainder of the school day will operate without further disruption. Extra-curricular activities, S.A.L.T & P.E.P.P.E.R will be unaffected. School will return with normal hours of operation on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

I would ask that all children arrive between 12.00-12.15pm so that they are in school for dinner. If your child plans to have dinner on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November could you please ensure this is booked on or before Tuesday (this includes free school meals).

The decision has been taken in light of the fact that, despite recent and frequent calls to the Secretary of State, to our local politicians and to the employers, no movement has been made towards any resolution of the pay impasse which has now been in place for three years, or, indeed, to seek funding to enable us to properly resource our schools and properly provide a service for the children in our care.

Ironically, funding increases and pay awards have already been issued to Scotland, England and Wales.

Kind regards,

Mrs Creelman