

27th February, 2023

Dear Parents,

**RE: STRIKE ACTION – THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023**

You may be aware from media coverage that the teaching union, NEU, are taking industrial action, which includes a strike on Thursday 2nd March 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and school funding.

Having been made aware of the likely numbers of staff taking strike action on 2nd March, the school will be closed to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12, who should not attend school on 2nd March 2023. This is because I cannot provide sufficient supervision for these students. Work will be set on G4S (Go for Schools) for these students. A number of boys in Years 7-10 will be asked to come into school on Thursday, March 2nd. Parents of these boys will be written to separately.

**All students in Year 11 should attend school at the usual time of 8.25am on Thursday, March**

**2nd.** Students in Year 11 will do their MFL speaking exams and will have revision sessions in English, Mathematics and Science. School will finish for Year 11 at 12.30pm except for those doing MFL speaking exams during periods 5 and 6. These boys can go home once they have sat their speaking exam. Selected boys will do their Design Technology coursework and others will do supervised study during periods 5 and 6. Food will be available for students in the canteen at breaktime. Individual letters will be sent to parents of boys who will remain at school during periods 5 and 6.

**Year 13 students of Economics, BTEC Business, Mathematics and Chemistry should attend school at the usual time of 8.25am on Thursday, March 2nd.** These students will have revision in these subjects during periods 1 to 4. School will finish for Year 13 at 12.30pm. Year 13 students who do not study any of the above subjects should study at home on Thursday, March 2nd. Those wishing to study in school should let Ms Pabila know so we can plan for them.

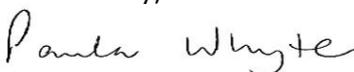
I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your son at short notice, and that he will experience disruption to his education. There are also strike days planned for March 15th and the 16th. I will write to parents nearer the time with details of what the arrangements are for those days.

I know that many of our families are struggling with the current cost of living crisis. I'm pleased to share with you that working with Food Bank Aid, we have set up a food bank to support parents over school holidays. Parents can visit the school the week before the school closes for holidays and fill up shopping bags and shopping trolleys. If you would like to avail of this, please email [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) and leave your name and contact details so we can get back to you. Please be assured of our discretion. Students would prefer me to deal directly with parents regarding the food bank according to feedback from the school council.

I would also like to share the sad news of the death of Mr Tom Mannion who was Headteacher at the college from 2002 to Jan 2018. His funeral Mass will take place at St Joseph's Church, Highgate on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 12.30pm.

Our next Headteacher's First Friday on-line meeting for parents will take place on March 3rd from 10.00-10.30am. Please contact [enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk) if you would like to join this meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Paula Whyte  
Headteacher