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**DEAN GIBSON CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**--- Part of the Mater Christi Multi-Academy Trust ---**

**Hawesmead Avenue**

Kendal, Cumbria

LA9 5HB

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Headteacher: Mrs S Tansey

9th March 2023

Dear parents/carers

**Strike action Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March2023**

I am writing to let you know about arrangements for next week. Some of our staff have reached the very difficult decision to take lawful industrial action on the dates shown above. The vote by the NEU members nationally is part of an ongoing dispute over the level of funding for education in England and Wales and concerns over pay increases not being fully funded by the Government. That means the Government expects schools to pay for most of recent pay rises **out of its existing school budget.**

I am only too aware that any school closures inconvenience parents and carers greatly. However, having assessed the potential risks of such action, **only the following classes** **will be open** at Dean Gibson on Wednesday and Thursday next week.

Nursery (toddler group will run as usual on Thursday)

**Reception is open on Wednesday all day** but only **until 1pm on Thursday**

**Year 1, Year 2, Year 6**

Please do not send children to school who would normally attend a class that will be closed, as we simply will not have the staff/pupil ratio to care for their wellbeing.

Both breakfast club and after school club will be available as usual. Dolce staff will be able to provide meals for those children in school who wish to order. They will also be able to prepare a packed lunch for any child in Key Stage 2 who is eligible for Free School Meals but who cannot attend school as their class is not open. These packed lunches must be ordered in advance on the order form attached, and can be collected from school from midday.

I’m sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice and I understand that this situation may be frustrating. Children in classes which are remaining open will be expected to attend as usual. There will be a special attendance code applied in the registers for children unable to attend due to their class being closed and this will not affect their overall attendance percentage.

I would ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Dean Gibson remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering a high quality education, with pay rises properly funded by the Government.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 01539 723363.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully

Mrs S Tansey  
Headteacher

**DEAN GIBSON CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Please return this form to the school office by the morning of Monday 13th March to enable the food to be ordered.

My child ……………………………………………………………………………………………………. (name)

in …………………………………………………………..………………………………….. (class)

Tick one for each day a packed lunch will be required:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Wednesday 15 March | |  | Thursday 16 March | |
| Cheese Sandwich |  |  | Cheese Wrap |  |
| Ham Sandwich |  |  | Ham Wrap |  |
| Tuna Mayonnaise Sandwich |  |  | Tuna Mayonnaise Wrap |  |

We will collect the lunch from school after midday on the above days.

Signed …………………………………………………………………………… Date ………………………………………….