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6th February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Half day strike action by teachers on 21 February

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the teaching unions in Northern Ireland. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

How will strike action affect Omagh County PS and Nursery?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. Teachers involved in the action will, therefore, not teach their class or undertake any other duties before 12.00 noon on the strike day.

A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

As the Principal, I and the Board of Governors have determined the school will be:

- closed on Tuesday 21st February until 12 noon
- School gates will open at 12 noon. Children should line up in the same way as they do in the morning and will be met by their class teachers.
- School dinners will be served as usual starting at 12.15pm- on this day school dinners will sausages, chips and a shortbread biscuit

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A strike by teachers is very unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

Kind Regards,

J Funston

Principal