

Sageston CP School

Bird's Lane, Sageston, Tenby, Pembrokeshire. SA70 8SH
Telephone – 01646 651471
Email – admin.sageston@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
Website – www.sagestoncpschool.co.uk
Headteacher – Mr A Welch LLB (Hons), PCGE, MEd



Tuesday 7th February 2023

Strike Action - Tuesday 14th February

Dear Parents.

As I am sure you aware, members of the National Education Union recently voted for strike action. In addition, members of the National Association of Head Teachers also voted in favour of industrial action and are currently involved in Action Short of Strike.

Today, I have been made aware of the intention of members of the NEU who teach at Sageston CP School to strike on Tuesday 14th February. This means that **Robin, Barn Owl and Swan Classes** will be closed on this date.

Those striking (and those involved in Action Short of Strike) at Sageston CP School will not be doing so simply for an improved pay offer. We are, understandably, very concerned about the significant impact underfunding of the education sector will have on the provision available to the pupils who are the very heartbeat of the Sageston CP School community. At Sageston CP School, we will regrettably have to go through a process of staff restructuring this year in order to make significant savings for the future.

Just to give one small example of the financial pressure we will be facing in the near future, our gas bill next financial year is predicted to increase from £5,400 to £21,400 and our electricity costs are predicted to increase from £5,300 to £13,400, without any additional funding in our budget. Therefore, as a school, we have to meet these significant increases ourselves.

As you all know, the staff at Sageston CP School are committed, dedicated and hard-working professionals and want nothing more than to be in the classrooms with our learners. The difficult decision staff have made over strike action, is about ensuring we are given the proper financial backing to do the very best for our pupils – it is the least they all deserve. This industrial action is about protecting the future of education.

During any strike action, children eligible for Free School Meals will have the money paid directly into their parents'/carers' bank accounts.

There are further strike days planned for Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March. Hopefully, a resolution may be agreed before these dates. I will keep you updated about how this action may affect the school as soon as I know.

We are, as always, grateful for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Welch Headteacher