

25th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite some encouraging reports in the news, it appears that there has not yet been any resolution to the dispute between the National Education Union (NEU) and the Department for Education. We have to assume that the strike action planned for Thursday 2nd March will take place. As a consequence, we will have to close the school for the day for the vast majority of students.

As on the previous strike day, it is important that we respond to the needs of our students whilst we also respect the rights of our staff to have their voices heard and to make a stand. We will make provision for vulnerable students to be able to attend school and be supervised here. We will also be opening the school to a targeted group of students in Year 11 and Year 13. Families of students eligible for Free School Meals will be receiving a voucher. Teachers who are not striking have been asked to set work on Satchel One and all students should log in to Satchel One to see if they have tasks to complete. If you have any questions or concerns about the arrangements outlined above, please contact the school at admin@hws.haringey.sch.uk.

Whilst writing, I would like to alert you to some important changes to our Behaviour Policy. As of Monday 27th February, we will no longer be holding same day detentions. Instead, students whose conduct warrants a detention will be required to attend their one-hour detention the following school day. This will be communicated to the student and their parents through Satchel One. Whilst this new system becomes established, we will also be notifying families by text message. If the student fails to attend the scheduled detention, it will result in an automatic one day's isolation. We believe this will help students take more responsibility for their own actions whilst at the same time allowing any students who have obligations after school to make alternative arrangements.

As you will be aware, we are now using Satchel One not only for homework and for alerting families to their children's positive achievements and/or any negative behaviour issues, but also for sharing their school reports. The majority of parents and carers now have their own account on the system, but if you have not yet set up yours please email Mr Ashman (tas@hws.haringey.sch.uk) to get the set-up information that is required.

Families should be aware that we will shortly be sending out information regarding Free School Meals. We are moving to administer the process for determining eligibility and believe this will enable families to see much more easily and swiftly if their children are entitled to FSM. More details about this will be circulated very shortly.

CONSIDERATION • COOPERATION • COURTESY • CONTRIBUTION



Highgate Wood School supports individual actions to address the issues of Climate Change and promotes the United Nations top 10 recommendations



5-Minute showers



Drive less



Lights off



Local produce



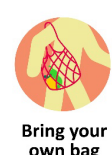
Refill and reuse



Meat-free meals



Zero waste fashion



Bring your own bag



Recycle



Unplug

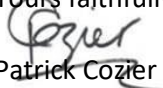
You will know that the Highgate Wood School Breakfast Club started last week and I am pleased to confirm that this will be continuing at least for the rest of this term. Later this weekend you will receive the link for a booking sheet if your child or children would like to attend. The Breakfast Club is open from 7:30am.

At the request of Haringey Council and our own Sustainability Society I would also like to draw your attention to Haringey's Destination 50% recycling target. Currently the recycling rate in the borough is around 30% and the aim is to get that to 50% by 2030. There are many recycling services across Haringey, so all local businesses, schools, children and their families can get involved and play their part. To begin with the council would like families to complete an initial survey. Click [here](#) to access this. We will share more about this initiative as it develops.

I will, of course, alert you should the position regarding the strike on Thursday change. If you wish to read the rationale of the NEU for the strike action please visit their [website](#).

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Patrick Cozier
Headteacher