**Update February 3rd 2023**

**Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),**

**We have all settled into term two of this academic year and our children continue to work hard and enjoy their days at school. There is a feeling of Spring in the air and soon our children will be able to enjoy more of their learning outdoors.**

**The weeks ahead are punctuated with holidays which always make the time pass more quickly. Mid-term break is February 16th and 17th. The children return to school on Monday 20th February.**

**Strike Action**

**As you will have seen on the news, three teachers’ unions have declared strike action on Tuesday, February 21st. This is a half day strike with members of the teaching unions returning for work at 12 noon.**

**In the interest of health and safety, the decision has been taken to close the school to pupils for the duration of the morning. The school will open for lessons at 12 noon. Mrs McEvoy will be in the yard from 12 noon to direct children to their classes. Children are to go straight to class through their usual entrance.**

**Parents can take their children to Nursery at 12 noon as usual for the afternoon session.**

**Dinners will be served from 12.15pm. To help with organisation, the menu for Tuesday 21st has been changed to one option, ‘All in a Bag’ – chips, chicken nuggets and cocktail sausages. We will be asking your children to order Tuesday’s dinner on Monday so we will have the numbers in advance. If your child is in school in the afternoon of February 21st, strike action will not impact your child’s attendance.**

**Industrial Action Short of Strike**

**Action short of strike also continues. It is hoped that this action will have less impact on your child’s education, but it does have some direct implications. At the start of each term, it has been our practice to furnish parents with a curriculum overview in order to help you support us with your child’s learning. We also send home your child’s class books to allow you to see their progress and to give you further insight into the provision your child is receiving. We have been instructed by the INTO union to suspend these practices during action short of strike.**

**Uniform**

**Please visit the school and take a look at the two choices of uniform in the foyer. Letters have been sent home this week asking you to vote for your preferred option. Photographs will also be posted on our website.**

**Parentpay**

**Thank you very much for your support in signing up to this resource. While there are still a few teething difficulties, it is proving very successful.**

**Please note, school begins at 9.00am and registration closes at 9.15am. Your child arriving to school after this time will impact their attendance.**

**Confirmation and First Holy Communion**

**I am finalising arrangements for the sacraments and letters will go to the relevant classes later this week, detailing times, locations and number of people permitted to attend depending on which chapel the ceremonies take place.**

**Thank you very much for your continued support.**

**Le meas,**

**Pauline McEvoy**

**Principal**