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**Headteacher:** Rebecca Mackenzie

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Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re. Upcoming Strike Action**

Following on from my last letter about National Education Union strike action, I am writing to share arrangements for the upcoming strike on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

As shared previously, strikes will be taking place across the country on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March because of a national dispute about teachers' pay and school funding. Striking staff are hoping that their actions will encourage progress in the negotiation process. While striking staff acknowledge and apologise for the pressure that strikes place on families, they are seeking to safeguard educational quality and ensure that standards for staff and children are protected now and in the future. Staff who take strike action are not paid. At a time of financial tension, this sacrifice is not taken lightly.

Unless strikes are cancelled by the National Education Union, De Beauvoir will be closed for most pupils on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and is likely to be closed for most pupils on subsequent strike days. On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, school will be open for Year 6 pupils and their siblings. Year 6 have SATs in May and have been preparing for these tests and for secondary school. Having considered the situation carefully, I have decided that Miss Mather and I will be teaching Year 6 booster classes on this day. To make it fairer for Year 6 children and easier for their parents / carers, we will also be providing childcare / learning activities for siblings of children in Year 6 if parents / carers need this.

If your child is in Year 6 you will have received an additional letter with this letter. Please return the slip from this letter to the office.

I will let you know immediately if anything changes with regard to the strike dates or school opening. I would like to assure you that we remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all pupils and to delivering high-quality teaching and learning experiences.

I will be available on the school gate to discuss any concerns that you may have.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Mackenzie

Headteacher

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