

St. Catherine's Primary School

Principal: Mrs Bridget Wilders B.Ed. P.G. Dip.Ed. P.Q.H.

Junior School

Newtownkennedy St. Site

Strabane

Co.Tyrone

BT82 8HT

Phone:02871382272

Fax:02871 382139



Senior School

Barrack St. Site

Strabane

Co. Tyrone

BT82 8HE

Phone: 02871 382614

Fax: 02871 382482

Email: bwilders592@c2kni.net

www.stcatherinesps.co.uk

Download our FREE APP : St Catherines PS,Strabane

Find us on Facebook: StCatherines PrimarySchool

Follow us on Twitter : [StCatherinesPS](#)

Follow us on Instagram : [St Catherine's Primary School](#)

9th February 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

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 we wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

How will strike action affect St. Catherine's Nursery and Primary school?

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(es) 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.



Eco Flag Award Winner 2022



Northern Ireland's leading local cancer charity

Gold Award Winner 2019

Therefore as Principal and in consultation with the Board of Governors I have determined the school will be:

- Closed until 12.15pm on Tuesday 21st February for Primary 1 – Primary 7 pupils.
- Nursery will be open for Nursery pupils from 12.15pm until 1.30pm on that day and can avail of school dinner if they wish.
- Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2 Pupils should enter school through the same doors that they use every morning but on this day no earlier than 12.15pm (so that staff will be there to receive them)
- Year 3 and 4 pupils should line up at their usual places outside the Junior School no earlier than 12.15pm where staff will escort them into school.
- Year 5,6, and 7 pupils should line up at their usual places outside the Senior School no earlier than 12.15pm where staff will escort them into school.
- School Dinners will operate as normal from 12.15pm. Children who normally bring their own packed lunch to school for lunchtime may do so as usual on this day.

Due to this day happening straight after our mid-term break and to give the school canteen an idea of numbers can you indicate on the survey <https://forms.office.com/e/M5vLJrLVxW> if your child or children will be taking dinners on Tuesday 21st February (free or paying). (Menu on this day will be Chicken nuggets and chips with ice cream dessert). Please complete the survey NO LATER THAN 12 NOON on MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. We 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.

We thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding in this matter.

Kind Regards

Bridget Wilders
Principal



Eco Flag Award Winner 2022



Northern Ireland's leading local cancer charity

Gold Award Winner 2019