COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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21 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Parent Update: Summer Industrial Action Days
Collis Partially Closed on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Some of our staff members who belong to the National Education Union (NEU) have decided to support their Union in the National Industrial Action over two days of planned Industrial Action. As you know, the reason for the industrial action is that: *the NEU is in a formal trade dispute with the Secretary of State for Education because she has failed to give the undertaking sought by the NEU to make available additional and sufficient funds to allow employers (schools) to pay a fully funded increase in teachers' pay at a rate greater than inflation (as measured by September 2022 RPI).*
There is also serious concern that teachers are leaving the profession at an alarming rate due to workload and pay.

Reluctantly, this necessitates partially closing the school for the classes that are affected by the Industrial Action. Some classes are closed for two days, others one day, while some classes will remain open. The school will remain open for those classes not affected by the action.

I am writing to give you as much notice as possible so that you can make arrangements if your child's class is not open on the proposed strike days. Teachers are not compelled to inform their head teacher of their plans to strike. It is therefore impossible to know until the morning of each strike day whether the class will have a teacher. As such, it is vital that parents plan for alternative childcare. However, the Collis NEU staff have kindly updated the school of their plans so we can update parents in good time of the proposed strike days.

If your child is in one of the following classes, the school **will be closed** to them on **Thursday 27 April *and/or* Tuesday 2nd May**. Please check the dates carefully.

Classes affected by the Industrial Action:
Foxes (both days), Owls (both days)
1M (both days), ID (both days) 1L (open Thursday / closed Tuesday)
2WL (open Thursday/ closed Tuesday)
3F (both days), 3M (closed Thursday/ open Tuesday), 3LG (open Thursday/ closed Tuesday)
4D (both days), 4K (both days), 4HK (both days)
5F (both days), 5M (both days), 5H (both days), 5W (Closed Thursday/ open Tuesday)

Classes not affected and <u>open</u> both days

Nursery – all classes (Mrs Saunders will be supporting the Industrial Action although on this occasion Bees class will remain open).

Badgers 2H 2B Year 6 (all classes open)

The Year 6 teachers support the Industrial action but are not striking because of the closeness to SATS.

The Year 2 team has decided not take Industrial action on the planned days of the visit to the Florence Nightingale Museum *and/or* to the closeness to SATS.

During strike days there will be no arrangements put in place to cover the class of a teacher who has chosen to strike, meaning there will be no school for that class on that given day. Collis School will remain open for all other classes.

We are not in a position to cover classes with other members of staff for safety and legal reasons. I recognise the difficulties that this will cause our families especially with siblings in different classes. Unfortunately, I am not able to authorise absence unless the child's class is closed.

The CATS (breakfast & afterschool clubs) and Forest School will still take place.
The following clubs will run:
Thursday: lunchtime Basketball, lunchtime Lacrosse, Football Yrs 3/4 and Hockey Yrs 5/6
Tuesday: Coding, lunchtime Boys' Football, Art and Table Tennis (TBC).

If you wish, you can bring your child to these activities even if their class is closed for the day. Lunchtime basketball will run.

If you have any serious issues due to the partial school closure, please contact the Head Teacher via the school office.

If this situation changes we will notify you immediately.

Yours faithfully

K J. Hogston

Kevin Hogston
Head Teacher

SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2021/22
Helen Arkell 2016 Believe Achieve Succeed The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust
National Support School designated by National College for Teaching & Leadership
PRIMARY SCIENCE QUALITY MARK SILVER AWARD
STARS A TfL COMMUNITY PROJECT Gold level accreditation 2019
Ofsted Outstanding School 2014|2015