



BEARWOOD Primary and Nursery School

Headteacher Mrs Laura Bennett
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Learning, Enjoying & Succeeding Together

27th February 2023

Dear Parents,

I am sure you are aware that there are a series of regional strikes being held by the National Education Union next week. In the South-West region teachers will be taking industrial action on Thursday 2nd March in an ongoing dispute over declining levels of pay (in real terms) and wider, deep-seated concerns over the direction of education and funding levels within schools.

Once again, the teaching staff at Bearwood Primary & Nursery School have held a meeting as a group and made a collective decision over how we wish to proceed with this on this occasion. Whilst we understand the reasons for the action being taken, and fully support the need for it, **we have once again taken the decision not to strike as it will inconvenience you, the parents, who we work in partnership with.**

It is, however, really important to stress that this decision only relates to the action being taken on 2nd March 2023, and we reserve the right to change this approach for future dates if we feel it is necessary. The staff are increasingly frustrated that the Government does not appear to be listening to the very real concerns being raised by the teaching profession. It is therefore likely that the staff's position will harden in the future if there is no meaningful dialogue and genuine negotiation from the Department for Education.

The staff have also asked me to thank parents for the many, many expressions of support that we have had throughout this period. Not just for not striking, as many people felt we actually should be, but in support of the work we do, and the need for our concerns to be heard. This has been very heartening, and I am sure we can all agree that an education system which is properly funded, and provides the resources that the children need, is something that should be the cornerstone of every decent and well-functioning society.

Thank you for your continuing support, and on behalf of the whole staff.

Peter Leddin
Business Manager



(Working Days: Monday & Tuesday 8:30 – 4:30)

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