Our ref: RM/AL

Wednesday, 29 June 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you of two events next week which will have an impact on our school, on you as parents and carers as well as our students.

**Industrial Action – Tuesday 5th July 2016**

Due to the planned industrial action by the National Union of Teachers (NUT), I anticipate a reduction in the number of teaching staff available for work next Tuesday. In view of this, the **school will be closed** to Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

This action is not against the school itself but is part of national industrial action. There is no requirement on unions to inform us of which members of staff will take action, but we have been advised that this will involve a significant number of our teachers.

Neither the Governing Body, nor the Headteacher is legally allowed to close the school ‘in sympathy’ with the strike; however, our main concern is the safety of our students. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly, but in this instance, where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, I will have no choice but to take the appropriate step of closing the school to ensure the health, safety and well-being of all students.

I am aware that this school closure is an inconvenience to parents and carers and so I am writing to give you advance notice. I apologise for the late notice and change in the arrangements, but sadly these events are out of my control. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

**Eid-Ul-Fitr – Wednesday 6th July**

School will be closed for **Eid-Ul-Fitr** on Wednesday 6th July.

I'd like to send my very best wishes to everyone observing the holy month of Ramadan. Ramadan is a shining example of how through sacrificing day-to-day luxuries, prayer, fasting, empathy, charity, devotion and family time to celebrate the values of Islam, humanity can come together in a positive way for a common good. I pay tribute to all who take part and I know that people of all faiths and beliefs will join in reflecting on the plight of those suffering around the world.

During this time family and friends have been coming together, in contemplation and in fasting and we at Plashet have been reminded of our shared values of community, family, charity and working for a fairer society. As families and communities come together next week for Eid-Ul-Fitr, I hope we can all reflect on the universal values that Ramadan represents and the contribution British Muslims make to our country. On behalf of all at Plashet School, I wish you Eid Mubarak.

Yours faithfully



Rachel McGowan

Headteacher