



ANN EDWARDS CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving in a caring community

"Do to others what you would want them to do to you." - Matthew 7:12

Our special chosen Bible story is the Parable of The Good Samaritan.

Friday 27th January 2023

Newsletter No 7

- Headteacher's Welcome
- Entitlement to Free School Meals
- Safeguarding
- NEU Strike Action
- Key Dates

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing this having literally just watched the wonderful video Mrs Horne put together of the Young Voices concert last night. The children sang their hearts out and enjoyed performances from all different musical genres as well as singing along with Heather Small! Firstly, I would like to thank all of the staff, parents and carers who made this possible through various levels of support from helping their children to practice to helping on the day to being part of the audience for this amazing show, and also to Mrs Jones and Mrs Partridge for giving up their time each week to run the choir. It is so important for children to have opportunities such as this (and things like our bicentenary outdoor concert last summer) and we are so proud of how they conducted themselves and threw themselves so whole-heartedly into everything the event had to offer. It is worth noting that if your child is in Year 3 and interested in joining the choir, they will be able to take part very soon! Watch out for a letter from Mrs Jones.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA and everyone who has supported their events as the funds raised are really helping us to be able to continue to enhance our curriculum and offer enrichment activities. Please find their latest newsletter attached.

Entitlement to Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed then you may now be eligible for your child/ren to receive free school meals. Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

We provide a £50 Co-Op voucher for each new family that is provided with free school meals.

You can apply or find out more information via this link:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Safeguarding

As children are spending more and more time online and internet-accessing devices are more commonplace, please have a look at the following website which provides a range of important information, even for the youngest children. Topics and facilities include:

- Parents & carers have found these topics helpful -
 - 4-7s interactive website
 - Band Runner online safety game for 8-10s
 - Gaming: What parents and carers need to know



- #AskTheAwkward
- What is sexual grooming?
- The Dark Web explained
- Keeping your under 5 safe online
- Using parental controls
- What to do if you're concerned about your child

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

NEU Strike Action

As communicated last week, the National Education Union (NEU), which represents twelve of our teachers, has announced several days of national and regional action in England on the following dates in the coming months. Therefore, as the situation stands at present, our school will be affected on:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Thursday 2nd March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

NEU members are not required to tell us, their employer, if they are members of this union or if they are planning to strike. This means it is not possible for us to run the school as usual because we will not know which staff are not in school until the first day of industrial action, Wednesday 1st February 2023. Consequently, it is not possible to guarantee adequate staffing levels, additional needs support and the routine and regulation that children require to feel secure, particularly those more vulnerable children, meaning that school will be closed for pupils and remote learning signposted instead.

Industrial action can be fluid and it is hard to know at this stage exactly how all of this might yet play out, whether the dispute will be settled or whether there will be further periods of action. It is also worth noting that this week both NAHT and NASUWT confirmed they are considering re-balloting members as the vote for industrial action took place during a postal strike.

I will write to you again with an update of what we can put in place safely for the other three dates currently being ear-marked for strike action. Options under consideration, depending on staffing levels available, include opening for disadvantaged and vulnerable children by invitation, being available for particular year groups or opening for critical workers. In the meantime, please be aware of these dates in the event that your child may not be able to physically attend school.

Finally, please be aware that you will not be able to communicate with teachers via Class Dojo or Purple Mash on Wednesday 1st February and work completed that day will not be marked or assessed. I will post relevant information on each class' Dojo page on Tuesday to help you prepare for the following day. The school office will be open during normal working hours and I will be on site to continue to manage any child welfare and safeguarding concerns that may arise. If your child is entitled to free school meals then please ensure you have seen our email about how we can provide a meal that day.

Information about why the NEU is taking this action can be found here: <https://neu.org.uk/press-releases/neu-take-strike-action-over-pay>.

Did you know?

...That we are focusing on developing the implementation of our Geography curriculum this year. You can find out more here: <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/information/curriculum-information/geography-curriculum/>.

Yours Sincerely



Ian Moore
Headteacher

Key Dates:

Strike Action
First Aid Champions Week
1st Aid Champions Week - Skip Hop workshops
PTA Disco
Last day of term
Half term
Strike Action
Ann Edwards Book Day

Wednesday 1st February
Monday 13th - Friday 17th February
Thursday 16th- Friday 17th February
Thursday 16th February
Friday 17th February (3pm finish)
Monday 20th February – Friday 24th February
Thursday 2nd March
Friday 3rd March



Strike Action	Wednesday 15 th March
Strike Action	Thursday 16 th March
Red Nose Day	Friday 17 th March
Tempest Class Photos	Tuesday 21 st March
Prayer Space Week – Spirituality garden focus	W/C 27 th March – am or pm session
Parents’ Evening - 10-minute phone calls	Tuesday 28 th & Thursday 30 th March
Easter Church Service (Yr3/4 parents/carers)	Friday 31 st March 9.30am – 10.30am
Last day of term	Friday 31 st March (1.30pm finish)
Easter Holidays	Monday 3 rd April – Friday 14 th April
First day of term	Monday 17 th April
Yr5 Cycling Proficiency	Monday 17 th April – Friday 28 th April
KS1 SATS	1-31 st May
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st May
PTA King’s Coronation Fete	Thursday 4 th May 5pm – 6.30pm
Bank Holiday for the Coronation	Monday 8 th May
KS2 SATS	W/C 8 th May
Last day of term	Friday 26 th May (3pm finish)
PTA Street Fair Family BBQ	Sunday 28 th May
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June
Yr4 Multiplication Check	W/C 5 th June – 3 week window
Inset Day	Monday 5 th June
First day of term	Tuesday 6 th June
Yr1 Phonic Screening	W/C 12 th June
EYFS New parents meeting	Tuesday 13 th June
Experience Church Yr1 & Yr2	Wednesday 14 th June
Year 6 Leavers Service – Gloucester Cathedral	Wednesday 14 th June
Armed Forces Day	Friday 23 rd June
Sports Day	Friday 7 th July
Yr6 dress rehearsal to school	Monday 10 th July Pm
Yr6 performances to parents	Tuesday 11 th July PM and Thursday 13 th July evening
Prayer space week	W/C 17 th July
Y6 Leaving event	Monday 24 th July
Last day of term	Tuesday 25 th July (1.30pm finish)