20th January 2023

Christ is our light

NEU Industrial Action

Souls' Cath

As I am sure that you are aware, the largest education union in the UK, the NEU, has announced that its members will be taking industrial action across the country in the coming weeks in relation to the national pay agreement and how it is funded by the government. A number of dates have been announced, with some of these being national and others regional. The dates of the proposed strike action for NEU members that would impact All Souls are as follows:

> Wednesday 1st February 2023 (National) Wednesday 1st March 2023 (West Midlands) Wednesday 15th March 2023 (National) Thursday 16th March 2023 (National)

We are currently in the process of assessing the impact that the proposed industrial action will have on staffing levels across the school. Once this is complete, we will inform you of outcome and how this may affect yourselves and your children. I would like to reassure parents though that, in line with government guidance, it is our intention to take all reasonable steps to keep the school open for as many pupils as possible on these dates.

We are sorry about the potential disruption to children's education but know that you will appreciate that this action is part of a specific national agenda. Thank you for your support and understanding at this challenging time.

Attendance								
Attendance for the week ending 6 th January 2023								
Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School	Whole School Year to date
94.7%	99.0%	88.7%	96.3%	96.3%	93.3%	93.2%	94.5%	93.3%

_	Late marks (before the close of register) recorded for the week ending $6^{ m tn}$ December:							
	Monday 16/1	Tuesday 17/1	Wednesday 18/1	Thursday 19/1	Friday 20/1	Total		
	6	8	3	5	3	25		

Last week saw an improvement in whole school attendance which I hope signals a continual rise in weekly figures. Congratulations to Year 1 for achieving 99%. Whilst still much higher than we would like, the number of children late this week also improved significantly from last week's figures. This is something else which really must continue to improve. Being late on an odd occasion, as a result of circumstances which are out of our control in completely understandable. Where children are repeatedly late, however, this is likely be down to a poor or inconsistent routine and I urge parents to make changing this a priority so that their child's education is not impacted by their punctuality.

Year 2 need your magazines!

If you have any old magazines that include pictures of food, Year 2 would be most grateful for them so they can use the pictures for their upcoming art project. Please send them in with your child and ask that they drop them off to the Year 2 classroom. Many thanks for your support.



On Wednesday, our girl's football and netball teams both had away events. The Year 4 girls headed back to the AT7 for the next round of their tournament. The girls again played 3 matches against Holbrooks, Pearl Hyde and St Patrick's Primary. They went out confidently and won the first match 3-0, drew 0-0 on the second and won again in their final match 3-1. The girls played amazingly in every game and it was great to see them enjoying playing football again. Great work girls! Player of the match was Clara scoring 5 goals that evening.

The netball team gave their all but lost to a very strong (and tall!) team from St Osburg. The team were, however, graceful in defeat and are determined to improve ready for their next match. Player of the match was Macie.

Young Voices 2023

Huge congratulations to our amazing choir who performed beautifully at the Young Voices concert. They worked so hard to rehearse all of the songs and were wonderful representatives of the school. A big thanks to Miss Clarke, Mrs Elkins and Mrs Croarken for dedicating their time to practice sessions and supporting the children at the event.



Open evenings - save the date!

We will be holding open evenings from 3:30pm on 28th February and 1st March. Please keep these dates in your diary; we will let you know when online booking opens.



Date	Year	Event	Time
Mon 23 rd Jan	5	Visiting the Library	AM
Tues 24 th Jan	2&5	Class mass – all welcome!	9:30am
Weds 25 th Jan	Piano	Piano Assembly	9am
	Team	Y5 & Y6 Football-v-SJV (home)	3:30pm
Thurs 26 th Jan	5	Trip to Coombe Abbey	AM
	Team	Netball-v-SJV (home)	3:30pm
Fri 27 th Jan	Y2	Non-uniform – yellow and blue	All day
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Y2 Non-Uniform Day

Year 2 will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 27th January to support the Ukraine appeal. They may come to school wearing yellow and blue items. Donations to the charity are optional but very much appreciated!



YEAR 3 & 4 EASTER PLAY

Save the dates of our Easter play in which Year 3 and Year 4 will be performing:

> 28th March at 9:30am 29th March at 2pm

We will be in touch nearer the time regarding booking tickets.

Outstanding Payments

All outstanding payments for trips/events need to be paid as soon as possible. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please be reassured that you can contact Mrs Rae in complete confidence for assistance relating to the payments due.