

# St. Mary's Primary School Cabragh

10 Whites Road, Cabragh, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, BT70 3AN

Telephone: (028) 8776 7356

Principal: Mrs Louise Quinn



15<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I am writing to advise you that the Education Authority (EA) have notified all schools today, that members of the three Non-Teaching unions (UNITE the Union, GMB and NIPSA) are being called to take part in strike action across a number of days in May and June in relation to a trade dispute linked to the EA Pay and Grading Review. Members include bus drivers, school catering staff, classroom assistants, cleaners and other support workers. This is a dispute between Non -Teaching unions and the employers; it is not a dispute with the school.

The Non - Teaching unions are planning to take industrial action on the following dates:

- **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**
- **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024**
- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May (NIPSA BUS DRIVERS & UNITE THE UNION MEMBERS ONLY)**
- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

The action by **GMB and NIPSA** will result in disruption to normal school provision. Where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, we will have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of all pupils.

We know that strike action is an inconvenience to parents and so I am writing to give you advance notice of the likely impact of the action on St Mary's.

If the action does go ahead, the following arrangements will be in place.

The school will be open all day on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> June. You may experience a disruption to EA home to school transport. Pupils who are supported by a classroom assistant may experience reduced provision. The school cook has informed me that the school kitchen will **not** operate on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** and therefore pupils are required to **bring a packed lunch** (this includes pupils in receipt of free school meals). **The school kitchen will operate on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.**

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kind regards,

*Louise Quinn*