



Friday 20th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

This week's letter comes to you during continued turbulent times nationally. You will be aware from the press that NEU members have voted for strike action and I set out below some initial information about this. Look out for further, more detailed, information next week.

Quick read

- Industrial action is planned to take place in schools across several days this term. Look out for various information relating to this next week.
- The UCAS deadline for Y12 is 25th January at 6pm.
- Y13 assessments take place w/c 30th January and students will be on study leave. Assessments will continue as normal on the strike day.
- The Y9 option process commences shortly; look out for a letter from Mr McGreal next week.
- Between 6th and 24th February, Y7 and 8 students will be taking part in Stokesley Schools [Read for Good Readathon](#).

Longer read

Potential Industrial Action

The NEU has announced national and regional action in England on the following dates (the ones affecting our region/school are in bold):

- **Wednesday 1 February 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.**
- **Tuesday 28 February 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions: Northern, North West, Yorkshire & The Humber.**
- Wednesday 1 March 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions: East Midlands, West Midlands, Eastern.
- Thursday 2 March 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions: London, South East, South West.
- **Wednesday 15 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.**
- **Thursday 16 March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.**

I have received official notification from the NEU that they intend to call upon their members to strike. School leaders are not allowed to ask staff whether they are striking which makes planning a challenge. As there is a likelihood of our school having to close due to a high number of NEU members, we will be prioritising children of key workers and vulnerable children as we did during the covid lockdowns. Should we be confident we have enough staff to offer suitable provision, we will then look to prioritise our examination years (11 & 13) next. Please look out for correspondence from our admin team next week allowing you to register your interest in a place for your child, if eligible, should closures take place. I will also write to you next week with a full outline of our intention for the first day of strikes which is 1st February.





UCAS deadline

The equal consideration deadline for Y12 UCAS applications is 6pm on Wednesday 25th January. If students have not submitted their application by Monday 9am we can't guarantee that the necessary checks can be made in time to meet this deadline for submission. It is possible to submit applications after this deadline, but the universities are under no obligation to treat it equally and you risk not being made an offer. If you have any problems with meeting this deadline, please contact Mr McGreal.

Y13 assessments

As a reminder, Y13 assessments will be taking place in the week beginning 30th January. Students have been given a personalised timetable taking into account any changes of timing due to clashes between exams. The students will be on study leave that week so will not be expected to be in form or lessons when not in exams, although of course they may choose to go along and get any support they may require from their teachers to help them prepare. The sixth form block is available as normal for any students who wish to have a space to work during that week as well. We anticipate that industrial action during that week will not have an impact on the assessments.

Y9 GCSE options

Our Y9 GCSE options process will commence shortly. As in previous years, we will share a link to our options website that will allow you to see how the process will work and what we have on offer for the students to choose from. We are also planning a support evening in school should you need any further information or to ask any questions to help you and your child make any final decisions about courses. Further details will follow in a separate letter next week.

Read for Good Readathon

Between 6th and 24th February Y7 and 8 students will be taking part in Stokesley School's [Read for Good Readathon](#). The charity *Read for Good* encourages children to read through its unique motivational approach, inspiring reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. Pupils can choose whatever they want to read - from comics to classics and audiobooks to blogs - it's all about reading for pleasure. They should also be motivated to read because the money they raise in sponsorship helps to provide a regular supply of brand new books and a resident storyteller to every major children's hospital in the UK.

In addition to raising money for an amazing charity, our school receives free books worth 20% of our grand sponsorship total. Parents and carers of our Y7 and 8 students will have received a letter with more information, however, if any parents or carers of our other students would like to support the readathon and are able to you can still donate following this link <https://readathon.secure.force.com/sponsor>





Dates for your diary

Monday 23rd January	-	Y8 parents' evening 3:30pm-6:30pm
Friday 27th January	-	Y9 options website goes live
w/c Monday 30th January	-	Y13 formal assessments begin
Wednesday 1st February	-	Y7 settling in evening CANCELLED due to strike, new date TBC
w/c Monday 6th February	-	Y11 formal assessments begin
Wednesday 8th February	-	Y9 options parental support event
Friday 10th February	-	Last day of half term
Monday 20th February	-	Students and staff return to school
Friday 24th Feb	-	Y11 formal assessments end
Wednesday 8th March	-	Y9 options evening - 5.00pm
Monday 13th March	-	Y12 parents' evening 3.30 - 6.30pm
Monday 20th March	-	Y11 targeted parents' evening 3.30 - 6.30pm
Tuesday 28th March	-	Y10 parents' evening 3.30- 6.30pm
Friday 31st March	-	End of term (school finishes 2.15pm)
Monday 17th April	-	Students and staff return to school.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs H. L. Millett
Headteacher

