

Fylde Coast Academy Trust Mereside Primary Academy Langdale Road, Blackpool Lancashire, FY4 4RR

www.fcat.org.uk

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20th April 2023

NEU continued industrial action 27th April and 2nd May 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

The industrial dispute between Gillian Keegan, Education Secretary and the NEU has yet to be resolved. Before Easter the revised offer to teachers was uniformly rejected by the NEU and the three other large unions, NAHT, NASUWT and ASCL.

As a result the NEU has announced two further days of action on 27th April and 2nd May. On 18 May the NEU will potentially announce three further days of action in June or July unless a negotiated settlement is reached before this date. The NEU has said it will work to avoid disruption to year 11 and 13 pupils only on the days where strike action is planned.

It is possible that other unions will ballot their members for strike action as a result of their memberships' rejecting the latest offer on pay and revised terms and conditions linked to workload. We will update you with any developments if the situation changes.

In the meantime we will do our best to minimise the disruption and support all pupils who are working towards external tests and examinations during the Summer term.

The impact of the planned industrial action will mean Montgomery Academy will;

- **be open for Years 10 and 11 on Thursday 27th April** (These year groups have been selected to minimise disruption to Year 11 classes about to sit exams and some Year 10 classes completing controlled assessments)
- be open for Years 8 and 11 on Tuesday 2nd May

If, as indicated above, as more dates are published for further strike action in June and July then we will look to address the balances in which year groups have been in on previous dates, whilst continuing to prioritise Year 11 until their exams are completed.

Although it has already been communicated, I will take this opportunity to remind Year 7 parents that the Progress Evening originally scheduled for Thursday 27th April has now been moved to the following week Thursday 4th May. This is due to the school not being able to guarantee that teachers would be available on the strike day to fulfil their appointments.

Unlike previous strike days, pupils entitled to free school meals can only pick up a packed lunch on Wednesday 26th April as on 1st May schools will be closed for the Bank Holiday. Vulnerable pupils will be able to attend school on both days in keeping with the arrangements in place from previous strike days.

Pupils working at home on either day will be provided with suitable work to complete at home during the day.

I apologise for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience and understanding whilst NEU members remain in dispute with the Secretary of State for Education.

Yours faithfully

