

St Joseph's Primary School

Carnacaville 25 Carnacaville Road, Maghera, Newcastle, Co. Down BT33 0JS Tel: 028 437 22185 www.carnacavilleps.com



Principal: Mr Christopher McCann Bsc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may be aware, the INTO and other teachers' unions are planning to take industrial action on the morning of **Tuesday 21st January 2023**. This is a dispute between teacher unions and the employers; it is not a dispute with the school.

The action, (a half-day strike), will result in class or whole school closures across Northern Ireland.

St. Joseph's will be closed due to this industrial action until 12:00 noon on Tuesday 21st February.

Parents are welcome to bring their child to school for the afternoon session. <u>Please be aware the school</u> <u>will not be open until 12:00 noon so pupils must not be dropped off before this as staff will not be</u> <u>available to supervise.</u>

Reception Class are welcome to attend at 12 noon along with all other children and their class will run for the afternoon session. Please ensure they have a snack with them for the afternoon. Reception pupils can be collected at 3:00pm.

School meals will be available for all P1 – P7 pupils so please ensure all dinner bookings are made in advance. Meals will be served from 12:30pm. <u>After school activities will continue as normal with AB</u> <u>Coaching.</u>

Please note that your child's non-attendance due to strike action will not be counted as an absence on their attendance record.

Given the inconvenience caused for parents/carers, the decision to close the school is never taken lightly. However, in this instance, where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, I have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the pupils.

The trade unions have stated that they will continue to seek a resolution and if the industrial action is averted, I will advise parents accordingly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kind Regards,

Christopher McCann

Christopher McCann Principal

