



Friday 17th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of the week, just a reminder that we finish today for the half term break and school reopens at the normal time on Monday 27th February.

Industrial action in schools on Tuesday 28th February.

As mentioned previously, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced strike action in the North West of England on the 28th February 2023 which is the first Tuesday after half term. I would like to reiterate that this is not action against the school but is about national concerns over teachers' pay and working conditions and the funding levels for schools.

It appears unlikely that there will be any national agreements reached before then and I am therefore sharing our provisional plans for operating safely and sensibly on this second strike day – Tuesday, 28th February. The only basis for closing a school is if it cannot be **safely** operated and all schools will take different approaches depending upon the number of NEU members within each school. I have been informed at this stage that a significant number of our teachers are again joining the strike on this day and based on this evidence there is a high probability that the school will be **closed for all students** except those who are most vulnerable.

The school will be open for students in all years who have an Education, Health and Care Plan, are Looked After Children or where safeguarding needs are otherwise identified by school; these families and carers will be notified in advance.

I must make it clear however, that **these plans may change** nearer the time, or even on the day of the strike, depending on any new information I receive or if there are any changes to the national position of the NEU. We will notify you in due course of remote learning arrangements where staff not involved in the industrial action are available to set work online.

Dates for your diary

Monday 27 th February	School reopens at normal time after the half term break
Tuesday 28 th February	Proposed industrial action in schools (see above)
Thursday 2 nd March	Year 9 Options Information Evening
Monday 6 th March	Year 7 and 8 Character Awards
Thursday 9 th March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 14 th March	Year 9 Industry Event (Careers Education, Information and Guidance)
Friday 31 st March	School breaks up for the two week Easter holiday
	Ski trip departs

Sports Bulletin

Congratulations to the Year 9 boys' and girls' athletics teams who both won the silver medal at the indoor Off the Blocks competition on Wednesday. We are very proud of every one of our competitors and there were some outstanding individual performances.

The Year 8 Off the Blocks competition takes place at Hyde after half term with the heats on Wednesday 1st March - good luck Team Hyde!



Character Curriculum

Our Year 7 and 8 students have been working really hard since the start of the year on their Character Development projects. 129 fantastic students have been successful in their submissions and have been invited to our Awards Ceremony on Monday 6th March at 6pm to receive their awards. If you have received an invitation, please accept via ParentPay and indicate how many guests will be attending; we look forward to seeing you there to celebrate your child's achievements.

Library Books

Should any overdue library books come to light over the half term break, we would be very grateful for their return when school reopens. Many thanks!

Charity Bake Sale

After the devastating earthquake which impacted Turkey and Syria recently Team Hyde came together this week and raised a brilliant £900 to support those affected by the devastation with a charity bake sale! A huge thank you to everyone who supported or donated to this endeavour and to Miss Mahboob and her team of pupils for making it happen.

Barcelona 2023

Thank you for your patience in regards to the MFL trip to Barcelona in September. Subject to pricing and availability we are hoping to launch the trip immediately after half term. Please keep an eye out for updates and please be aware there may be a fast turnaround for deposits to secure the best prices.

Can you help with our 'world of work' event on 14th March?

We are running an event on Tuesday 14th March (8:30am-10:00am) where year 9 students interview people about their jobs to learn more about the world of work. If this is something you'd be interested in supporting please email admin@hydehighschool.uk putting 'options' in the title.

9 Gateway Trip

The Year 9 Gateway Group attended the University of Manchester to learn more about university life. The group were amazing and got involved in everything.



A farewell

Today marks the retirement of our longest serving member of staff after 50 years (yes, **50 years!**) working at our school. Mr Keates joined the school in 1973, even before its move to Old Road and has worked here as a teacher and later a technician ever since. Over the years he has given so many extra hours of his time to Year 7 Camp, school shows, supporting the Formula One in Schools team, training lighting crews and stage hands, Hyde on Tour on the market square and countless other endeavours. He is our mender of all things and a kind and clever man; this is definitely the end of an era. I know that many ex pupils remember Mr Keates from their own school days here (and yes, the rumour that he had a coffin in his classroom was true ... but it was just a prop for the show Dracula Spectacular!) and on behalf of our entire team, we wish him a long and happy retirement.

Wishing all of our pupils and families a lovely half term break.

Best wishes

ARadcliffe

Andrea Radcliffe

Headteacher