

Cantrell Primary School Newsletter 24th February 2023



INDUSTRIAL ACTION. We are now able to update parents about being closed on the strike day of **Wednesday 1st March 2023**. There are many teachers here at Cantrell in the NEU, and as the union have now balloted its members and they have voted for action; they are all entitled to strike. Teachers are striking for better pay and conditions. The pay offer for most teachers in September 2022 was well below the level of inflation. To add to this ongoing challenge, the offer is not fully funded by the government, therefore schools are expected to find the money from their existing incomes, this in turn impacts on a school's ability to pay for support staff, premises, energy and resourcing for children on roll. This puts pressure on school leaders to find other ways to fund the real terms cuts and to maintain the high-quality staffing we are used to here at Cantrell. We have completed a risk assessment as required, and have concluded that given the high numbers of NEU members on our teaching staff we cannot open safely in their absence. Some classes will close to children on 1st March 2023 as the teacher is unavailable to work on this day. The next proposed strike dates are **Wednesday 15th** and **Thursday 16th March 2023** if the dispute is not resolved. The following classes will be open as normal:

1A 1B 3A 3B 6A are open as normal. All other classes should stay at home.

ATTENDANCE. Maintaining **94%** for the academic year so far. **240** children are In It To Win It week four. Children at school every day from 16th January to 24th March will receive a prize just in time for Easter! Class results for last week:

Class RA: 93.3%	Class RB: 94.9%	Class 1A: 95.2%	Class 1B: 95.5%	Class 2A: 95.6%	Class 2B: 96.6%	Class 3A: 95.7%
Class 3B: 94%	Class 4A: 95.2%	Class 4B: 94.7%	Class 5A: 97.5%	Class 5B: 95.5%	Class 6A: 96.2%	Class 6B: 98.2%

YEAR 5 PARENTS - SPECIAL ASSEMBLY INVITE – CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM CELEBRATION. A special assembly will take place on **Monday 27th February 2023** starting at 1:45pm. Parents and family members are invited to join us for this special event. If you could help with serving tea and coffee, then please approach the year 5 staff. This special assembly will be a great way for the children to demonstrate their learning and for parents to see all their hard work linked to the subjects they study. We're hoping this provides plenty of notice for you and we look forward to meeting you on the day.

HEIGHT & WEIGHT CHECKS FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION & YEAR 6. These will take place on **Thursday 2nd March** in school. If you do not want your child to take part, please telephone the school office. Please see the letter from Public Health on the school website www.cantrell.nottingham.sch.uk for more information.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM-TIME. A further reminder that no holidays are being authorised this academic year and fixed penalty fines will be issued.

SAT'S WEEK YEAR 6. These take place immediately after the Coronation Bank Holiday on **Monday 8th May**. Holidays must not be booked from Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th May inclusive. A detailed timetable of tests will follow shortly.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB FOR ALL CANTRELL CHILDREN.

We are now in a position to extend our feasibility study to every child who attends Cantrell. From Monday 27th February you can collect the new breakfast club and after school club contracts, pricing structure and terms and conditions proposed from April 1st 2023. Initially, we are making this offer to anyone wanting a full-time place at either Breakfast Club or After School Club. From Monday 6th March we will open this up to regular part-time requests. Paperwork will be set out on two tables in the foyer and can be collected from Monday. Completed contracts should be handed into the school office.

CANTRELL'S READING CHALLENGE. We eagerly await the first league table to be published on Monday. Look out on ClassDojo to see where your child's class is. A bit of competitive spirit taking place in school!

OUR LIBRARY LAUNCH AT CANTRELL. On Thursday 2nd March, World Book Day, we will be launching the new books and resources that have been generously given to us by The National Literacy Trust. The library will be open for parents and their children to join us from 3:30 – 4:00pm and every following Thursday after school to browse through the books, read to your child and for your child to read to you. Reading is a life skill but it's also fun! Come and join us! **WORLD BOOK DAY DRESSING UP.** We are celebrating this event by dressing up on **Friday 3rd March**, linking it to **OUR MIGHTY FRIDAY READING MORNING.** Children can dress up as a book character, or wear their pyjamas, comfy clothes and bring their teddy and favourite story. Please check ClassDojo as some classes are planning a slightly varied approach to the day. World Book Day tokens to the value of a £1 deduction, for a book or audio book costing £2.99 or more, will be given to the children.

YEAR 4 PARENTS SPECIAL ASSEMBLY INVITE – CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM CELEBRATION. A special assembly will take place on **Friday 10th March 2023** starting at **1:45pm.** Parents and family members are invited to join us for this special event. If you could help with serving tea and coffee, then please approach the year 4 staff. Rumours include parent's being invited to take part in a quiz with a bottle of red wine as the winning prize. This special assembly will be a great way for the children to demonstrate their learning and for parents to see all their hard work linked to the subjects they study. We're hoping this provides plenty of notice for you and we look forward to meeting you on the day.

INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME BUT CHILDREN SHARE A DEVICE TO DO THEIR HOMEWORK. Thank you to those who have been to discuss this. We will be in touch with families very soon.

***** COMMUNITY NEWS *****

Please claim what you are entitled to. If you are eligible for free school meals for your children, please claim them. This can ease financial pressures families are facing by saving parents up to £437 per year. Primary school children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals that are free for all children in Government-funded schools. Just ask to have school meals at your school office. If your circumstances have changed your children may be able to continue having free school meals after year 2. Please check your eligibility here and apply for Free School Meals at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. Our catering service Eat Culture, Nottingham Catering provides freshly prepared hot meals for many city schools in a warm, friendly dining hall. Their meals meet school food standards for children's nutritional needs and are healthy, balanced and enjoyable.