

17 April 2008

Dear Parent/Carer

**Industrial action – Thursday 24 April 2008**

As you may have read in the press, the National Union of Teachers recently balloted its members on strike action in protest at the Government's pay award. Members have voted in favour and the first strike action is scheduled for Thursday 24 April 2008.

Headteachers across St Albans and Harpenden have been consulting with NUT representatives in their schools in order to assess the impact on classes and make a decision about the viability of remaining open on that day. The number of NUT members varies from school to school. Each school has its own issues around the availability of accommodation in which larger groups of students can be supervised if required. The extent to which the health and safety of students is compromised by the absence of key staff is the principal concern of each Headteacher. Consequently some schools may have no option but to close, whilst others will open for a limited number of year groups or will open for all.

I have discussed the situation with the Chair of Governors, and I have decided that at Beaumont School we will remain open for Year 10 students taking internal examinations, for Year 11 students taking external examinations and for Year 12 and 13 students whose teachers are not on strike. Year 12 and 13 students should check with their subject teachers early next week to ascertain which, if any, lessons have been cancelled. This will be the case for Consortium lessons as well.

Therefore, the school will be closed to all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 and non-examination students on Thursday 24 April 2008.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Hitch (Mrs)  
Headteacher