



3 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

NEU Strike Action, We Will Rock You, Safer Internet Day 2023 - Dan's Big Fat Online Safety Quiz 7 February 6 - 7pm, ChatHub, Anti-Bullying Alliance Fundraising & Parent Governor Vacancy

Welcome to my weekly update letter.

In a week dominated by strike action across the public sector and discussions around pay and funding, we end the week in reasonable fettle. We have seen a successful Personal Development Day with visitors into the Academy, including a mock trial. In addition, trustees visited on Wednesday to oversee how we accommodate mathematics and English across the curriculum. All staff updated their Prevent anti-radicalisation training too. As we move towards half-term with just a week left and no idea where Christmas went as the time has flown, I have a few less updates for you, but important updates, nevertheless. Please see below:

NEU Strike Action - 1 February and Funding Moving Forwards

Looking back on this event, it was a bit of a damp squib. With only one union meeting the legal requirements for strike action to become a possibility and with only a quarter of our teachers being members of the NEU, I always expected to stay open. However, my teachers who are NEU members deserve real credit related to the strike. All of them made clear their intentions to strike, or not, to me and remained exceptionally professional. In the end, very limited numbers took up the option to join the strike and a normal day ensued. For that, my wider staff body also deserve a thank you. That said, there are more dates to follow where NEU members, on either a national or regional basis, intend to strike. Each date needs to be considered as a separate event so I cannot, at this stage, inform you of what position we will be in later in the month and into March.

We Will Rock You

With less than a week to go for this year's show, this is a last call to all those wishing to purchase tickets. Tickets are priced at £6 for adults and £3.50 for children which can be purchased through ParentPay. Programmes will be priced at £1 each. For further details please email the admin team using enquiries@srpa.co.uk.

Safer Internet Day 2023 - Dan's Big Fat Online Safety Quiz 7 February 6 - 7pm

For this year's Safer Internet Day, the theme is 'Want to talk about it?' making space for conversation about life online. We want children to know the struggles as adults that we had at their age. Did you own a Nokia 3310? Master of snake?

Was the first social media platform you used Friends Reunited or MSN Messenger? Equally, let your children teach you about the latest apps, games and TikTok trends...

As part of Safer Internet Day 2023, we are having a Virtual quiz over Teams. We want parents/carers and their children to join forces. Form the ultimate team and prove that you are the most knowledgeable family in Lincolnshire. You will be tested on the latest apps and games and perhaps some old school technology! To book on, click the link. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dans-big-fat-online-safety-quiz-tickets-523487935507>

ChatHub

This week, the Safeguarding Team have been made aware of a new popular app that students are using called ChatHub. This is a 1-on-1 live online video chat app, which allows students to talk to anonymous people all over the world. Unfortunately, with any online platform this creates danger for your child:

- They are at risk of seeing distressing or highly sexualised imagery without warning
- They may be asked or pressured to remove clothing or reveal personal information
- They may be asked to have private conversations on other apps or platforms
- They may also be sent malicious links or spam

We ask you to always monitor what your child is doing online especially who they are speaking to.

Tuesday 7 February is Safer Internet Day, East Midlands Special Operational Unit are running a free webinar for parents on how to keep your children safe online. Parents can sign up through the link on Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/511593388597>

Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) Fundraising

The Academy are pleased to announce that we raised just short of £200 for the ABA in support of our anti-bullying initiatives recently. Well done to all students who took part.



Headmaster: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
01522 882020
enquiries@srpa.co.uk www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

Parent Governor Vacancy

I have now received two parent governor applications. This is the final call for any further applications to be submitted by 09:00am on Monday 6 February please.

Thereafter, we will contact you with details of the ballot.

The limited strike action should not take any attention away from the parlous state of school funding nationally. We are on the edge of a precipice. The national announcement of £2 billion extra each year for two years means we will gain £241k extra between April 2023 and August 2024. Sounds a lot of money, doesn't it?

But with over 160 staff, a 1953 building, rocketing energy prices and rapidly rising prices across all suppliers, this money will be wiped out immediately and will only cover the 5% pay rise I have modelled already should that come to fruition. My concerns remain. At times like these, I am reminded of the very famous quote by Augustine of Hippo, who said "Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are."

I hope Courage prevails.

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Headmaster



Headmaster: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250