

Our Ref: KBy/CMc

3rd July 2023

Dear parents/carers,

Week beginning the 3rd of July will be a no tie and blazer week for pupils as it looks as if it will get hotter by the end of the week.

As per the letter sent last Thursday, we have two days of industrial action this week. The first day is Wednesday the 5th of July. This is the last day of Year 10 exams for pupils, with the following papers being taken.

* Design Technology
* Citizenship
* Statistics

We will be contacting parents to ensure that you are aware if your child is taking these examinations. Year 10 pupils taking these examinations will need to come to school as normal on Wednesday morning.

The original timetable for exams was that iMedia students were going to have their examination on the afternoon of the 5th of July. Because pupils need time on their coursework the iMedia students need to complete the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| IMedia Students taking Statistics | Attend iMedia coursework catch up 1120-1510 (including lunch). |
| IMedia Students taking DT | Attend iMedia coursework catch up 1120-1510 (including lunch). |
| IMedia Students taking Citizenship | Attend iMedia coursework catch up 1120-1510 (including lunch). |
| IMedia students who do not take the subjects above | Arrive at normal time 0830 to start coursework catch up |

Pupils who take any of the exams above, but do not take iMedia, may stay in school for the day, or with your permission emailed to [AKing@sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk](mailto:AKing@sybilandrewsacademy.co.uk) may leave site after they have completed them. There will be a limited break and lunch menu on both strike days and school transport will run as normal.

Year 7, 8 and 9 will be able to access work through Seneca Learning. This information will be shared with you and your child by email and posted on the website.

The second day of industrial action is Friday 7th of July. The plan for this day is as follows. Year 7, 8 and 9 will be able to access work through Seneca Learning. This information will be shared with you and your child by email and posted on the website.

Year 10 pupils will be invited in to complete the following:

* IMedia coursework catch up – all pupils taking this course arrive at the normal time unless caught up on Wednesday
* Completing exams that have been missed due to absence – details to be shared this week
* Appointments for pupils to complete Speaking Listening Assessments – appointments shared this week, and pupils spoken with on Monday after their math exam.

For Year 10’s who are not involved in any of the above, their SENECA Learning package will be in place to allow them to work through specification areas that are relevant to their syllabus.

Can I just add a quick reminder that Year 10 Parents Evening is on the 17th of July, which is face to face.

Because of this I have taken the decision to move Sports Day back to Tuesday the 11th of July so that Monday, Tuesday and Thursday can be free of disruption this week.

Last week all bar 13 pupils from Year 10 went to visit Abbeygate and West Suffolk College to look at progression into post 16/KS5. Feedback from pupils has been positive, feedback from staff has been very positive where the Sybil pupils were seen as the smartest, most engaged and best behaved by all of the schools visiting. It is my intention that we run this next year with the present Year 9 so that they are aware of some local sixth form options.

We have been approached by a tutoring company called First Class Tutoring about being a base for them to start in Bury St Edmunds. I think that this is potentially a good offer. As a school the only benefit for us will be that pupils receive a tutoring offer. If you are interested in this, Mrs. Dray (organiser for First Class Tutoring) has asked that you complete this Microsoft Form. The link is below:

[Microsoft Forms](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAIBAAJ0EgpUNlZVQVY2M0lSSUlCVUQ3V0tPSTBXNjJMTC4u)

There is another survey that I would like parents to complete if possible. I have, over the last two weeks taken a number of calls and emails from parents asking us to look at our extracurricular offer. I have surveyed staff for the offer for next Autumn today and asked them to complete it. However, it would be useful for Mr. Pointon and myself if you could share your thoughts on this through this very simple Microsoft Form, which is [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=flzQy2QFTEapyFTpF1Os7jLomFU7Uf1GlTOB2x6nANpUN0JTSFFLQTlLU0lJWFhDUzlXNFlVNjZBVC4u). Please do understand that this will take some time to organise the actual programme, but we see it as a really important part of school life. The closing date for this survey is Friday 14th of July at 1600 hrs.

We have a large number of Year 11’s leaving Sybil this year and a smaller year group joining in September for Year 7. Because of this, we will be reducing lunchtime by five minutes as all pupils will move through the canteen more quickly. We will obviously look at this again when numbers grow. The interim school day for next year will be as follows:

0830-0900 Tutor Period

0900-1000 Period 1

1000-1100 Period 2

1100-1120 Breaktime

1120-1220 Period 3

1220-1320 Period 4

1320-1400 Lunchtime

1400-1500 Period 5

Please note that this is an interim day until the two-week October half term has been reviewed and evaluated next year as per the communication that came out from Unity School Partnership.

The Year 7’s who have accessed the French trip go to France on the 14th of July for a day trip. Can you please look to bring any information that is required?

Finally, a quick staffing update. We have recruited the final teacher that we need for September 2023. We are now fully staffed, which I am delighted about. I will write to you next week to look at the end of term and start of term details.

Yours sincerely

Mr K Blakey

Executive Headteacher