

# St Mary's Lewisham CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Christine Graham

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## "Personal Development at St Mary's is Outstanding" - Ofsted Dec 2021

### Our Vision

To be a learning community that promotes the unique gifts, wellbeing and potential of every person. Our work is founded on the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, building on His message of equality, peace and justice, guided by His words 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13:34).

26<sup>TH</sup> April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Strike Action Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023: St Mary's School CLOSED

We wrote to you recently about the strikes that have been arranged by the National Education Union (NEU). This is a national dispute with the Secretary of State for Education regarding school teachers' pay and conditions.

Most of our teachers are members of the NEU but not all have chosen to strike. We will be open for the next strike day tomorrow, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April, , but I can now confirm that on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023, St Mary's School will be closed.**

I am sure that you will understand that our dedicated and hardworking teachers have not taken this decision lightly. The NEU explains:

*"This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. Teachers have lost 23% in real-terms since 2010, and support staff 27% over the same period. The average 5% pay rise for teachers this year is some 7% behind inflation. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, that is an unsustainable situation."*

Children will be able to access activities on Purple Mash and can take library books home to read on the strike days should they wish to. Thank you for continuing to work in partnership with us at St Mary's by supporting your children's learning at home.

Yours sincerely,

**Christine Graham**  
Headteacher

