



13 May 2019

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,

Upcoming Strike by Teachers Planned for Wednesday 29 May 2019

The NZEI has advised the Horsham Downs School Board of Trustees that the principal and teachers at our school will be taking strike action, for the full school day, on Wednesday 29 May 2019. The strike is nationwide and affects all primary and secondary schools across New Zealand, not just Horsham Downs School.

The strike is compulsory for all union members and as all Horsham Downs teaching staff are members they must participate. There will be no teachers or the principal available at school on 29 May and therefore the school will be closed for instruction. The teachers and principal will not be paid on this day. The dispute is in regard to attracting and retaining quality teachers, working conditions and classroom sizes, as well as pay.

It is important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike as the school will be closed.

We are giving you notice of the intended action now but there are on-going negotiations between the Ministry of Education and the teachers' union to try and resolve the dispute. The Board of Trustees is not involved in this process and cannot speculate on how it will be resolved and the strike avoided.

The principal has assured us that the school teaching staff have not taken this action lightly.

Parents, caregivers and whānau need to plan for the school being closed that day.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Ganley
Chair
Board of Trustees

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