



In all things faithful

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Headteacher

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Dear Parents/Carers

The following is a short letter with some brief news that I want to share.

Calvin Giron

Firstly, I have to pass on the tragic news that Calvin Giron has sadly passed away. Calvin was a popular Yr10 student who had many friends, he enriched our community with his kindness and humility. In school he was a quiet, hard-working boy who like many others faced the difficulties of online learning through Covid, yet always managed to complete his work to an exceptionally high standard. Calvin had shared his thoughts about going to university and his dedication to his studies illustrated that he would have managed this with great ease. We pass on our sincere condolences to his family. Calvin will always be remembered as part of our school community and will remain in our thoughts as the year group complete their time at St Damian's. Over the past few months, the St Damian's community raised £5,000 in fund-raising activities that will support his family. A **massive** thankyou to everyone for their support as this reflects what our school does best, showing generosity towards those that need it most. Please keep Calvin's family in your prayers.

Planned Strikes

Secondly, as you are probably aware, there are two more planned strike days by the *National Education Union [NEU]*. These are scheduled for **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**. As before, it is likely there will be a significant number of staff out on these days and therefore St Damian's will not be fully open as per normal.

However, there will be **three exceptions to this;**

Firstly, the school will be open to all students who are *vulnerable*.

Secondly, the school will be open as normal for *Yr11 students*, and I expect all these students to attend in full uniform.

Thirdly, the school will be open for *Yr10 students* who will be sitting their Yr10 exams. These exams are supervised, as usual, by external invigilators and will therefore will not need to be covered by teachers. Therefore, to prevent any further disruption to Yr10 students, the exams will go ahead as planned on the 2 strike days. Again, I expect that all Yr10 students will be in school as normal, in full uniform.

For those students not in school, work will be uploaded by those teachers who are not striking. School buses will run as normal and food will be available as usual, in the dining room. As I write this letter, there may be changes to the National strike day and on this basis, I reserve the right to change these plans if there are national changes.

As before, parents of children who are eligible for Free School Meals, who are not in school, will receive a £3 voucher via mobile phone and teachers who are not striking will put work on Teams for their classes that day. I apologise for any inconvenience caused but my main priority is the health and safety of all students and staff.

As always, thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Logue
Headteacher