



1 November 2018

NEWSLETTER UPDATE FOR GREENMEADOWS SCHOOL

NZEI STRIKE ACTION SCHOOL CLOSED TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2018

The Greenmeadows School Board of Trustees have decided to close our school on Tuesday 13 November. This is to support NZEI strike action as voted for by the primary teachers and principals of New Zealand.

This decision by the NZEI is not taken lightly, especially as it is the second strike called for this year.

Please be aware this strike action is not merely concerned about teacher's pay. Education in New Zealand is under immense pressure at the moment. This has been building for the past ten years, and the issues need to be addressed now.

There is a real concern for our schools in terms of numbers of teachers now, and in the coming few years. Less people are training as teachers, which is going to become a serious problem in a short time. As more and more teachers and principals reach retirement age, or leave teaching, the numbers will not be there to replace them. Something needs to change and quickly.

School leaders and teachers are asking for:

- smaller class sizes
- more resources to adequately support children with extra learning needs, which will then allow teachers to spend more time with each learner
- an increase in salaries for teachers so their qualifications and responsibilities are properly recognised
- an increased ability to attract, recruit and retain teachers.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our community, and apologise for the disruption this strike can bring.

Regards,

Mark Johnson
Principal