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16 May 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers

On Friday 10th May the teachers who are members of the teachers union 'New Zealand Educational Institute' (NZEI) met to discuss taking further strike action after negotiations with the Ministry of Education have not resulted in the desired outcome for NZEI members.

As a Board we have been informed that there will be industrial action in the form of a teachers strike on Wednesday 29th May 2019. As a result of this strike action the OVS Board of Trustees have decided that the school should be closed on this day. Closing the school for any period of time is not a decision we have made lightly, but we cannot compromise on the safety of the children, which we are sure you understand.

As with last year's strike action some of the key concerns being addressed with this action include:

- Seeking better support for children with additional learning needs
- Improving teacher and principal workloads
- Addressing teacher shortages - recruitment & retention issues
- Improved pay

SKIDS has confirmed that they will be available to provide a special day booking option. Please note spaces will be limited and bookings will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. For questions and enquires email SKIDS - paolo@skids.co.nz.

Georgina Dew
BOT Chairperson