

# MID CALDER PRIMARY SCHOOL - PARENT COUNCIL



**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025

**Time:** 1815-2000hrs

**Facilitator:** Mrs G Cyphus (Chair)

## In attendance

Mr R Taylor (Acting Head Teacher) (RT) / Mrs A Bates (AB)

Mrs G Cyphus (Chair) (GC) / Miss Y Hannah (Secretary) (YH)/ Kirsty Munro (KM)/Clair Mcadam (CM)/Kathleen Wilkin (KW)

## Action update

Action	Owner	Update	Status
<b>Community outreach</b>	GC	(i) General & food outreach to continue (ii) Visits to Cunnigar House to be planned	Ongoing Ongoing
<b>Uniform/Minted</b>	GC	(i) Minted rail - stocktake (ii) Create request form once stock increased (YH/GC) (iii) Create stock request for camps (YH)	KW/CM/KM
<b>Investigate access to funding mechanisms</b>	GC/RT	Ongoing – Gwen Mayor fund to be investigated – link to Kirk of Calder project	Open
<b>School Painting session</b>	GC/YH	Playground tidy moved – diarised Event switched to painting	Diarised TBC (RT)
<b>School Band</b>	GC/RT	RT to work with GC on (i) volume of pupils undertaking music lessons/playing instruments (ii) any teachers keen to support (iii) GC to set up band (specifically for end of term kirk service	open
<b>PC Facebook page</b>	YH	Outreach to current admin & request switch of ownership (actioned and YH/GC now admin)	actioned
<b>Lost Shore</b>	YH	Investigate potential for school visit (following Calderwood recent sessions)	ongoing

## Approval of minutes

Prev minutes accepted as approved (approved GC seconded CM)

## Head Teacher Report

### Staffing:

RT gave a general update on staffing covering (i) Mrs Walker – currently absent with cover in place up to Easter (ii) Mrs Argawal (PSW) now confirmed until summer. Budget under review at this point in year with full review of staffing levels (including FTCs, seconded and probationary staff)

Budget : c1% of overall budget held back for hall/corridor painting

## School improvement plan discussion

Physical building works : Need for painting in hall and back corridor areas remains in plan – action taken to consider replacing previously discussed playground tidy with painting (on 29/3) – playground tidy moving to October '25 to allow for nesting season.

Council staff have reviewed landscaping & considering longer plans for field area / trees etc. No firm plans as yet.

### Wellbeing :

- Emotion works continues despite lead teacher (Mrs Walker) currently absent.
- Central Digital team provided a joint session (with Calderwood) for staff looking at new tooling for pupils to enhance their educational journey from primary into secondary and beyond (skills based profiles)
- Equity work continues as previously reported/discussed
- Sustainability actions and plans continue : plans to focus on creative arts in next parent pop in now well advanced. Also being supported by design company Seymourpowell. Recycling and sustainable day to day activities continue (cutlery / paper recycling etc) – will be a focus in upcoming newsletter.
- Work on expressive arts continues with a focus on music / understanding where pupils are undertaking music lessons outwith school underway. Action taken to provision info to parent council to allow for potential for school band to support the growing choir.
- Transition – nursery to P1 / P7 to S1 transition activities commencing now.

### Community :

- Opportunity continues to be explored to create a guided tour/drama session for the Kirk of Calder – being supported by Historic Scotland contacts – funding required – action taken to investigate Gwen Mayor fund for potential application.
- Work on a café or charity shop continue with P6/P7 classes undertaking outreach for feedback and presenting proposals imminently.

## Health & safety

Outdoor area –Next playground tidy-up to be re-arranged for October (diarised) due to request from council to be aware of nesting season (given volume of shrub/tree pruning needed). Parent involvement switched to painting (if possible; TBC)

## Cost of school day

P5/P7 Camp : In final stages of organisation : parent sessions previously carried out – poster for camp clothing donations will be placed into March newsletter.

### Committee requests / discussion points

YH : constitution – draft provided for review. PSA chair comfortable with content. Action taken to submit to PC for approval at an EGM on 30/04

YH : Connect sessions attended (i) Equality Inclusion & diversity session (ii) constitution session : no specific actions ; all papers available and shared in Whatsapp Community

GC : Uniform “minted” rail : still no upturn in requests however excellent stock levels ; action taken to consider creating “bundles” to offer to specific age groups.

GC : Facebook page ; action taken by YH to request admin rights and look to revitalise usage of Fbk page

KW : mobile phone policy in school raised as a concern, specifically a policy review and usage during free-time Friday slots. Agreement reached that school will review charters in P5-P7 and reconfirm charter expectations and monitoring moving forward.

YH : Lost shore – question on any connection to date (none) and action taken to contact with view to strengthening opportunities for MCPS.

### AOB

None raised

### Meeting Schedule

April 30<sup>th</sup>, Mid Calder Primary School @ 1815hrs

June 5<sup>th</sup>, Mid Calder Primary School @ 1815hrs