

## Mid Yell Junior High School Parent Council 2 May 2023

Present-

In person - T Fraser (chair), J Thomson, V Johnson, Z Brown

In attendance - M Lawson, J Lyth, M Coutts

Apologies - Anne Smith, Lynsay Cunningham

**Minutes** - Tammie read over the minutes from the AGM, which was the last meeting. Members approved the minutes.

### Matters arising from the minutes:

**Members** - Members discussed the membership of the parent council with the S4's about to leave, Anne Smith and Fiona Nicolson will some come off. Zuleika will not be able to stay on as an office bearer but can stay on the parent council as a community member. Tammie nominated Jill Thomson to be vice-chair, seconded by Vicky Johnson.

**AGM** - The AGM over the last couple of years has crept back now to November, members agreed to bring this back to an earlier date. Advertise the AGM once the new bairns are in the school to encourage new parents to join. Date of AGM Tuesday 12 September at 7.30pm

**Open night** - Have a PC stall at the open night to attract more members, make a leaflet to be handed out.

## Headteacher's Report to Parent Council 02/05/2023

### Staffing

- Emma Shaw is the preferred candidate for our art teacher post
- We have been unsuccessful again at recruiting a primary teacher for Chelsea's maternity leave, Anne Smith has agreed to work a few days a week for us, this will be to provide non-contact time for Michelle and to take forward some learning interventions.
- Gwen Johnson has extended her period of leave until Aug 2023, Jenna and Laura will continue to cover her posts
- Fraser Hall has informed us that he has been selected as the preferred candidate for a new post in Brae, he will probably be leaving us at the summer - We have applied for a probationer for his PE post and will look to advertise his Pupil Support role once he send in his resignation
- We are hopeful that we will get a new Home Ec probationer teacher next academic year

### Budgets

- Some of the budgets for this financial year have just been allocated we will get :-
  - £1960 for primary a drop of £515 from last year
  - £4850 for secondary, a drop of £70The nursery and Pupil Equity Fund budgets have still to be confirmed.
- Looking at alternative sources of funding for various items and projects will be an important part of HT role in next year
- Tesco grant applied for - Breakfast club

### School Improvement Plan

- This years priorities have been moving along - Our writing project has shown some great improvements and shown how a short term, very focussed input can make a significant

difference. This will be rolled out to some other areas of the school. - Our Rights respecting school group have completed our application and planned several classroom inputs between now and the summer. Staff have also been involved in learning more about this. - Staff have been working on developing our approaches to assessment, this is ongoing and will continue for the rest of this term. - Eco group is working hard towards achieving green flag status - Mandarin has been brought back in to the school but is still needing to be developed - Our reading schools development has not been able to happen this year.

- Next year's priorities will be identified from our Improvement team feedback and consultation with pupils, parents and staff. This work will start when the improvement visit feedback report is received.

### **School Improvement Team Visit**

- We finally had our Improvement team visit in the last week of February
- There were many positives highlighted and a few things to be working on. We are still waiting for the feedback report so that we can plan our next steps - I have tried to get this report for many weeks now - been told I should get it by Friday.
- The biggest disappointment from the initial feedback was the communication with families which was seen to be very poor, this was hugely frustrating as it was based on two meetings with a very limited number of parents. It is however something which we will need to be looking at as partnerships with parents was seen as being very good in a previous focussed visit with HMIe. We will be auditing this with all parents in the next few weeks.

### **School Trips**

- P6 & 7 Trip to Loch Insh was a great success and proved to be a brilliant experience for our pupils. Initial feedback from pupils and staff was that this type of trip should be repeated in years to come - staff felt it had a lot of advantages over the Edinburgh trip for young people this age. The costs of this trip were in the region of £21,000, £680 per pupil.
- Pupils raised nearly £400 with their car wash
- S1 & S2 trip to Glasgow is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> June, arrangements are well advanced - meeting with parents planned for Thursday evening. Final costs still to be confirmed but looks to be in the region of £27,000, approx £800 per pupil . Itinerary is looking very full with a good mixture of experiences for the pupils.
- Over £500 was raised at the recent cake sale in the hill shop.
- S3 have the potential to link up with Reunion Island again and go to visit there in the summer. This is a follow up from the visit we hosted before lock down.... Most of the funding is in place from the Reunion side. Confirmation of this trip should be received soon along with final details of costs involved.

### **Transitions**

- Nursery to P1 (4 pupils) - already has several visits to the class, now invited in for afternoons with a lunchtime experience too. Meetings being arranged for parents, nursery staff and primary teacher.
- Primary 7 to S1 (12 pupils) - transition team set up online, various activities completed, visits to other primaries started, Thursday afternoons planned to meet with secondary teaching staff, Secondary days planned for the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Secondary 4 to AHS - Visit to AHS has happened and a stay over at the hostel, choices have been made and all paperwork completed.

- Secondary to alternative destinations - Pupils have visited College and had various work experiences. Applications have been made to apprenticeships and courses. SDS working closely with some pupils.

### End of Term

- Primary sports afternoon will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Nursery and Primary graduations will be on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June
- Secondary 4's leavers dinner will be Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June - West Sandwick Hall
- Mid Yell JHS Sports Day will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June
- Our Open Evening will be on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, format will be different this year
- We have activity days on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June
- School Closes on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

### Other Items

- Some changes to ASN area
- Various sporting competitions on this term
- Coronation lunch and dance on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Generation Science workshop for P4 & 5 on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Bookfair is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May
- S1 & S2 have a trip to 3D Webtech on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May
- Occasional holidays - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May & Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Claire White - visiting the school again on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- Low Carbon learning workshop with S1 - S3 pupils on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May
- YPI final in Unst on Wednesday 31 May
- S1 have a STEM trip to Lerwick on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June

### Treasurers Report

The list of balances was shared with the members for year ending 31 March 2023

Starting balance	£3,643.40
Income for year	£1,561.57
Expenditure	<u>£1,955.20</u>
Closing balance	<u>£3,249.77</u>

Ringfenced for fighting fund	£1,986.82
Available funds	£1,262.95

Main fund raisers for the year were:

Bottle stall	£176
100 club	£180 net
Shopping night	£364
Donations	£152

Members discussed fund raising ideas for next year, we have been approached to see if we wanted to do a tea and fancies stall at the Sail Yell function in July. Other ideas, bottle stall, raffle, beetle drive, bingo night