



# Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

## December 2023

As we approach the end of a wonderful year at Monkton PS / EYC, we are delighted to share all the Christmas activities and events in this December newsletter! Our school is buzzing with festive spirit already and we can't wait to celebrate together.

December is going to be a very busy month. We are looking forward to many events over the next few weeks including our Christmas Fayre, the P1/P2 Nativity, EYC Christmas Show, Christmas lunch and Christmas parties. The EYC will be going to the cinema to watch 'Wish' and all P1-7 to see the 'Cinderella' pantomime. Please see the dates section below for details and ensure that you have all relevant dates in your diary.

Pupils and staff can wear their Christmas attire throughout the month of December but there is no need for them to wear these every day nor to go out and buy multiple items to wear. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper, we do have a supply of pre loved jumpers and t-shirts that the Parent Council have organised in the main foyer, that they (or you) are welcome to come down and pick from to wear.

We have unfortunately been hit with Winter Illnesses already (see NHS flier included) which has affected some of our pupils and staff. Please bear with us if we take longer than usual to get back in touch as we cover staff absences and we try to keep as much continuity and consistency for pupils as we can. We continue to promote regular handwashing with the EYC and school to try to minimise the risk or the spread of infection.

If we can support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch. As always, we are here to help.

Hope that you all have a great Christmas and New Year when it comes!

Mrs Miller

Head Teacher

## In This Newsletter



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*This monthly newsletter has lots of information about the school and the EYC including:*

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- *Updates*
  - *Dates for your diary*
  - *Community Noticeboard*
  - *Communication*
  - *Contact Us*
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## Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



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*This section contains important updates and information.*

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### Living in Monkton event



Thank you to those who were able to hand in donations for the raffle that the P7 pupils ran at the Living in Monkton event on the 12th November. We raised £239.69 between the raffle and the Guess the number of sweets in the jar. This money has been used to subsidise the P7 leavers hoodies and the rest has gone into the school / EYC funds. Thank you to the Monkton Community Council for allowing us to run the raffle this year and for letting us keep the proceeds. Thank you to all the P7 pupils and Miss Foy for their hard work in raising this money.

### Children in Need



Our children and staff raised £203.80 for Children in Need on Friday 17th November by wearing pyjamas or dressing down for the day.



### **Night Before Christmas Campaign (UNCRC Articles 18, 26, 27 and 31)**

Thank you to all those who managed to send in donations for this campaign. They will be collected by the charity next week.

**If anyone is struggling for presents this year or is aware of a family who may be, please fill out the following link by Monday 4th December 2023 -**

**<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQctawUZKceagIDV-KJlI67h-ip2oDpUMTM5VjIBTTdZROJIRIVUM0U0M1pYOEMzWS4u> and we will make a direct, anonymous referral to the charity. This will be treated in the strictest confidence.**



### Health and Safety Reminder drop off / pick up

Children should not ride their bikes or scooters in the playground. They should disembark when they arrive at the gate in the morning and walk with their bike / scooter to the bike shed, The playground and main gate is very congested especially at pick up times at 3pm when our pupils leave via the main playground / gate. Once you pick your child up from the EYC / P1 and are waiting for an older sibling, please ensure that your child does not use their bike or scooter in the main playground. Please ensure that they stay beside you and do not cycle / scoot until they exit the main gates. Thank you!

### ★ Monkton Primary School Playground Charter ★

UNCRC Article	We have the Right...	We should...
15	...to socialise and enjoy time with friends. 	* be kind to each other. * include others.
19	...to be supported physically and emotionally.	* Keep our hands, feet and unkind words to ourselves. * show care towards others. * be responsible for our actions and words.
31	...to have the opportunity to play games. 	* use P.E. equipment responsibly and respectfully. * share toys, equipment and friends.
39	...to be helped and supported.	* tell an adult if we or others are hurt in an emotional or physical way.



Updated December 2021

### Playground Charter

We value the importance of fostering a positive and inclusive environment for all pupils, ensuring that everyone can enjoy their time in the playground safely. Recently, some children have not been following our playground charter and not keeping others safe by playing games which are too rough, using inappropriate language and not always following adult instructions. We are asking for your help in reinforcing this charter with your child(ren). Please take the time to read this charter with them and remind them of their responsibilities - thank you!

While we encourage physical activity and team sports, it has come to our attention that there have been some concerns related to football play including rough play, inappropriate language and over competitiveness. The school assistant who supervises the football will monitor health and safety conduct closely and if children are not following the rules, then this may result in them missing their next football session(s). We ask for your support in to reinforce this message. Thank you.





### Child Protection (UNCRC Articles 19, 20 and 24)

The safety and wellbeing of children at Monkton Primary School and Early Years Centre is our utmost priority. If you have any concerns about a child protection matter, please contact the school to make an appointment with our Child Protection Coordinators - Mrs Miller (EYC - P3) or Mrs Ramsay (P4-7).

Our [Child Protection Guidelines](#) can be found on the school / EYC website.

South Ayrshire Council are supporting Child Protection Scotland's new 'It's Okay to Ask' campaign, encouraging any parent or carer who is struggling to look after their children, to ask for help before reaching crisis point. Please see below for more details -

<https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/60746/It-s-Okay-to-Ask-New-Cost-of-Living-campaign-launches-in-South-Ayrshire>



The National Autistic Society Scotland and Carers Scotland are working together to develop a programme of support for parent carers of autistic children and young people, called 'Growing Up'. 'Growing Up' aims to empower unpaid carers in Ayrshire to make more informed decisions, access the right support, advocate for themselves and their autistic young person and connect to valuable peer support. There will also be workshops for education, health and care professionals.

We want to engage with you as parent carers as we develop this programme, so it is shaped around your needs. We have drafted a short questionnaire, which we would be grateful if you could complete. It should only take a few minutes.

Access the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GrowingUp>

We really value your views and input, thank you.

*The National Autistic Society and Carers Scotland*



### **Christmas Cards**

Many families now choose not to send Christmas cards but if your child(ren) wants to write Christmas cards for their friends in the school / EYC, we ask that they write first names and class on the cards and that all cards are posted into the red postbox in the main foyer of the school (outside the main office). They will then be sorted and delivered by P7 pupils to the relevant classrooms. This will minimise any disruption to learning and routines throughout the day. Thanks for your cooperation with this.

## Dates for your diary (UNCRC Articles 28, 29 and 31)



**From Friday 1st December 2023 for the whole month** - children and staff can wear Christmas jumpers / clothing to school / EYC

**Friday 1st December 2023** - P7 pupils to ChristMaths event at Prestwick academy in afternoon

PC Guess the Reindeer's birthday competition to start going round classes - £1 per guess. Winner announced at Fayre next Friday.

**Wednesday 6th December 2023** - P7 Christmas Disco at Prestwick Academy 6-7:30pm

**Friday 8th December 2023** - Christmas Fayre 1:30-2:30pm - parents welcome. P3-7 classes singing at approx. 1:30-1:40pm. Parent Council are running a Santa's Grotto in the Sensory Room - if you have booked, you will receive an allocated time for this.

**Tuesday 12th December 2023** - P1 and P2 Nativity 9:30am (2 tickets per child) - letter with details to follow. EYC Christmas Performance then Stay and Play 2pm

**Wednesday 13th December 2023** - EYC Trip to Cinema

**Thursday 14th December 2023** - EYC and School Christmas Lunch

**Friday 15th December 2023** - Cash for Kids - Christmas Jumper Day. Wear a jumper and bring a donation if you wish. P1 Christmas Party (pm) - children can come dressed in party clothes or bring their clothes in a bag to change into at lunch time.

**Sunday 17th December 2023** - Troon Round Table Santa Float going round Monkton Village from 4:30pm

**Monday 18th December 2023** - P6/7 Christmas Party (pm) - children can come dressed in party clothes or bring their clothes in a bag to change into at lunch time.

**Tuesday 19th December 2023** - P4/5 Christmas Party (pm) - children can come dressed in party clothes or bring their clothes in a bag to change into at lunch time.



**Wednesday 20th December 2023** - P2/3 Christmas Party (pm) - children can come dressed in party clothes or bring their clothes in a bag to change into at lunch time.

**Thursday 21st December 2023** - P1-7 to Pantomime at Gaiety Theatre, Ayr

EYC Christmas party (am) - children can come dressed in party clothes.

**Friday 22nd December 2023** - School closes for holidays at 2:30pm (EYC pick up from 2:30-3pm)

**Monday 8th January 2024** - EYC and school re-open at 9am

## **Community Noticeboard** (UNCRC Articles 18, 24, 29 and 31)

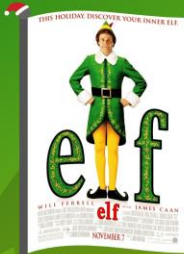




THE  
**BROADWAY**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
FILM FESTIVAL

**ELF**

(2003) COMMUNITY'S CHOICE



funded by  
Film Hub  
Scotland

Venue: **Prestwick Academy**

**Saturday 16th December**  
Doors Open: 2:00pm Start Time: 2:30pm

Book tickets now  
on our official website! 

**Ticket Prices:**  
General Admission: £7  
Members receive exclusive 25% discount!

Featuring  
the  
**BROADWAY**  
**STEREOPHONIC**  
SOUND  
SYSTEM

in partnership with  
**INDY**  
CINEMA GROUP

Friends of the Broadway Prestwick is a Scottish Charity: SC048992,  
regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and is a  
Registered Company in Scotland: SC618864.



Become a  
Member!





THE  
**BROADWAY**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
FILM FESTIVAL


**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (U)  
(1946) PUPILS' CHOICE



Venue: **Prestwick Academy**

**Saturday 16th December**

Doors Open: 6:30pm Start Time: 7:00pm

Book tickets now on our official website! 

**Ticket Prices:**  
General Admission: £7  
Members receive exclusive 25% discount!

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Become a Member!



THE  
**BROADWAY**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
FILM FESTIVAL

**THE MUPPET**  
**CHRISTMAS CAROL** (U)  
(1992) COMMUNITY'S CHOICE



**Prestwick Academy**

**Sunday 17th December**  
Doors Open: 2:00pm Start Time: 2:30pm

Book tickets now on our official website! 

funded by  
 Film Hub  
Scotland



Please note that all orders will need to be accompanied by an adult at all times.



# FREE GOLF LESSONS

AT KILMARNOCK BARASSIE GOLF CLUB

WOULD YOU LIKE TO:  
LEARN TO PLAY GOLF?  
IMPROVE YOUR NUMERACY?  
MAKE NEW FRIENDS?

**AVAILABLE DATES:**  
WEDNESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER FROM 1-2 PM  
WEEKLY FOR 4 WEEKS  
OR  
WEDNESDAY 17TH JANUARY FROM 1-2PM  
WEEKLY FOR 4 WEEKS

PLEASE EMAIL WITH YOUR PREFERRED DATES:  
[MARITZA.DUNCAN@SOUTH-AYRSHIRE.GOV.UK](mailto:MARITZA.DUNCAN@SOUTH-AYRSHIRE.GOV.UK)





# Stay safe this winter

Hints and tips from NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Health Protection Team for staying safe this winter

With the festive season approaching, we want to remind you of how you can stay safe this winter. Here are some hints and tips on good cough, sneeze and hand hygiene; staying at home if you have had fever, diarrhoea, or vomiting; winter vaccinations; as well as information on accessing the right care, right place.

## Good cough, sneeze and hand hygiene Keep your family well this winter and reduce the spread of infection.

Respiratory viruses, such as colds, flu and COVID-19, can easily spread between people through coughs and sneezes. Stopping viruses from spreading is the best prevention.

Always sneeze and cough into a tissue covering your nose and mouth. Bin the tissue straight away and then wash your hands.

Wash your hands with soap and water frequently. This helps to get rid of the disease-causing germs from your hands. Hand sanitiser does not kill all germs, especially those that cause stomach upsets.

If someone in your family is sick, avoid sharing dishes, toys or towels with them. Keep items clean and wash your hands after touching.

At home, make sure you clean surfaces that are touched frequently every day – for example, light switches, door handles, taps, toilet seats and toilet flush handles, and countertops.

Do not prepare food for others when you are sick.

Wash any clothing or bedding that has poo or vomit on it separately from other laundry, and on a hot wash.

A video on handwashing can be found here: [How to wash your hands - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

To learn more about treating the common cold, flu or COVID-19, visit [www.nhs.uk/conditions/when-to-see-a-doctor](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/when-to-see-a-doctor)



## Stay at home Stay off school or college if you have a fever, diarrhoea or vomiting.

Children and young people with mild respiratory symptoms, but who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school or college. Mild respiratory symptoms include a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough.



Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people if possible. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

Most people no longer need to test for COVID-19, unless they have a health condition which means they are eligible for [coronavirus treatments](#).

Children and young people who have diarrhoea or vomiting should stay at home and avoid contact with other people if possible. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they have had no diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 48 hours.

For more information, click the links below:

- [Vomiting in children and babies](#)
- [Diarrhoea](#)
- [COVID-19](#)

**Winter vaccinations**  
**If you are eligible, make sure you get your vaccine.**

To find out if you are eligible for the flu or COVID-19 vaccine, visit:

- [Flu vaccine | NHS inform](#)
- [The coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine | NHS inform](#)

If you child is in primary school and has missed their flu vaccine appointment or school clinic, or has been given an appointment that is not suitable, they can attend a Childhood Vaccination Team drop-in session. For details of sessions, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/healthcare-services/flu-vaccine/school-age-children-primary-and-secondary-education/information/>

**Where to get medical help**  
**Getting the right care, in the right place**

To protect yourself, as well as the NHS, it's important you know how to get the right care, in the right place. If we all use NHS services wisely, we can keep well and get the care we need quickly, safely and as close to home as possible.

For more information on the most appropriate service for your condition, visit [Right care right place - NHS Ayrshire & Arran | nhs.uk](#)

**Wishing you a wonderful and infection-free festive season from the NHS Ayrshire & Arran Health Protection Team.**

Follow us on Twitter @NHSaaa      Visit our website: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/nhsaaa](https://www.facebook.com/nhsaaa)      All our publications are available in other formats

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## Communication (UNCRC Articles 3 and 5)



Communication with parents / carers continues to be of upmost importance to us.

Important updates / information will be sent to you by **email** or **text** message so please check regularly for these.

Instagram is being used for reminders and to share learning in class (2 posts per week per class). Learning Journals are used in the EYC (minimum of 1 post per child per week). You will receive 2 class newsletters per year outlining what your child will be learning in class: EYC - P7.

If you have any feedback, questions (however small) or information to be shared, please phone the school on **01292 473456** or email us – [Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

If you have any class based / individual pupil concerns, please contact the office to arrange to talk to your child's class teacher or EYC key worker as first point of contact. In some circumstances, you may wish to talk to -

•**Mrs Miller** if your child is in **EYC, P1, P2 or P3** or **Mrs Ramsay** if your child is in **P4, P5, P6 or P7**.

Please **do not email class teachers, HT or DHT directly** as they may be out of school with no access to emails. Instead, please contact the school office to make an appointment or email the school mailbox with your enquiry. It will be passed on and they will respond to you during school hours usually within 5 days.

If you are not happy with the outcome of your enquiry, you have the right to escalate your complaint to the authority - <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/complaints/>

**Contact Us** (UNCRC Articles 5 and 18)



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01292 473456

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[Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

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<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sa/monktonpsandeyc/>

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[m\\_p\\_s\\_2\\_r\\_h \(Primary Instagram\)](#)

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*EYC use [Learning Journals](#)*

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*[@MonktonPS](#) – Primary and Early Years*

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## Our Vision, Values and Aims (UNCRC Article 2 and 29)



### Our Vision

*At Monkton, we encourage and support every child to be the best they can be. Our ambition is to close the attainment gap by stretching and challenging all children. Children are encouraged to have high standards and be aspirational about their future. A school in the community as well as a community in the school. **At Monkton We Fly As High As The Sky!***

### Prestwick Cluster Values

For a number of years the school has shared values with the other schools in the Prestwick Academy cluster. These are **Honesty, Compassion, Respect, Responsibility and Equality**. The cluster schools have also created 'Our Prestwick Promise' which is-

*"We aim to work collaboratively across the cluster, supporting and challenging each other to improve outcomes for children and young people and to help raise attainment for all. We will work together across establishments to support equity and address gaps by sharing time, expertise and resources. By working collaboratively, we endeavor to reduce workload and provide consistent approaches, pedagogy and systems to promote high quality learning and teaching."*

Each year, we create a Prestwick Cluster Action plan which we work together on throughout the school session.

**Aims**

**Fantastic futures for all!**

**Learning life skills!**

**You have pride in the school!**

**Hard working children and helpful staff!**

**In Monkton, everyone is included!**

**Great learning experiences (including play)!**

**Heart of the Monkton community!**