



Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

February 2024

Well, we are now over a month into 2024! The nights and mornings are getting lighter and there are signs of Spring on the way.

We have had a busy January in the EYC and school. All classes focused on Scotland last month and learnt about our national poet - Robert Burns. P7 have been busy with their Mock Court and Burns Supper. We held our annual Scottish Poetry concert which was judged by 5 members from the Community Council Cosy Spaces events. The EYC went on a trip to Prestwick Airport - a big thank you to the parent who organised this visit for us. Teachers have been busy sharing practice with their Prestwick cluster colleagues on reading as part of the South Ayrshire Reads initiative.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to come in for World of Work week - please save the date and we will be in touch very soon. If anyone else would like to support this, please get in touch with the office.

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

Mrs Miller

Head Teacher

In This Newsletter



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

- *Dates for your Diary*
 - *Updates*
 - *Learning, Teaching and Assessment Zone*
 - *Community Noticeboard*
 - *Communication*
 - *Contact Us*
-

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



w/b Monday 5th February 2024 - EYC Care Plan meetings

Wednesday 7th February 2024 - P7 Information session at Prestwick Academy 6:30pm

Friday 9th February 2024 - Ted-ucation Presentations and dress down (or wear purple) for Crosshouse Children's Fund (donation optional)

Monday 12th February 2024 - Holiday (school and EYC closed)

Tuesday 13th February 2024 - Inservice Day (school and EYC closed for pupils)

Wednesday 14th February 2024 - EYC and school re-open for pupils at 9am

Thursday 15th February 2024 - Parent Council Spring Disco -

EYC / P1 / ASN – 3-4:15pm - children booked in to attend this disco can come to school dressed in disco clothes (or with a change) - staff will take them straight to gym hall disco

P2 – P4 – 5:15-6:30pm

P5-7 – 6:45-8pm

Friday 16th February 2024 - EYC Stay and Play - 2:45-3:15pm

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024 - Developing Young Workforce - World of Work week

Thursday 22nd February 2024 - P6 Sharing the Learning with parent / carers (all welcome) at 9:30am (see explanation below)

Monday 4th - Friday 15th March 2024 - Fairtrade Fortnight

Thursday 7th March 2024 - World Book Day (no dressing up required) - Parent Council are looking for book donations

Wednesday 13th March 2024 - Parents' afternoon, 3:15-5:45pm (more details to follow)

Thursday 14th March 2024 - Parents' evening, 5:30-8pm (more details to follow)

Friday 15th March 2024 - Comic Relief (dress down day and optional donation)

Parent Council - Bounce Bingo event (evening)

Monday 25th - Thursday 28th March 2024 - P7 on residential Trip to Dumfries House

Tuesday 26th March 2024 - P5 Sharing the Learning with parent / carers (all welcome) at 2:15pm

Wednesday 27th March 2024 - P2 and P3 Trip to Riverside Museum

Thursday 28th March 2024 - School closes at 2:30pm (EYC doors open from 2:30-3pm) for school holidays

Monday 15th April 2024 - School / EYC re-open at 9am

Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



This section contains important updates and information.



There continues to be very serious, ongoing concerns concerning road safety around the school especially at drop off and pick up times when the area is congested. Please remember the importance of playing your part in keeping us all safe and healthy - we do not want any child or adult to be hurt or injured.

Therefore, please adhere to the following:-

- If possible and to avoid congestion in and around the school, **please walk your child(ren) to or from school / EYC.**
- Please **do not double park, park on the pavement** or where there are **double yellow lines** at front of the school.
 - Please be courteous to our neighbours and **do not park over their driveways or over the school gates / car park entrance.**
 - Also please **do not park in the bus bay** (even when the cones are not out) which is clearly marked at the front of the school as buses use this.
 - Please **do not park in the school car park or drive down the back lane** unless you are a blue badge holder.
 - Please **do not walk your child through the school car park** at any time.

Please remind all grandparents, family members and friends who may drop off or pick up your child(ren) of these safety messages.

We educate our children on the importance of Road Safety regularly through assemblies and class activities. Many of our children have recently entered the Monkton Community Council Road Safety poster competition where the winning posters will be made into real road signs which will be displayed at the entrances and exits to the village. Our Junior Road Safety Officers are currently making posters to display in our car park to try to stop parent / carers from using it.

We are working with the Parent Council, Community Council and Ayrshire Roads Alliance to highlight our traffic concerns around the school and surrounding area. The police are continuing to monitor the traffic and road safety around the school.

Thank you for your continued safety, vigilance and support with this matter - together we can keep everyone safe!



**Crosshouse
Children's Fund**

For the children of Ayrshire & Arran

This Friday 9th February 2024, we are inviting all EYC - P7 pupils and staff to dress down or wear purple (if they have it) in aid of Crosshouse Children's Fund - donations are optional. This local charity supports babies, children and young people in hospital in Ayrshire and Arran. Each year more than 25,000 babies, children and young people from across the area are treated in the hospital. The funds raised by the charity bring the very latest medical equipment to Ayrshire, help families navigate their child's journey, and help children cope in hospital. They have already invested more than £350,000 in life-changing projects so any donations (however small), will be greatly received by the charity.

On Friday, as well as dressing down, all children will be having a Teddy Hospital visit presentation as part of the Crosshouse Children's Fund [Ted-ucation campaign](#). The visit is provided free of charge to the EYC and school. Children will be provided with fun information and experiences to help them learn about University Hospital Crosshouse and the people who work there. This will also help us with our World of Work week which is being held later this month.



The Parent Council would like to thank all who supported us over the festive period with our events. We held our first Santa's Grotto at the school's Christmas Fayre which was a great success and the children all seemed to enjoy seeing Santa.

Over the first 6 months of the year, we have raised £527 which has allowed us to top up our funds while paying for buses and snacks for Christmas trips.

We are looking forward to our plans in 2024. We are holding our Spring Glow Disco on 15th February 2024 and a letter has already been sent out with details.

Tickets will be released soon for our Dance Bingo on 15th March 2024 in the Carvick Webster Hall, this is a strictly over 18s event and should be a lot of fun.

We are also looking forward to our World Book Day reduce reuse recycle book fayre – donations of books can now be dropped off into the box within the school foyer. On the day, donations will also be accepted.

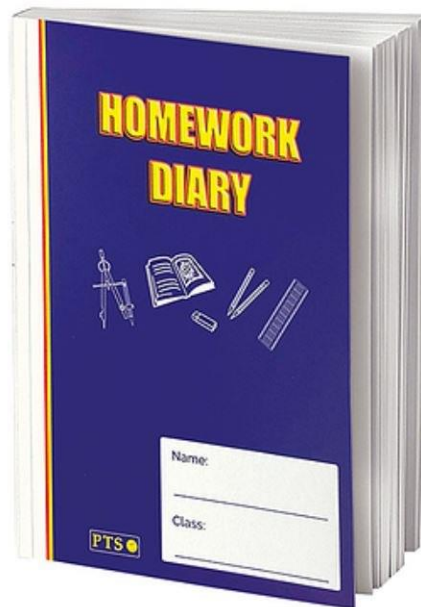
The Parent Council will also have stall at the gala day this year, we are planning for this to be a teddy tombola and nearer the time will be looking for donations of teddies in good condition.

Our aim for the remainder of this year is to support school with outdoor resources and support trips as we are able to do, this all relies on your support at events.

If anyone would like to join the Parent Council or would like more details on our events please visit our Facebook page '[Monkton Primary Parent Council](#)' or email monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com



You may be eligible to apply for Free School Meals or a Clothing Grant for your child(ren) especially if your circumstances have changed recently. If you are entitled to this, then you should apply. More information can be found at [Free school meals and clothing grant 23/24 - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](#)



If your child is in P1-7, please ensure that your child's blue homework diary is brought to and from school each day. Please check this diary each night as it may contain homework, important information and there may be a message from staff in it. The diary can be used for two way communication e.g. you may wish to write a brief message to the class teacher in it. However if you need to get urgent information to staff e.g. health concerns, medication or learning and teaching queries, please contact the office with this or to make an appointment with the class teacher. Thank you for your continued support with this.



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 Mrs Miller (Child Protection Coordinator) or Mrs Ramsay (Depute Child Protection Coordinator).

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

Learning, Teaching and Assessment (UNCRC Articles 28 and 29)



Sharing the Learning

The [Scottish Schools \(Parental Involvement\) Act 2006](#) recognises the vital role that parents play in children's learning and development, and aims to encourage parents to develop their children's [learning](#)

[at home](#) and in the community. As a school, we are committed to ensure that parents are kept informed of all school activities and are invited to participate in all appropriate events throughout the year. Learning is shared by class teachers on Instagram and termly class newsletters are sent home to share what children are learning in class. We also plan sharing the learning events/activities that parents are invited to throughout the year. The last of these was held in November as part of Book Week Scotland, when P1-3 parent / carers were invited in to share what their child(ren) had learnt. The EYC holds termly 'Stay and Play' events - the next one is on Friday 16th February 2024 at 2:45-3:15pm. Our P6 sharing the learning event is being held on Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 9:30am and our P5 event will be on Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 2:15pm. P7 will hold their Leavers' Ceremony event at the end of the year - to conclude and celebrate their last year of primary school on Wednesday 26th June 2024 at 9:30am.

We know that parent / carers are busy with work and other commitments so please remember that grandparents, aunts, uncles and family friends are more than welcome to come in place of parents to these events.



Read, Write, Count parent survey 2023/24

About you

We are asking parents and carers of children who received the bags for their views to help us improve them in the future.

As a thank you for taking part, you will be entered into a prize draw to win a collection of books for your child.

This survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.



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



SAC FAMILY LEARNING TEAM
HELLO MONKTON
EYC FAMILIES

PLEASE JOIN US
FOR FAMILY FUN AND LEARNING
ON: WED MARCH 6TH, 13TH, 20TH & 27TH
AT: 9.15 - 10.15 AM
WHERE: MONKTON EYC

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US



CALLING ALL PARENTS
& CARERS OF
CHILDREN IN EARLY
YEARS OR PRIMARY 1!!



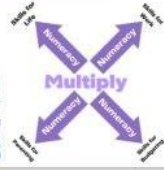
Have you ever thought "I'm not good at maths."? Does maths make you feel anxious? Every one of us is capable of understanding maths and making mathematical decisions. Building a strong foundation is vital for future confidence and success in maths. In conjunction with the Multiply Project, South Ayrshire Council are delighted to invite all parents with children in Early Years or Primary 1 to attend a series of three numeracy workshops. Come along and find out how you can support your child gain confidence and a deep understanding of maths. The sessions will take place in **St Patrick's Primary from 4:30 until 5:45** on the following dates...

- **Monday 5th February**
- **Monday 19th February**
- **Monday 4th March**

If you intend to bring your child(ren) along, please indicate whether or not you would like them to receive a free pizza slice by scanning the following QR code and completing the form...



<https://forms.office.com/e/EbeDxe20tW>



ASN Family Support Network ...
Upcoming events

Wed 31 Jan 2024 Ayr Grammar Primary

6.30 - 8pm "Supporting your child with Literacy Difficulties"

Holly McBlane from South Ayrshire Reads

To book contact Fiona.priestnail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Tue 20 Feb 2024 Ayr Grammar Primary

6.30 - 8pm "Supporting young people with ADHD" Tanya Tenant from Tanya Tenant Autism Training and Consultancy

To book contact Fiona.priestnail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Wed 24 April 2024 in Walker Halls, Troon

1-5pm; this year's theme is "**Transitions**"

Over 40 charities and third sector organisations offering support and advice.

Keynote speakers including Tanya Tenant on "Transitions from Secondary Education"

No need to pre-book for this event

Further information from

fiona.priestnail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Or ASN Website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/asn



ASN
Family Support

Offering support, advice and friendship for any parents and carers of young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN) living in South Ayrshire



Mental Health and Wellness Support



Call
0800 838587

Breathing Space is a free confidential phone line for anyone over the age of 16 feeling low, anxious or depressed.
*Monday to Thursday 9am - 2am,
Friday 6pm - Monday 6am.*
www.breathingspace.scot/



Call free on
0800 1111

Childline is a free private and confidential service for anyone under 19 in the UK. Childline trained counsellors believe no problem is too big or too small.
www.childline.org.uk/



Call 0800 068 4141

Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide is the UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and the promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people. www.papyrus-uk.org



Call
0344
800 0550

SAMH provides information and support for people across Scotland with mental health problems. They have an information and support service open from Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm.
Email: info@samh.org.uk
www.samh.org.uk



Call free on 116 123

Samaritans is a confidential, non-judgemental support service. Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
Email: jo@samaritans.org
www.samaritans.org



Call 111

Offering support is one of the best things you can do if you think someone may be feeling suicidal, encourage them to talk about their feelings and to listen to what they say.
www.nhsinform.scot/surviving-suicidal-thoughts/offering-support-to-someone-youre-worried-is-suicidal/



Communication (UNCRC Articles 3 and 5)



Communication with parents / carers continues to be of utmost 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

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)





01292 473456



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Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



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



m_p_s_2_r_h (Primary Instagram)



EYC use [Learning Journals](#)



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!