



Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter May 2024

April has flown past and it is now May. Here's hoping that we see more of the sun and that it brings some heat with it!

May is going to be a busy month in our Early Years Centre and school with bank holidays, report cards being written and some class events / trips. Please take note of the important dates detailed below which include trips, Sports Day, the Monkton Gala, Leaver's Ceremony and EYC Graduation.

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)



Thursday 2nd May 2024 - Inservice Day - School closed to pupils

Monday 6th May 2024 - School closed for holiday

Wednesday 8th May 2024 - P7 at Prestwick Academy for Newton Racers and P6 Trip to Dumfries House

Friday 24th and Monday 27th May 2024 - school and EYC closed for bank holiday weekend

Friday 31st May 2024 - Dress down day - staff and pupils to bring bottles for gala stall

Tuesday 4th June 2024 - EYC and School Sports Races afternoon at 1:30pm (on field behind school) - parent / carers welcome

Wednesday 5th June 2024 - P1 - P7 potted Sports activities in classes - pupils can wear house colours (if they have them)

P7 to S1 Parent Information evening at Prestwick Academy at 6:30pm

Thursday 6th June 2024 - P1 school trip to Dundonald Castle (more details to follow)

Friday 7th June 2024 - Pre-school to P7 reports to be sent home

Saturday 8th June 2024 - Monkton Gala Day (more details to follow)

Monday 10th June 2024 - P4 and P5 trip to Culzean Castle

Tuesday 11th June 2024 - EYC Trip to Kidz Play

Tuesday 11th to Thursday 13th June 2024 - P7 to S1 Transition days at Academies (Marr 11th / 12th & Prestwick 11-13th)

Friday 14th June 2024 - P7 Leaver's Trip

Wednesday 12th June 2024 - Whole School bump up afternoon / ante pre Stay and Play in EYC (1:45-2:15pm)

Wednesday 26th June 2024 - P7 Leaver's Ceremony at 9:30am

EYC Graduation at 2pm

Friday 28th June 2024 - School Closes for summer at 1pm (EYC will remain open until 3pm for those who require it)

Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



This section contains important updates and information.



Monkton PS and EYC Parent / carer survey 2024

At this time of year, we evaluate our progress as a school and EYC and plan our improvement priorities for next year. Details of what we have focused on this session, can be found on the [school website](#). We want to involve all stakeholders in this evaluation and as you know, the views of our parents / carers are extremely valued by us. In order to gather your views, we have created this short survey - <https://forms.office.com/e/QYXjRnGvbi> . We would be grateful if you could please take the time to complete this survey by Friday 17th May 2024. Thank you!



The Parent Council would like to thank everyone that has helped make their events run over the last year. We have had a lot of fun and hope the children have as well.

Our last fundraising event for year will be at the Monkton Gala Day on 8th June (see below for more information). We are asking for donations of pre loved soft toys for a teddy tombola. If you are able to donate these pre wrapped that would be a huge help. Donations can be dropped off at the school office between 1st May and 1st June 2024. Thank you!

Over the summer break after discussion with the children we will be purchasing new playground equipment to benefit children across all year groups.

Our AGM will be on Wednesday 28th August 2024 at 6.30pm in school meeting room, everyone is welcome to attend.

Football Strip Sponsorship

Our football team require new football strips for next season so we are reaching out to see if anyone is able to (or knows anyone who might be able to) sponsor or help us get new kits for the P6/7 school team. Please contact the school office if you think you can help or have any ideas. Thank you!



Digital Poverty Alliance in Partnership with Currys

Digital Poverty Alliance are collecting donations from customers in Currys stores to help families who need a laptop to get one. There are 7 identified areas across the UK, including South Ayrshire. Families in

South Ayrshire who don't have access to a computer can apply through the DPA to have a device for their family for good.

For more information please go to:- <https://digitalpovertyalliance.org/tech4families/>



MONKTON GALA DAY 2024 – 8th June 2024 - 12- 4pm

- Music and dance shows from a local Choir, DJ, and dance groups.
- Games and sport activities from a party entertainer and Active Schools.
- Face Painting, Climbing Walls, Owl Magic, Ninja Assault Course, slides and bouncy castles. The super cute Alpacas will be back too.
- Ice Cream Van, Sweets and Cakes Stalls, Coffee Stall, Pizza van and a licensed Bar.

The Monkton Gala Group (Subcommittee of Monkton Community Council) is looking for volunteers to help on the day - please contact Catherine Robertson on 07494 465661 or email clroberton4@btinternet.com. They are also looking for donations for the raffle - please contact Catherine or hand into school office. Thank you!

The Parent Council have a stall at the Gala (see above) and are asking for donations of pre loved soft toys for a teddy tombola. If you are able to donate these pre wrapped that would be a huge help. Donations can be dropped off at the school office between 1st May and 1st June 2024. Thank you!

The school will also have a stall on the day. We plan on running a 'Mystery Bottle' stall - we are looking for donations of bottles (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages - even bottles of water). Children and staff are invited to dress down on Friday 31st May 2024 (no football colours or strips please) and bring a bottle as a donation. Could parents please hand in any bottles of alcohol straight into the office that day please - thank you. We will also need bottle bags please so please also send them in. We will also have glitter tattoos / transfers available on our stall. The pupils in the Pupil Council have been asked to help out at the stall on the day - a letter with details will follow.



Sign Up to Parentsportal

Monkton Primary School and Early Years Centre recently went live with Parentsportal and we currently have a 51.15% uptake. We are keen to encourage as many parents as possible to sign up to this new system to fully achieve the benefits offered. Parentsportal provides a secure digital solution to the traditional school bag run, making it easier for parents and carers to manage paperwork connected with school activities, allowing them to obtain information about their child's educational progress at a time that suits them. This will include access to information such as Annual Data Packs which can now be offered online, consent forms, parental reports, pupil timetables, school calendar, school notices, etc as well as providing links other useful sites, such as Parent Pay, South Ayrshire Council website, and more. We will also be introducing additional services to the platform during 2024.

How to access Parentsportal

1. Download the parentsportal.scot APP using the QR codes (picture beside)

OR visit <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>.

2. Log in to Parentsportal using '**my account**'. If you already have a mygovscot '**my account**' click the link to **Sign In**. If you don't have a mygovscot '**my account**' click the link to register for this in the first instance, and then sign In.

3. Once registered you will be prompted to '**Link Your Child**' where you can provide details relating to your child. Once the details are matched you will be sent a security code to either your mobile number or email address registered with the school. The security code is to provide additional security before your child's record is linked. Your request will then be sent the school for approval and you will be notified of the decision to approve the link on your email.

4. The details added must match the information held within the school or a match may not be found. If anyone has any issues, please contact the office who will be able to provide assistance.



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)



National Standardised Assessments for Scotland (NSA) and GL Assessments - P3 and P6

This month, all P1 children will complete National Standardised Assessments (NSA) with their class teacher. P4 and P7 have already completed these back in November. In August 2017 Scottish Government introduced the NSA, a single, nationally developed set of standardised assessments for aspects of literacy and numeracy, designed to align with the way we deliver education in Scotland through Curriculum for Excellence. All children in P1, P4, P7 and S3 are assessed once a year (using NSA) in aspects of reading, writing and numeracy. In addition to NSA, ongoing and informal assessment continues to be a central part of everyday assessment in schools. The NSA assess aspects of reading, writing and numeracy, providing teachers with diagnostic information on children's progress in these areas. Children complete the assessments online and they are marked automatically. This gives teachers immediate diagnostic feedback that they can use to help children progress in literacy and numeracy.

P3 and P6 children will also complete GL assessments this month, also for Literacy and Numeracy. These are also standardised assessments which the authority has requested that schools do to clearly identify progress and next steps for each child. Like the NSAs above these will be completed online, in class, with their class teacher.

More details of other ways that we assess your child can be found on the school website - <https://shorturl.at/aiqtu>



Next Year's class structure and staffing

We can confirm that our class structure for next session will consist of 7 classes – **P2/1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6** and **P7**. This is the first time that we have had a composite class in the school for a few years but it is common in schools and used to happen in Monkton every year in the past. There is a low intake of P1 children this coming year and as you know, our current P1 class is big which is why there will be a composite class. The P1 teachers will work closely with the HT / DHT when forming the composite class, taking social friendships and academic progress into consideration. More information on composite classes can be found here - [Information on composite classes - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/information-on-composite-classes)

We are currently working with the local authority to finalise our staffing for next session. We are unlikely to have our teaching staffing confirmed until late May therefore it is likely that we will be unable to share our final plans with parents / carers until June - probably just before the bump up afternoon on 12th June 2024.

Congratulations to Mrs Hogarth who will be leaving the school at the end of June 2024 as she has secured a new post as Principal Teacher of Early Years within the authority. We are sad that she is leaving Monkton but we wish her all the best in her new role!



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



New date!

ASN Family Support Network Event
10th May 24 in Concert Halls, Troon

10th May 2024 11-3 pm:
 this year's theme is "**Transitions**"

Keynote speakers:
Tanya Tenant
www.tanyatennant.co.uk
 speaking on "Transition" 12-2pm

South Ayrshire Psychological Services
 speaking on "Transition Policy and Strategies" 2-3pm

Marketplace stalls including:
 Barnardos, Penumbra, Community Gift Exchange, South Ayrshire Community Transport, DWP, Scottish Book Trust and many more ...

No need to pre-book for this event

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

Further information from
fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
 Or ASN Website www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/asn



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



1 -

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!