



Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

December 2024

It's now December and the school / EYC is starting to prepare for the festive season. We have a busy month ahead with the cinema trip, Monkton Christmas Fayre/Market, P1 and P2 Nativity, EYC show, pantomime and class parties. Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers each day with their school uniform underneath.

Last month, we had lots of exciting events / activities including P5-7 pupil group meetings, PEEP sessions for EYC families, the Remembrance Service, Children in Need, Book Week Scotland, Athletics Sporthall competitions and the P5 Day of Dance. P1-3, P5 and P6 all held their sharing the learning sessions and we had a great turn out of parents / carers for these - thank you!

As always, we are here to help. Please do not email staff directly but instead please email the school mailbox on Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or contact the school office on **01292 473456** and your enquiry will be directed to the right person.

We close for Christmas on Friday 20th December 2024 at **2:30pm** (the EYC will remain open until 3pm for pick up). We hope that you all have a lovely festive period with family and friends. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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)



Monday 2nd December 2024 - Children and staff can wear Christmas jumpers from today with school uniform underneath.

EYC, P1 and P2 Trip to the cinema (am)

Royal Navy STEM team delivering workshops to P5, P6 and P7 (pm).

Tuesday 3rd December 2024 - South Ayrshire Dance Competition.

Wednesday 4th December 2024 - P7 to ChrisMaths event at Prestwick Academy.

Wednesday 4th December 2024 - EYC Christmas PEEP session with Nicola Lawrence in dining hall, 1:45-2:45pm - all EYC families welcome.

Thursday 5th December 2024 - Shaun and Toni (from South Ayrshire Information and Advice Hub) drop in session, 8:45-11am in school - all parent / carers and members of the community are welcome to use this service when it is available in the village.

Thursday 5th December 2024 - Monkton Christmas Fayre/Market 6-9pm in the school.

Tuesday 10th December 2024 - P1 and P2 Nativity Performance at 9.30am - each child can have 2 parent / carers attend.

Tuesday 10th December 2024 - EYC Christmas Show at 1:30pm then Stay and Play - each child can have 2 parent / carers attend.

Wednesday 11th December 2024 - EYC and School Christmas Lunch.

Wednesday 11th December 2024 - P7 Christmas Disco at Prestwick Academy - 6-7:30pm.

Friday 13th December 2024 - P3-7 children and staff at pantomime, 'Mother Goose', at the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr (am).

Friday 13th December 2024 - EYC Christmas Party (pm).

Tuesday 17th December 2024 - P6/7 Christmas Party (pm).

Wednesday 18th December 2024 - P3, P4 and P5 Christmas Party (pm).

Thursday 19th December 2024 - P1 and P2 Christmas Party (pm).

Friday 20th December 2024 - School closes for Christmas holidays at 2:30pm (EYC at 3pm but can be collected earlier).

Monday 6th January 2025 - School and EYC reopens at 9am.

Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



This section contains important updates and information.

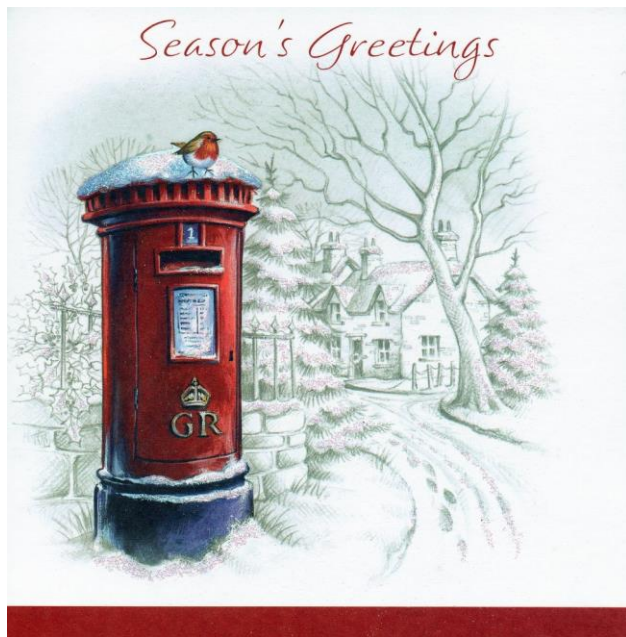


Children in Need 2024

The school and EYC dressed down on Friday 13th November 2024. From this, we raised £246.05 for Children In Need which has been paid to the charity. Thank you for all the donations. Also thank you to Mr Cairns and our P7 pupils for organising and leading activities on the day for the rest of the school.

Night before Christmas collection

Thank you to all those who were able to donate to this charity who help out local families during the Christmas period. We were overwhelmed by the donations that have come in - thank you! Remember that we can make referrals to the charity so if you are struggling this Christmas, please do not hesitate to get in touch ASAP. Thank you.



Christmas Post Box

If your child(ren), would like to write Christmas cards for their friends, then they can bring them into the school and post in the school postbox. The cards will then be sorted and delivered by P7 pupils. Can all mail please be posted by Wednesday 18th December 2024. Thank you!



Monkton Christmas Market

This year, instead of running our own Christmas Fayre, we are hosting a combined event with the Parent Council and Monkton Markets. Our **Monkton Christmas Market** is taking place this **Thursday 5th December 2024 from 6-9pm** in the school - all welcome. The Monkton Community Council and church are also involved. Some of our pupils will be starting the Market off with a few Christmas songs, then there will be a variety of stalls on offer as well as games and activities. The village shop will have a stall offering snacks and treats. Sandra (our cook) is going to be offering tea, coffee, hot chocolate and non-alcoholic mulled wine. Our P7 fundraising group are running a few events including a hamper raffle and chocolate tombola.

Some stalls will be able to take card payments on the night but many including the school and parent run stalls will only be able to take cash so please bring this along on the night - thank you.

The school / EYC is running this year's raffle and we are still looking for raffle prizes - if you are able to donate any, please hand into the school office by the end of the day on Wednesday 4th - thank you!

This event will be fun-filled for all the family so we hope to see you all there this Thursday.



Important reminders

- **Health and Safety** - **no parent / carers should be parking in the staff car park** unless they have a disabled badge. Unfortunately, some parents continue to ignore this and cause congestion / disruption which is dangerous to staff and children.

- **Children should not be bringing in toys or personal items to the school or EYC.** They are not required and may get lost or damaged. If older children have to bring mobile phones to school (only if absolutely necessary for safety purposes e.g. walking to and from school) then these **MUST** be handed into the school office each morning - class teachers have their own arrangements for gathering these in class and then sending them to the office for safe-keeping.

- **Children in the EYC should not be bringing snacks or water bottles to the EYC.** Children are provided with their snacks and lunches. They are also provided water and milk throughout the session. They should not be drinking juice throughout the day at the EYC hence no water bottles should be in.



Please check your emails regularly

Due to the high costs of sending SMS text messages, we will be reducing our use of these and sending emails instead. and using emails are our method of communication to parent / carers more often. From now on, **only messages alerting parent / carers to absences or urgent information will be sent via SMS text**. All other information should will be sent via email so **please check your emails** on a daily basis. Please note, that we would still make a phone call if there was any emergency or urgent situation. Information can also be accessed via ParentsPortal e.g. reporting absences, accessing dates in the calendar.

There is a South Ayrshire wide review of how communications can be streamlined with the aim of providing a consistent approach. If you have any feedback on this, please contact the school office. Thank you!



Safeguarding at Monkton

The safety and wellbeing of children at Monkton Primary School and Early Years Centre is our upmost 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). Both the HT and DHT are also PREVENT officers.

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

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



Discussion about learning at home / targets

We have been planning a real focus in all classes from EYC to P7 on pupils being able to talk about their learning - the what, the why and they what next? It would be wonderful if you could have a regular check in with your child to give them the opportunity to discuss their learning with you. Instead of asking - "what did you do in school today?" say "Tell me about something you learned today" Thank you!

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



CHRISTMAS MARKET



GET YOUR GIFTS AND TREATS WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

STALLS, KIDS ACTIVITIES & SANTA

THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 6-9PM
MONKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONKTON

MOST STALLS WILL ACCEPT CARD PAYMENTS BUT PLEASE BRING CASH FOR THE GAMES STALLS

Advice and Support for Families



Monkton Primary has the continued backing from South Ayrshire Council's Information and Advice Hub.



Shaun and Toni will provide a free, confidential, and impartial, information and advice service in welfare benefits, money/debt advice to families.

They will be able to support in areas such as:-

- Checking your entitlement and supporting you in making claims
- Advice regarding Free School Meals, School Clothing Grant, Scottish Child Payment and any other eligible grants
- Budgeting and money advice

If you would like to speak with Shaun or Toni, they will be available from 8:45am – 11:00am on Thursday 7th November and Thursday 5th December.

Alternatively, if you are unable to attend during these times you can contact the Hub directly using the following link [Digital referral form - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk) (when using this link please select **Yes** to 'Would you like access to any other services?' and type **FAO Community Team and Monkton Primary**) or by calling 0300 123 0900.



Starting Primary One in August 2025?

Prestwick Cluster would like to invite you to visit our schools.

 <p>Heathfield Primary Thursday 9th January 2025 4-5pm</p>	 <p>Glenburn Primary Tuesday 7th January 2025 4-5pm</p>
 <p>Monkton Primary Monday 6th January 2025 4-5pm</p>	 <p>Symington Primary Tuesday 7th January 2025 4-5pm</p>
 <p>Kingcase Primary Wednesday 8th January 2025 4-5pm</p>	 <p>St Ninians Primary Tuesday 7th January 2025 5-6pm</p>

Is your child due to start their journey in early years?

Prestwick Cluster EYC's would like to invite you to their open evenings



Prestwick North EYC
Thursday 6th February 2025
4-5pm



Heathfield EYC
Thursday 6th February 2025
4-5pm



Symington EYC
Tuesday 4th February 2025
4-5pm



Monkton EYC
Monday 3rd February 2025
4-5pm



Space Place EYC
Friday 31st January 2025
4-5pm



Kingcase EYC
Wednesday 5th February 2025
4-5pm



Neuro Connections Peer Support Group

for Families of Neurodiverse Children
and Young People

What to Expect:

- A welcoming and supportive environment
- Connect with other parents/carers in your community
- Share experiences and resources
- Information about local services and support

Upcoming Sessions:

Wednesday 4th December 2024
12:00pm – 2:00pm
The Place, Newmarket Street, Ayr

Wednesday 11th December 2024
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Monkton and Prestwick North Parish Church

Scan the QR Code to book
your place



or visit:
tinyurl.com/AberlourPeerGroups

Registered Scottish Charity no. SC032991

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** so please check daily for these. **SMS text** messages will only be sent if your child is absent (if you have not informed us) or for urgent information.

Instagram is being used for reminders and to share learning in class (2 posts per week per class). 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)





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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)



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

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!***

Our Values

The school values are **Honesty, Compassion, Respect, Responsibility and Equity.**

For a number of years, the school has shared values with the other schools in the Prestwick Academy cluster. 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.

Our 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!