



# Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter January 2025

Happy New Year! Hope that you all had a lovely festive period with your family and friends.

This is the first newsletter of 2025 and we hope that it will be a great year for all of us! We look forward to getting children back into the routines of EYC and school this week. We have lots of exciting events and activities planned for the rest of the school year and will keep you up to date in the 'Dates for your Diary' section below.

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](mailto:Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) or contact the school office on **01292 473456** and your enquiry will be directed to the right person.

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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- *Dates for your diary*
- *Updates*
- *Learning, Teaching and Assessment zone*
- *Community Noticeboard*
- *Communication*

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



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

**Wednesday 29th January 2025** - Parent Council meeting at 6:30pm in the school - all welcome.

**Friday 31st January 2025** - Scottish Poetry Concert for pupils and staff.

**Friday 7th February 2025** - Term 3 and 4 class newsletters to be sent out and added to website.

**Monday 10th February 2025** - Holiday - school and EYC closed for staff and pupils.

**Tuesday 11th February 2025** - Inservice Day - school and EYC closed for pupils.

**Wednesday 12th February 2025** - School and EYC reopens for pupils.

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th February 2025** - World of Work week - see details below.

**Thursday 6th March 2025** - World Book Day (no dress up required).

**Thursday 27th March 2025** - Parents' afternoon / evening.

**Tuesday 1st - Friday 4th April 2025** - P7 Residential Trip to Dumfries House.

**Friday 4th April 2025** - School closes for holidays at 2:30pm (EYC at 3pm).

**Tuesday 22nd April 2025** - School and EYC reopens at 9am.

## Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



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*This section contains important updates and information.*

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### **Monkton Christmas Market**

The Monkton Christmas Market/Fayre took place on the 5th of December and was a big success. This was a joint event with the Parent Council and Monkton Markets. There was a great turn out to the event and fun was had by all. The school and EYC raised £984.52 from the market

which was amazing! This money has gone into the school / EYC funds and will be put towards events and activities throughout the year. Thank you to Sandra (our catering supervisor) for providing the hot drinks and delicious shortbread. Also thank you to Mrs Kenny for organising the stalls and helping out on the night. A big thank you also to Emily Steele (Monkton Markets) and Hazel Duncan (and the rest of the Parent Council) for helping to organise this event.



### **A big thank you!**

Thank you to the Parent Council for fundraising with the support of the wider parent body. The funds raised continue to help to support school events and activities.

Last month, the funds raised by the Parent Council paid for the EYC, P1 and P2 buses for their cinema trip. Moana 2 was a great film which was enjoyed by all. The children also enjoyed an ice lolly and a drink courtesy of the Parent Council.

Also a big thank you to the Parent Council for paying for the buses that took all P3-7 pupils to the pantomime at the Gaiety and for buying everyone an ice cream. Mother Goose was a great pantomime and everyone had a great morning.



### **Mobile Phone Policy**

Children should only be bringing mobile phones to school if absolutely necessary e.g. they walk to school or need to be contacted before 9am or after 3pm. If children do need to bring them then phones should be switched off when they walk through the gate of the school in the morning and NOT used in the playground area. Class teachers arrange for phones to be collected and they are taken to the office to be stored safely for the day. These are then collected at the end of the day and given back to the children at 3pm. Phones should not be switched back on until children leave school grounds. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please contact the school office who will pass a message on. Please chat to your child(ren) about this policy and ensure that if they do need to bring a phone, they agree to follow the above procedure. Thank you!



### **New football strips**

A big thank you to Jeffrey Fabrications for sponsoring and paying for football strips for our football team. We are very grateful for this and I am sure that you will agree that the new strips are very smart. Thank you again.



## 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!



### Developing Young Workforce - World of Work week

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th February 2025**

During this week, the EYC and whole school will be focusing on skills linked to the world of work. As part of this, we will be looking for parents / carers (or grandparents) who would be willing to



give up their time to come in and talk to children about their work / careers. We would be very grateful to anyone who could do this and we are looking for volunteers who work in a variety of roles e.g. shops, banks, NHS, companies and business owners. If this is something that you could help us with, please complete this short survey -

<https://forms.office.com/e/BS4HLYQhU9>







Thank you in advance.

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









## Starting Primary One in August 2025?

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

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

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

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

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|---|--|
|  <b>Prestwick North EYC</b><br>Thursday 6th February 2025<br>4-5pm |  <b>Heathfield EYC</b><br>Thursday 6th February 2025<br>4-5pm |
|  <b>Monkton EYC</b><br>Monday 3rd February 2025<br>4-5pm           |  <b>Synington EYC</b><br>Tuesday 4th February 2025<br>4-5pm   |
|  <b>Kingcase EYC</b><br>Wednesday 5th February 2025<br>4-5pm      |  <b>Space Place EYC</b><br>Friday 31st January 2025<br>4-5pm |

## The Information and Advice Team...

### Your Journey to Financial Wellbeing

A free, confidential and impartial service

What are you entitled to?

Help to apply for benefits

Make the most of your money

Help with Debt

Tel: 0300 123 0900


Find us here on

**Monkton Primary School**

9th January  
09:00 – 11:00

Drop in available – No appointment needed!

**South Ayrshire Council**  
Working in partnership with the community



## 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** 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](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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*@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!***

### 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!**