



Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

February 2025

It is February already - the second month of the New Year! January was a quick month which seemed to fly in. We obviously had that unexpected day that the school and EYC was closed last week due to the storm - we hope that no one suffered too much damage to their properties as a result.

This month, the children have worked hard learning about Scotland and learning Scottish poems and songs. Well done to parent / carers who helped children practice at home. The whole school community came together this morning to celebrate and share their poems/ songs at our annual Scottish Poetry Concert. Well done to all the finalists and congratulations to the winners from each class. A big thank you also goes to the judges who are all Cosy Spaces attendees who made the very difficult decisions deciding the winners today - thank you for their support.

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.

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*

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



Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



Monday 3rd February 2025 - EYC open evening for prospective new EYC parent / carers - 4-5pm.

Thursday 6th February 2025 - Information and Advice Hub drop in session 9-11am in meeting room of the school. Open to all.

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

P7 Sharing the Learning Scottish Theme, 1:45-2:45pm - all parent / carers welcome.

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).

Friday 14th March 2025 - Comic Relief (red noses will be available to buy for £2 from school, date to follow when available).

P4 Sharing the Learning -1:45-2:45pm - all P4 parent / carers invited.

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.

Tuesday 3rd June 2025 - Sports Day races on field behind school (weather permitting), 1:30-2:30pm - all parent / carers welcome

This section contains important updates and information.



Monkton Parent Council Spring Disco - Thursday 13/2/25

Times: EYC/P1 disco: 4-5pm

P2 – P4 disco: 5.15-6.30pm

P5-P7 disco: 6:45--8pm

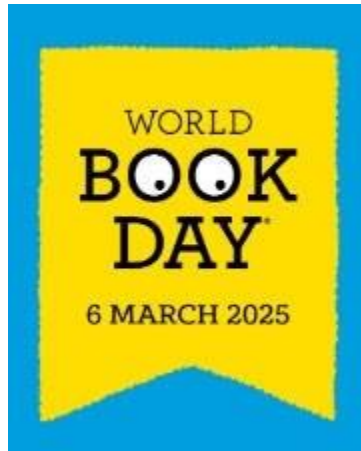
Pupils with additional support needs are welcome at all discos, however the first disco will be quieter if this suits better.

Parent volunteers are essential to run the event, please sign up via the ticket link below or email monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com

All tickets must be purchased via the ticketing platform <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/monktonparentcouncil/index.cfm>

Ticket sales close Monday 3rd February at 8am.

Any queries please contact monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com

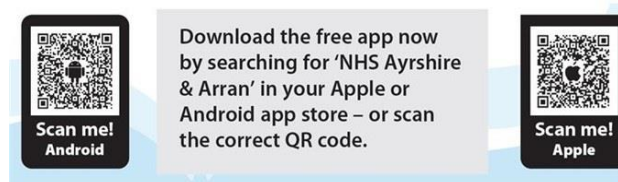


World Book Day (Thursday 6th March 2025)

The Parent Council will be holding their annual recycled book fayre on World Book Day this year. We will be accepting donations of books (suitable for children up to 12 years of age). Please hand in book donations between Monday **17th February to Friday 28th February 2025**. All booked donations can be dropped into the boxes inside the main foyer / outside the main office. Many thanks.

The donations will then be sorted and on the day, children will come along with their class and choose a 'new' book to take home.

The Parent Council will also be working alongside school to run a reading bingo which will encourage children to read at home and school. The school Reading Leaders will help to support this - more details of the bingo will follow shortly.



School Nursing Application Provision (SNAP) App

The School Nursing Application Provision (SNAP) app launched earlier this week to provide support and resources for children, young people, carers, families and colleagues in Social work and Education.

For more information, download the app and search for SNAP.



Health and Safety reminder

Once you have collected your child from the school or EYC at 3pm, please leave the school playground. School staff cannot be responsible for children in the playground after school times. The gates will now be closed sharp after 3pm. Thank you!

Also no parent / carers should be using the staff car park AT ANY TIME unless they are a blue badge holder. The car park is small and can get very congested at drop off / pick up times. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



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)



Gym / PE sessions in Monkton PS

All P1-7 children require a gym kit which they change into when they are going to their gym slot in the gym hall or when they do physical activity outside. Gym days / times are shared with class teachers in homework diaries and on class newsletters (Term 3 and 4 newsletters are being sent out next week). All children should have a gym kit in school so that they can change and make the most out of their weekly sessions. Next Friday, before the long weekend, class teachers will send home all gym kits to be washed and checked. Please return these with your child on Wednesday 12th February. If you are struggling to get a gym kit, please let us know so that we can help.

Also, jewellery should not be worn on PE days. Please ensure that your child does not wear jewellery to school on these days.

Thank you for your co-operation on this matter. We want all children to get the most out of PE sessions as it is part of the core curriculum.

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" Also try asking them what their learning targets are e.g. "what are your targets or next steps in Writing?" Thank you!



South Ayrshire Council - Every Learner Every Day - Attendance campaign

As you know, South Ayrshire Council is placing a great focus on raising attendance levels in all schools. Social media and radio campaigns have been going on this session and all schools have been asked to look at ways to increase attendance for all. We are pleased to say that attendance at our school is sitting slightly above the South Ayrshire average at the moment and also that we are slightly above where we were this time last session. However, our current attendance rate is down 3.6% from when we started this session in August so we hope that we can work together to bring these figures back up. You are able to check your child(ren)'s attendance on ParentsPortal. Please refrain from booking holidays within term time. We closely monitor absence rates and if your child's attendance drops below 90% then you will receive a letter, as per the authority protocol. Your continued support with this matter is greatly appreciated. If you need any support with attendance, please get in touch. Thank you!



Developing Young Workforce - World of Work week

Monday 24th - Friday 28th February 2025

Thank you to all those who have already responded - if you can help and have not yet let us know, please complete the form below asap - thank you!

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>

We will be in touch in the next few days to confirm with those who have offered help. Thank you again in advance.

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



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



Spaceplace EYC
Friday 31st January 2025
4-5pm



Kingcase EYC
Wednesday 5th February 2025
4-5pm

The Information and Advice Team...

Your Journey to Financial Wellbeing

AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL
Working in partnership with you

Find us here on

Monkton Primary
School

6th February
09:00 – 11:00

Drop in available – No
appointment needed!





HELLO MONKTON EYC AND FLY
HIGH PARENTS, CARERS &
GRANDPARENTS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR PEEP
ON: THUR 13TH, 20TH, 27TH OF
MARCH & 3RD APRIL

TIME: 9.15 - 10.15 AM

WHERE: MONKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



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:

Thursday 6th February 2025

Z1 Youth Bar, Dalrymple St, Girvan. 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Monday 10th February 2025

Z1 Youth Bar, Dalrymple St, Girvan. 12:00pm-1:30pm

Wednesday 12th February 2025

The Place, Newmarket Street. 12:30pm – 2:00pm

Monkton and Prestwick North Parish Church, Monkton Road. 6:00pm-7:30pm

Thursday 13th February 2025

Troon scout Hall, St Meddars Street. 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Tuesday 18th February 2025

Maybole Carrick Centre, Culzean Rd. 12:45-2:15pm

Wednesday 19th February 2025

Troon Scout Hall, St Meddars Street. 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Tuesday 25th February 2025

Maybole Carrick Centre, Culzean Rd. 6:00pm-7:00pm



Scan the QR Code to book your place

or visit:

tinyurl.com/AberlourPeerGroups



Destination South Ayrshire

south ayrshire health & social care partnership

VASA Voluntary Action South Ayrshire

cAyrFest

CELEBRATING UNPAID CARERS

Saturday 22nd February
Ayr Town Centre • 11am - 3pm

SOUNDBATHS • ARCHERY • BIKE TRACK
CHOIR • DRUMMING • SILENT DISCO
MAGICIAN • ART WORKSHOP • CINEMA
YOGA • SCAVENGER HUNT • LIVE MUSIC
...AND MORE!

FREE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

AYR TOWN HALL • GRAIN EXCHANGE • THE CUTTY SARK • THE PLACE

three60y making you count! **THRIVING COMMUNITIES**

South Ayrshire Young Carers

THE IRIS FILM | THEATRE | MUSIC

south **AYRSHIRE COUNCIL** Comhairle Siorrachd Air a' Deas

Ayrshire College

Skills Development Scotland

Department for Work & Pensions

active schools SOUTH Ayrshire

Ayrshire housing

THE WAY FORWARD



Communication (UNCRC Articles 3 and 5)



Communication with parents / carers continues to be of upmost importance to us and we will communicate in a variety of ways.

Please report absences before 9:30am each morning via ParentsPortal if you can. Use the 'Absence Reporting' tile to do so. This can also be used to record appointments or any time that our child is required to be out of school.

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.

We have created a summary of the online platforms that we use and what information will be sent using each one - ADD LINK TO THIS ON WEBSITE

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)



[@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!