

Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter June 2025

May went past in a flash and it was another busy month. We had lots of sun during May and we are very much hoping that it will return in time for the summer holidays!

Last month, we had Screen Awareness week where children (and staff) were learning about the impact of too much screen time. A PowerPoint with more information for parent / carers is available at - Parents | Monkton Primary School and Early Years Class

We are now into June - there are only 4 weeks of this school session. We are very much looking forward to all the events that June will bring including Sports Day, the Monkton Gala, some more class trips, bump-up days, our P7 Leavers 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.

Hope to see you all at the gala this Saturday (see details below).

We also hope that you all have a great summer holidays when it comes and that the sun shines. A bit good luck to all of our P7 Leavers as they embark in their secondary school journey in August - we wish them all the best!

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)



Monday 2nd June - Friday 6th June 2025 - Fit & Fun Fest week (see separate letter sent out)

Monday 2nd June 2025 - EYC Trip.

Wednesday 4th June 2025 - P2/1 and P2 Trip.

Friday 6th June 2025 - Reports available on ParentsPortal.

Saturday 7th June 2025 - Monkton Gala - 12-4pm on playing fields behind school.

Monday 9th June 2025 - Sports Day races on field behind school (weather permitting), 1:30-2:30pm - all parent / carers welcome.

Tuesday 10th - Thursday 12th June 2025 - P7 - S1 Transition Days at Prestwick Academy

Wednesday 11th June 2025 - Whole School Bump up 1:45-2:30pm.

Thursday 12th June 2025 - EYC New start BookBug session for new children.

Tuesday 17th June 2025 - PEEP Teddy Bear's picnic for new P1 pupils at 1:45pm.

Tuesday 24th June 2025 - P7 Leavers' Trip.

Thursday 26th June 2025 - P7 Leavers' Assembly - 9:30-10:30am - all P7 parent / carers welcome.

Ice Cream van treat - being paid for by Parent Council for all pupils and staff - thank you!

Friday 27th June 2025 - EYC Graduation - 10:30am - all EYC parent / carers welcome.

School closes for summer holidays at 1pm. (EYC open until 3pm although children can be collected at 1pm if preferred).

Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



This section contains important updates and information.



Sports Day Races - now Monday 9th June 2025 (rescheduled from the 3rd due to adverse weather)

- On **Monday 9th June 2025** (weather permitting), we plan to hold our school and EYC Sports Day races at **1:30pm**, on the playing fields behind the school.
- All EYC P7 pupils will take part in 2 races each one flat race and one novelty race. Fly High are also going to join us and do two races for their children. We will also have a toddler race and a parents race at the end for those who would like to take part (time permitting).
- Parents are welcome to come along to watch the races, from **1.30pm sharp**. Please stick to the spectators side of the field (the side furthest away from the school). All children will remain with their classes in their designated areas.
- At the end of the day, all children will return into school where they will be dismissed at 3pm, following normal routine. Children should not be removed from the playing field area.

- If possible, P1-7 children should wear something with their house colour on it however, please do not go out and spend money on something new.
- Please ensure that your child wears suitable sports clothing and footwear for the day. They should bring water, a waterproof jacket, sun hat and wear sun cream (if weather is nice).
- If the weather is very wet or the ground is very wet following rain the previous evening or in the morning, we may need to risk assess and take the decision to cancel on the day. We will avoid doing this unless absolutely necessary and will inform parent / carers asap if we do.





** MONKTON GALA DAY 2025 - Saturday 7th June 2025 - this Saturday**

Monkton Gala is back for 2025 so save the date! After another successful community gala last year, the gala committee has been working hard to arrange another fun event for the people of Monkton! So far, we have confirmed the following:-

- Evening events during the week of the gala including welly throwing competition on the playing field behind the school at 6pm on Tuesday 3rd June 2025, a treasure hunt on Thursday 5th June 2025 at 6:30pm and pop-up 'Wicked' cinema event at 6pm on Friday 6th June 2025 in the Carvick Webster Hall.
- Entertainment on the day including a DJ and performances including a pipe band and line dancing.
- Games and sport activities from Active Schools, Silly Gilly and Killie Community.
- Alpacas, face painting, climbing walls, bungee trampoline, slides and bouncy castles.
- Ice cream van, sweets and cakes stalls, coffee stall, chippy van, pizza van and a licensed bar.

The gala committee needs the support of local business to help with funding, raffle prizes and to get involved to contribute to the success of the Gala. If you can *donate a prize for the raffle* (even small items that can be used to make a hamper) would be appreciated and you can hand into the school office *by Friday 30th May 2025*. The committee are also looking for *volunteers* to help on the day - please contact Catherine Robertson, Chair of Monkton Gala Group (Subcommittee of Monkton Community Council) on clroberton4@btinternet.com if you can help - thank you.

Thank you for all the donations of bottles for the school and Parent Council 'Mystery Bottle' stall and also the donations of wrapped teddies for the P6 fundraising group.

We hope that you can come along to support the school, EYC and Parent Council at the Gala on Saturday - it will be lots of fun!

Parent Survey Results

Thank you to all those who completed this year's Parent Survey. We had 31 responses out of a possible 122 families which represents 25% of the total families across the school and EYC. Overall, the feedback received was very positive which reinforces what a great job our staff do in school to ensure that children are learning and developing in their care. We are grateful for the feedback which will help to inform our next steps and priorities for next year. There are some very positive comments about what the school does well and some suggestions for us to work on which we will include as part of our development plan next session. The full results and feedback from the survey can be found here – Parents | Monkton Primary School and Early Years Class

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the following communication to be issued to all parents/carers. I have also requested for this detail to be shared on our social media platforms.

Free School Meals & Clothing Grants for school session 2025/26

Free School Meal/Clothing Grant applications for 2025/26 are available here: Free school meals and clothing grant - South Ayrshire Council

The Scottish Government have committed to providing a free school meal to all P1 to P5 pupils, however we are requesting that parents/carers who meet the eligibility criteria submit an application as this information will be used to pay free school meal payments during school holiday periods.



Important Health and Safety Reminder

The health, safety and wellbeing of all our pupils, staff, parent/ carers and community is always of upmost importance to us. <u>Safeguarding measures</u> are in place to ensure that Monkton Primary School and EYC is a safe, supportive environment for all pupils and staff. We have procedures and protocols in place, liaising closely with relevant authorities at all times.

Every day, we reinforce our school values of **Honesty**, **Compassion**, **Respect**, **Responsibility** and **Equity**. We remind children that they **should not bring any items** into school and also that they must **report immediately** to an adult if they see anything that could hurt someone. We ask that parent/carers please reinforce this message at home and that you check what your child(ren) is bringing with them to school each morning. No toys or personal items should be brought in from home. Children should only bring their phones to school if absolutely necessary and if so, phones must be handed into the school office each morning for safe-keeping during the school day.

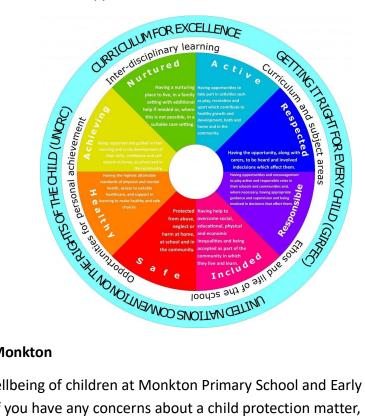
No parent / carers should be driving into or using the staff car park **at any time** unless they are a blue badge holder. There are now double yellow lines down the side of the car park which are being enforced by Mitie (who own the school building). Please find alternative car parking in the local area. Also please do not walk your child(ren) or yourself through the car park and instead use the pavements instead.

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 outwith school times.

We are aware that some of our pupils have been mis-using social media, particularly What's App, Snapchat and Tik-Tok, outwith school. During assemblies, class lessons and visits from the

Campus Cop, we talk to the children about Internet Safety and using phones / tablets safely however, we need your help to reinforce this message at home. We cannot stress enough the importance of managing what your child is doing on their phone and how often they use them. Apps such as TIKTOK and SNAPCHAT are for children aged 13+. These age restrictions are in place because generally primary school children can be exposed to things which can damage their mental wellbeing and self-esteem.

Thank you for your continued support 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)



New Report Format

Teaching staff are currently preparing the annual reports for all P1-7 pupils. This year, we are trialing electronic reports which will be sent out on ParentsPortal on Friday 6th June 2025. As well as being eco friendly as we are not using paper to print reports out, once they are posted onto the portal, they can be accessed at any point and will be stored to be referred back to. The report will contain the same elements as previously (CfE levels for all areas, comments for Literacy and Numeracy as well as a general comment) albeit in a different layout. This is the same format that Prestwick Academy use and us along with two other primary schools in the Prestwick Cluster have opted to try these. Most of our parent / carers have signed up for ParentsPortal but if you do not have access please contact the office to help you to sign up or to request a print out of your child's report. We will be asking for feedback on this new format, after the reports are issued, which we will discuss with the cluster before making plans for reports next session. Thank you!



Parent Volunteers for Extra Curricular Activities

We have had some recent feedback about the limited staffing and resources that we currently provide for some of our extra curricular clubs including the boys and girls football teams. The school day is 9am - 3pm and although we need to prioritise learning and teaching during this time, we recognise the importance of providing extra curricular opportunities for all pupils, especially those children who are not able to access these activities outwith school. We rely on staff volunteers to run after school clubs in their own time which many staff cannot do because of their own commitments. The staffing capacity continues to be very tight in the school and we have little flexibility to provide training sessions during the day. School budgets are also limited to provide specialist equipment and sometimes the extra resources required.

Active Schools play a key role in providing opportunities during the school day and after school - they also provide many of the resources required. They also organise a competitive calendar of competitions and events across the year - we try to attend as many of these as we can so that children have opportunities to take part and compete as well as meet new friends. Over the past two years, we have tried to make sure that we attend all of the cluster school events . Each event costs us money to travel to venues - buses are very expensive but we try to travel with Symington, where possible, to reduce costs. Moving forward, we are planning on asking parents of children involved, for a small donation to help towards the cost of the bus travel, if they are able to contribute to it.

Many other schools have parent volunteers who coach the school football teams therefore we are asking if there are any parent / carers who are willing to give up some time, after school or at lunchtime to provide training / support to lead either of our football teams. We would also love to be able to offer more extra-curricular clubs either at lunchtime or after school including art, music or games so if any parent / carers would be able to offer any time to help share their expertise in other areas, please get in touch. Please email Monkton.mail@south-

<u>ayrshire.gov.uk</u> if you would like to help out in any way and let us know your availability. We would be very grateful for any help that you are able to offer, even just a few hours - thank you! So far we have had no volunteers come forward which may unfortunately mean that we will not be able to run our football teams next session.

Please note that parent volunteers may need to be PVG / Disclosure checked so if you volunteer, then you would need to be willing to do this. Thank you.



Next Year's Class Structure and Staffing

We can confirm that our class structure for next session will consist of 7 classes - P1, P3/2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7. We have a low intake of P1 children for next session.

Class teachers will work closely with the HT / DHT when forming the composite P3/2 class, taking social friendships and academic progress into consideration. More information on composite classes can be found here - Information on composite classes - Information on composite classes - South Ayrshire Council

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 the end of this week so we hope to send a letter out to parent / carers early next week before the bump up afternoon on 11th June 2025.

School Arrangements for Next Session

Next school session, we will continue to open both gates in the morning and at the end of the day as the rear entrance is handy for those who live at the top of the village and it reduces some of the congestion at the front of the school. Therefore, pupils will be able to enter the playground from whichever gate suits best from where they live / are dropped off.

The front and back gates will open at 8:50am each morning. All pupils will enter the school building at 9am each morning.

There will be one morning break for all P1-7 pupils from 10:30 am – 10:45 am.

There will be one lunch time for all pupils from 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm. There will be a rota in operation with some classes going into the hall for lunch first and others going outside to play before being called in.

Home time will be 3pm each day. P1-3 pupils should be collected from front gates where possible (unless prior arrangement). P4-7 pupils can choose to leave via the front or back gate.

The EYC doors will open in the morning from 8:55-9:10am and be open for pick up between 2:45-3pm.

There is a breakfast club that that is operated by Fly High from 7:45am – 9am each morning in the school dining hall. More information on this can be obtained by phoning (01292) 475360 or emailing info@flyhighearlylearning.co.uk.

After School provision is provided by Prestwick After School Care Service - more information can be found here.

School Uniform for 2025-26

The wearing of school uniform is very much encouraged at Monkton and we would like every child to wear full uniform to school every day.

Our uniform consists of:

White or pale blue polo shirt or shirt and tie

Black skirt, pinafore or trousers

Blue tartan skirts or pinafores (if preferred)

Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan

Royal blue hoodie (with or without zip)

Black blazer

Blue checked dresses (in summer)

Any items you may require during the year can be purchased from:

BE Uniforms - <u>BE Uniforms Glasgow</u>

or

JW Brown - JW Brown PPE and Industrial Clothing Irvine Ayrshire Customised Clothing Schoolwear Sportswear

There are samples of uniform available to view in the office from Monday 2nd - Friday 13th June 2025.

You may be eligible to apply for a school clothing grant - <u>Free school meals and clothing grant -</u> South Ayrshire Council

To avoid loss please ensure that all your child's clothes and belongings are clearly labelled with their name (see Name Tag information in section below).



What to Bring to School Next Session

The school will provide all P1 children with a book bag to carry their reading book and any items of homework.

All children will receive a homework diary.

In class, we do encourage the children to drink plenty of water, so please provide them each day with a filled water bottle. Children will not be permitted to drink flavoured water or juice throughout the day – only at break or lunch time. We do not allow fizzy juice, chewing gum or nuts (or nut products). Children can bring one small, healthy snack for break time – a piece of fruit, cereal bar or crisps would be best. We do not recommend sweets or sugary snacks. Children in the EYC will be provided with snacks and drinks (milk and water) therefore there is no need to bring any food or a water bottle to the EYC.

Children do like to bring their own pencil case to school, but this is not compulsory as the school will provide stationery.

A gym kit should be provided for your child. This should include:

Slip on/velcro black gym shoes or trainers, shorts, white or pale blue t-shirt or polo shirt, jogging trousers / leggings (for outdoors)

Children should keep their gym kit in a drawstring style gym bag. This bag can be left in the classroom, ensuring that the child has their kit available at all times. Please ensure that all items have your child's name on them before they are brought to school. You may wish to purchase Name Tag labels below.

Do you find your children lose uniforms and water bottles at school? Order name tags to reduce your losses and help support our parent council at the same time.

We have signed up with My Name Tags which means that every order that is placed using our school ID the parent council get a percentage which supports our fundraising efforts.

We all know the frustration of lost jumpers, hats, juice bottles and sometimes even shoes. My Name Tags are dishwasher proof, washing machine proof and can be personalised.

You can order by going to www.MyNameTags.com and entering Monkton's school ID: 22811



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









WEEK	VENUE	TIME	COST
1	QUEEN MARGARET ACADEMY (NOT TUESDAY)	10AM - 3PM	E80 FOR THE WEEK E25 A DAY
2	MAYBOLE COMMUNITY CAMPUS (NOT THURSDAY)	10AM - 3PM	£80 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY
3	PRESTWICK ACADEMY	10AM - 3PM	£100 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY
4	TROON (MARR ASTRO)	10AM - 3PM	£100 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY
5	QUEEN MARGARET ACADEMY (NOT TUESDAY)	10AM - 3PM	£80 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY
6	PRESTWICK ACADEMY	10AM - 3PM	£100 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY
7	BELMONT ACADEMY	10AM - 3PM	£100 FOR THE WEEK £25 A DAY





South Ayrshire residents can access our services online, by phone or in person, from a range of locations, including schools, community venues and our hub in Ayr.

We can help you to:

- Maximise your income
- Check you are receiving all the welfare benefits you are entitled to
- Apply for welfare benefits, including universal credit
- Appeal a benefits decision that you don't agree with
- Access financial support if you have received a cancer diagnosis
- Check that your employer is paying your correctly





SCHOOL

MEALS

Free School Meals ensure each and every child receives a nutritious lunch, helping then stay focused and energised throughout the day.

By applying for the free school meals families can also ease financial stress and know their child is well cared for during school hours.

If you are eligible, Monkton
Primary is here to make the
application process as
smooth as possible and have
requested the support of
Emma & Shaun from the
Information and Advice Hub
who will be with us this year
at the school offering a
variety of
Welfare/Money/Debt advice.

If you want any support to complete your application — Reach out to Emma and Shaun who can assist with this on our next drop in on the 29th of May from Sam to 11am.



Primary 1 – 5

All children between p1-p5 are entitled to free school meals . HOWEVER, an application must still be made to ensure provision over school holiday periods

After Primary 5

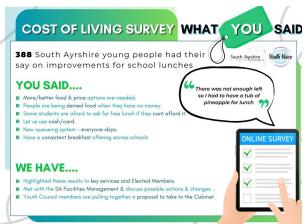
You may still be entitled to free school meals if you are on a low income

Your child can get free meals in school if you get:

- You receive Scottish Child Payment
- Universal Credit (where your monthly earned income is not more than £850)
 - Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act







LETS GET STARTED

A course for people who would like to increase their confidence and begin setting targets for the future.

Help you get motivated, identify your strengths and skills, and plan for your

8 WEEK COURSE



For more information please contact: jan.mcgarry@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



What support can you access from services at Compass?

- → Drop-in support
- Support from someone with lived experience
- → Seeing services under one roof
- Central place for support following liberation from prison or discharge from hospital
- → Rapid support
- Signposting and support to access other services
- → Crisis Interventions
- -> Access to alcohol and drug treatment services, who provide alcohol detox's and opiate substitute therapy

- → Advice and support relating to drug and alcohol use
- Harm reduction advice, Injecting Equipment Provision, Naloxone supply, BBV testing, Wound care
- → Relapse prevention support
- Advice and support in relation to basic Universal Credit
- → Independent advocacy support
- Housing advice and support including homelessness
- Support into local recovery community

































Are you affected by alcohol or drugs and not sure which way to turn?

- → Would you like somewhere you can drop-in for support?
- → Would you like to speak to someone with lived experience of recovery?
- If so, drop into the Compass to speak to one of our dedicated **Recovery Navigators**



Opening on 17th June 2024

Address

7 - 9 James Street, Ayr, KA8 ODH

Email

compass@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Telephone

07717 045 125

Opening Hours

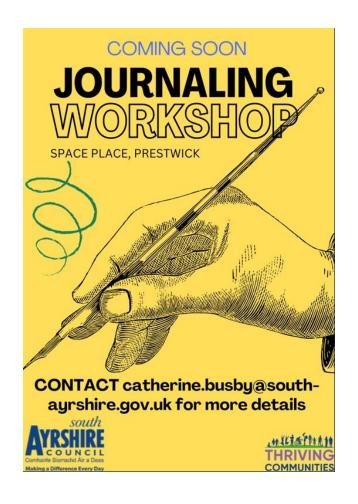
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am - 4pm

Wednesday 1pm - 4pm Women Only Drop-In

Tuesday & Thursday 11am - 7pm

Saturday

10am - 1pm





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 - Communication-Strategy-Jan-25.pdf

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 -

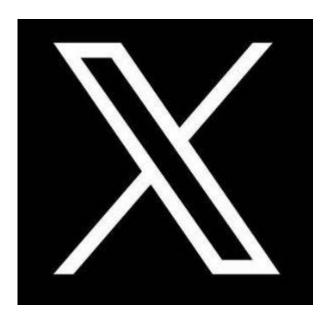
Monkton.Mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



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



m_p_s_2_r_h (Primary Instagram)



@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!