



Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

November 2025

Well it's November already! October has been another quick and busy month which included our annual Foodbank collection, Parents' Evening, our Harvest Assembly and the Parent Council Halloween discos. I also hope that you all had a lovely October break in the middle of the month.

This month we have lots of exciting things planned including a 4 week block of PEEP sessions for EYC families, Sharing the Learning sessions, the Remembrance Service, Children in Need, Book Week Scotland and Flu Immunisations.

This month, please pay particular attention to the dates section of this newsletter and take note of dates which involve your child(ren). I have tried to add as many of the dates as I can of activities and events that we have planned from now until the end of 2025 however, if there are to be any last minute changes or additions, we will inform you as soon as is possible.

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*

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



Mondays 3rd - 24th November 2025 - EYC PEEP sessions (4 week block) at 2pm in school dining hall

Thursday 6th November 2025 - P5 and P6 Sharing the Learning (all P5 and P6 parents and carers welcome), 2:15-3pm

Friday 7th November 2025 - P4 Sharing the Learning (all P4 parents and carers welcome), 2-3pm

Sunday 9th November 2025 - Remembrance Service at the cross in Monkton, meet at 10:45am for 11am start - all P7 pupils encouraged to attend but service is open to all children and families in our community

Wednesday 12th November 2025 - Parent Council meeting in school meeting room at 6:30pm - all parents / carers welcome

Thursday 13th November 2025 - Emma (from South Ayrshire Information and Advice Hub) drop in session, 8:45-9:45am in school - all parent / carers and members of the community are welcome to use this service when it is available in the village.

Friday 14th November 2025 - Children in Need - dress down day and activities planned by P7, donations collected for the charity

Monday 17th - Friday 21st November 2025 - Book Week Scotland

Monday 17th - Friday 28th November 2025 - Night Before Christmas donations to be handed in

Friday 21st November 2025 - P1-3 Book Week Scotland sharing the learning (all P1-3 parents / carers welcome) - 2:15-3pm

Monday 24th November 2025 - P5 Day of Dance 10.00-12.00pm

Tuesday 25th November 2025 - Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 - P7 ChristMaths 1.20-2.40pm

Monkton Christmas Fayre, 6-8pm in the school

Thursday 11th December 2025 - 'Santa's Cousin BOB' in-house panto for EYC - P2 children

EYC - P7 Christmas Lunch

Friday 12th December 2025 - EYC Christmas Show then Stay and Play at 2pm

Monday 15th December 2025 - P6 and P7 Christmas Party (pm)

Tuesday 16th December 2025 - P1-3 Nativity for parents and carers at 9:30am

P4 and P5 Christmas Party (pm)

Wednesday 17th December 2025 - P1-3 Christmas Party (pm)

Thursday 18th December 2025 - EYC Christmas Party (am)

P3-7 to Gaiety Pantomime - 'Aladdie'

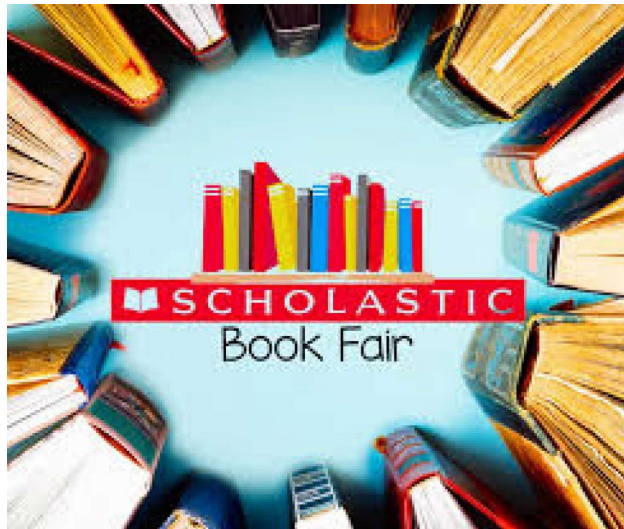
Friday 19th December 2025 - School closes for Christmas holidays 2:30pm (EYC 3pm)

Monday 5th January 2026 - School and EYC re-opens for staff and pupils at 9am

Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



This section contains important updates and information.



Book Fair rewards

Last month, we had the Scholastic Book Fair in school including during Parents' Evening. The children enjoyed coming with their classes to look at the books and many parents made purchases when they were in school. Thank you to those of you who made purchases from the book fair. We earned £487.26 in rewards which we will use to purchase more books for the EYC and school to use. Thank you!



Harvest Collection for Local Foodbank

Thank you for all the donations of food and household items that were donated to the South Ayrshire Foodbank as part of our Harvest Festival last month. These were collected on the last day before the holidays and distributed to the local depot on route to local families in need. Just a reminder that we can make referrals to the food bank so if you are struggling and would benefit from help from this service, please contact Mrs Kenny, Mrs McLean, Mrs Miller or Mrs Ramsay directly. We will treat your referral confidentially so please ask for help if you need it.

Parent Council Halloween Discos

The Parent Council Halloween discos were a big success last Thursday night and all who attended seemed to have fun! A big thank you to the Parent Council for organising the discos and all of the volunteers who helped out either before or on the night - your help is greatly appreciated and needed so that these events can go ahead. Thank you!



Important reminders

All school uniform should be labelled. Please ensure that **all items have your child's name on them** before they are brought to school including jackets, cardigans, jumpers and school bags. We already have a lot of lost unclaimed lost property from last term with no names on them.

Reading books. We are missing quite a few reading books – please check at home and return them. All books issued as homework should be brought to and from school each day as children need them to complete tasks in school.

Water bottles. Each P1-7 pupil should bring a filled water bottle to school each day - **bottles should only contain water NOT juice.** Children will not be permitted to drink flavoured water or juice throughout the day – only at break or lunch time. Children in the EYC are provided with water and milk throughout the day so there is no need to send in water bottles - again children are not allowed to drink juice throughout the day.

Toys - Please ensure that toys are left at home and not brought to school.

Thank you for your support and co-operation with these matters.

Parent Council Updates - Santa's Grotto and helpers required

Monkton Christmas Fayre is being held on Wednesday 3rd December 2025 - 6-8pm and Santa is able to visit us again this year - the Parent Council are running a Santa's Grotto!

If your child would like to see Santa and receive a small gift from him, please purchase a ticket on <https://www.pta-events.com/monktonparentcouncil>.

Tickets go on sale Sunday 2nd November 2025 at 9am - tickets are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Santa and Troon Round Table are visiting the village on Sunday 7th December 2025. The Parent Council need parent helpers to be elves and help raise money for school. We will leave the school at 4.30pm, it is a great way to spread Christmas cheer and get your steps in while raising money. Please contact monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com if you can help by 3rd November.



After the success of last year's collection, again we are taking part in the Night Before Christmas Campaign [Home | Night Before Christmas Campaign](#) with donations going straight to local children and young people. Any donations that you have should be sent in between Monday 17th November and Friday 28th November 2025. There is no pressure to make a donation and we are aware that everyone's circumstances are different so please only make donations if you are able to - thank you.

EYC - Chocolate

P1 - Toothbrush/toothpaste

P3/2 - Hairbrushes/hot chocolate

P3 - Teddies/dolls/small toys

P4 - Colouring in books/books

P5 - Games

P6 - Stationery inc pencils and pens

P7 - Toiletries for older children

Staff – Pyjamas

If you would like to make a referral, please click on the link below (referrals close on Friday 21st November)-

[Referrals | Night Before Christmas Campaign](#)



Poppies will be available to buy this week and the money will be donated to The Scottish Poppy Appeal.

Money raised is used to provide vital life-changing support to the Armed Forces community in Scotland. Your donations will help to provide vital support for service families, veterans and those currently serving. Thank you for your support.



Christmas Jumper Swap Shop

The Eco Group are looking to recycle children's Christmas jumpers by holding a swap shop on Wed 26th November. If you have any Christmas jumpers or tops that are too small for your child please hand in to school office before Monday 24th November, thanks. More details to follow.



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)



National Standardised Assessments for Scotland (NSA)

This month, all P4 and P7 children will complete National Standardised Assessments (NSA) with their class teacher. P1 will complete these in April / May 2026. 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.



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. All children should have a gym kit in school so that they can change and make the most out of their weekly sessions. Class teachers will regularly send home gym kits to be washed and checked. If you are struggling to get a gym kit, please let us know so that we can help.

- Pupils should not wear jewellery to school on their PE days. For health and safety reasons, earrings should be taken out for PE and preferably not be worn on these days. If they cannot be taken out e.g. they have just been pierced, then they should be taped.

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.



Home Learning

Each week class teachers set tasks which reinforce the learning from the classroom which is to be completed at home.

Children are encouraged to read as much as possible at home. They should be encouraged to read what they enjoy including books, comics or magazines either with an adult, sibling or by

themselves. Children in P3-7 can read a book at home and then complete the quiz (if there is one) on Accelerated Reader when they come into school.

Each week, details of the home learning to be completed will be written in the homework diary along with the due date. This will help parent / carers know what is to be done and, for older children, will allow them to keep track and learn independence skills which will help them when they move into secondary school. The homework diary should be signed by the parent/carer when home learning tasks are complete/at the end of the week. Home learning is usually issued on a Monday and due back by a Friday.

Homework diaries should be brought to and from school each day. Please check the diary each night as staff may write notes in them. Children in P1 and P2 should ensure that they bring their blue bookbag to and from school each day. Thank you!



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



All welcome at our **Friendship Cafe**
come along for a cuppa and a chat

FRIENDSHIP CAFE

starts 2nd October



Community Cafe, (formerly Cafe 65) Main Street,
Prestwick

Thursdays 4.15pm to 5.30pm

for more info catherine.busby@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

**THRIVING
COMMUNITIES**

**SOUTH
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL**
Comhairle Siarachd Air a' Deas
Making a Difference Every Day

ASN Family Forum

All Parents/Carers Welcome



Offering support, advice and friendship for any parents and carers of young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN) living in South Ayrshire.



🌟 ASN Family Forum Event 🌟

Wednesday 12th November

Drop in anytime between 6.30pm - 8.00pm

📍 Cutty Sark, High Street, Ayr

Join us for an inclusive gathering of support, connection, and understanding.

Joining us will be:

- SAC Educational Psychology
- Autism Outreach
- NEST
- Sleep Scotland
- National Autistic Society
- along with others

Whether your child has a diagnosis or you're exploring support needs, you're warmly welcome.

This friendly space is for parents and carers to:

- 🌟 Connect with others who truly understand
- 🌟 Share experiences and ask questions
- 🌟 Find emotional and practical support

Email for more information: jennifer.brennan@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Advice and Support for Families

Welfare Rights & Money Advice Advisor
– Here to Help You



My name is Emma I can offer you a free, confidential and impartial information and advice service. I can help you with:



- ✓ Checking your entitlement and supporting you in making claims
- ✓ Providing advice regarding Free School Meals, School Clothing Grant, Scottish Child Payment and any other eligible grants
- ✓ Supporting you if your benefits have been stopped, reduced or refused
- ✓ Advising you on budgeting and managing your money
- ✓ Providing guidance with debt and repayment issues
- ✓ Accessing local services and community support

No question is too small – we're here to make things easier for you and your family.

If you would like to speak with Emma, they will be available at drop-in sessions at Monkton Primary on a bi-monthly basis and the next drop-in sessions will be:

13th November
8:45am – 9:45am

Alternatively, if you are unable to attend during these times you can contact the Team directly by clicking [here](#) and completing our online digital referral form (at the end of the form there is a box you are able to type into please enter the name of the school(s) your child(ren) attends to enable your referral to be allocated to the schools advisor) or you can call 0300 123 0900.

South
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL
Customer Services for a Change
Making a Difference Every Day

The Information and Advice Team...

Your Journey to Financial Wellbeing



Find us here on

Monkton Primary School

Drop in's available on

13th November

8:45am – 9:45am

Appointments out with
available upon request!

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.

The EYC use Seesaw to communicate with parents - sharing learning and information.

In the school, Instagram issued 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-Sept-25-1.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



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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](#)



[Seesaw app](#) used in the EYC

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!