



# Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter

## December 2025

It's now December and the school / EYC is starting to prepare for the festive season. We have a busy month ahead with the Monkton Christmas Fair, P3-7 are going to the pantomime at the Gaiety, EYC- P2 have an in-house pantomime coming to the school, Christmas Lunch, EYC show, P1-3 Nativity and class parties. Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers each day in December, with their school uniform underneath. If children choose to write and bring in Christmas cards, they should be posted in the post box inside the main foyer and will be distributed from there. Please ensure that names and classes are written clearly on each envelope.

Last month, we had lots of exciting events / activities including PEEP sessions for EYC families, the Remembrance Service, Children in Need, Book Week Scotland, Sporthall Athletics competitions and the P5 Day of Dance. P1-3, P4, P5 and P6 all held their 'Sharing the Learning' sessions and we had a great turn out of parents / carers for these - thank you! If you attended one of the 'Sharing the Learning' sessions this month, we would be grateful if you could please complete this short survey to give us your feedback - [Sharing the Learning Sessions – Collaboration](#)

If we can support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch. As always, we are here to help.

We close for Christmas on Friday 19th December 2025 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



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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 1st December 2025** - Children and staff can wear Christmas jumpers for the whole month - school uniforms worn underneath.

**Tuesday 2nd December 2025** - South Ayrshire Dance competition - P4/5 and P6/7 dance groups attending.

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

EYC Christmas Bookbug session at 2:15pm in dining hall - all EYC families welcome

Monkton Christmas Fair, 6-8pm in the school

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

EYC - P7 Christmas Lunch - please book your child's lunch online as per email (school pupils only)

**Friday 12th December 2025** - EYC Christmas Show then Stay and Play at 2pm - each child can have 2 parent / carers attend.

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

**Tuesday 16th December 2025** - P1-3 Nativity for parents and carers at 9:30am - each child can have 2 parent / carers attend.

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 'Aladdie' pantomime at Ayr Gaiety Theatre (am)

**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

P1 Open afternoon - open to all families who have a child starting P1 in August 2026, 4-5pm

**Thursday 15th January 2026** - P5 and P6 swimming lessons start (10 week block)

**Wednesday 21st January 2026** - Parent Council meeting at 6:30pm in school meeting room - all parent / carers welcome

**Friday 23rd January 2026** - Scottish Poetry Competition for pupils (am)

**Thursday 29th January 2026** - Burns themed school lunch

## Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



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*This section contains important updates and information.*

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**Children In Need**

Last month we took part in fundraising for Children in Need and we raised £263.35 😊 Thank you for all donations and to Primary 7 for planning fun activities for each class and the EYC.

**Thank you**

**Parent Council and wider parent body - money for buses, ice cream, EYC show and snacks for the show**

Thank you!



### **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.

**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.

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



## Christmas Fair

Our **Monkton Christmas Fair** is taking place this **Wednesday 3rd December 2025 from 6-8pm** in the school - all welcome. The Monkton Community Council and Monkton Markets are also involved. Some of our pupils will be singing Christmas songs at the fair, playing instruments, then there will be a variety of stalls on offer as well as games and activities. Sandra (our cook) is going to be offering tea, coffee, hot chocolate and shortbread. The P7 fundraising group are running a few events and the Parent Council is running a Santa's Grotto.

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 - thank you! We will also have class made crafts available to buy and school calendars available to order on the night.

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





## Night Before Christmas - thank you!

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!



## Safeguarding at Monkton

The safety and wellbeing of children at Monkton Primary School and Early Years Centre is our utmost 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 the 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 to ask them what their learning targets are - for literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Thank you!





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



# Stay safe this winter

Hints and tips from NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Health Protection Team for staying safe this winter

With the festive season approaching, we want to remind you of how you can stay safe this winter. Here are some hints and tips on good cough, sneeze and hand hygiene; staying at home if you have had fever, diarrhoea, or vomiting; winter vaccinations; as well as information on accessing the right care, right place.

## Good cough, sneeze and hand hygiene

**Keep your family well this winter and reduce the spread of infection.**

Respiratory viruses, such as colds, flu and COVID-19, can easily spread between people through coughs and sneezes. Stopping viruses from spreading is the best prevention.

Always sneeze and cough into a tissue covering your nose and mouth. Bin the tissue straight away and then wash your hands.

Wash your hands with soap and water frequently. This helps to get rid of the disease-causing germs from your hands. Hand sanitiser does not kill all germs, especially those that cause stomach upsets.

If someone in your family is sick, avoid sharing dishes, toys or towels with them. Keep items clean and wash your hands after touching.

At home, make sure you clean surfaces that are touched frequently every day – for example, light switches, door handles, taps, toilet seats and toilet flush handles, and countertops.

Do not prepare food for others when you are sick.

Wash any clothing or bedding that has poo or vomit on it separately from other laundry, and on a hot wash.

A video on handwashing can be found here: [How to wash your hands - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/how-to-wash-your-hands/)

To learn more about treating the common cold, flu or COVID-19, visit [www.nhs.uk/infomedia/scot/winter-illness/](https://www.nhs.uk/infomedia/scot/winter-illness/)



## Stay at home

**Stay off school or college if you have a fever, diarrhoea or vomiting.**

Children and young people with mild respiratory symptoms, but who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school or college. Mild respiratory symptoms include a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough.



Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people if possible. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

Most people no longer need to test for COVID-19, unless they have a health condition which means they are eligible for [coronavirus treatments](#).

Children and young people who have diarrhoea or vomiting should stay at home and avoid contact with other people if possible. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they have had no diarrhoea or vomiting for at least 48 hours.

For more information, click the links below:

- [Vomiting in children and babies](#)
- [Diarrhoea](#)
- [COVID-19](#)

## Winter vaccinations

**If you are eligible, make sure you get your vaccine.**

To find out if you are eligible for the flu or COVID-19 vaccine, visit:

- [Flu vaccine | NHS Inform](#)
- [The coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine | NHS Inform](#)

If you child is in primary school and has missed their flu vaccine appointment or school clinic, or has been given an appointment that is not suitable, they can attend a Childhood Vaccination Team drop-in session.

For details of sessions, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/services/services-a-z/flu-vaccine/school-age-children-primary-and-secondary-flu-vaccine-information/>



## Where to get medical help

### Getting the right care, in the right place

To protect yourself, as well as the NHS, it's important you know how to get the right care, in the right place. If we all use NHS services wisely, we can keep well and get the care we need quickly, safely and as close to home as possible.

For more information on the most appropriate service for your condition, visit [Right care right place - NHS Ayrshire & Arran](#) ([nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk))



**Wishing you a wonderful and infection-free festive season from the  
NHS Ayrshire & Arran Health Protection Team.**

Follow us on Twitter @NHSaaa

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/nhsaaa](https://www.facebook.com/nhsaaa)

Visit our website: [www.nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk)

All our publications are available in other formats

Leaflet code: NHS23-157-G0 Last reviewed: November 2023





Starting Primary One in August 2026?  
Prestwick Cluster would like to invite you to visit our schools.



Heathfield Primary  
Thursday 8th Jan  
4-5pm



Glenburn Primary  
Tuesday 6th Jan  
4-5pm



Monkton Primary  
Monday 5th Jan  
4-5pm



Symington Primary  
Tuesday 6th Jan  
4-5pm



Kingcase Primary  
Wednesday 7th Jan  
4-5pm



St Ninians Primary  
Tuesday 6th Jan  
4-5pm

# **AYR UNITED FOOTBALL ACADEMY**

## **COMMUNITY FOOTBALL**



**COMMUNITY FOOTBALL SESSIONS AND HOLIDAY CAMPS IN VARIOUS  
LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT SOUTH AYRSHIRE!**

**TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES WE OFFER,  
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW, VISIT OUR WEBSITE, SEE US ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA OR CONTACT US!**



<https://ayr-united-football-academy.classforkids.io>



# AYR UNITED FOOTBALL ACADEMY COMMUNITY FOOTBALL



FOOTBALL@AUFA.ORG.UK



01292 263435 (OPTION 2)



@AYRUTDACADEMY



@AYRUNITEDFOOTBALLACADEMY



AYR UNITED FOOTBALL ACADEMY

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY THROUGH FOOTBALL



"A safe haven for young people to socialise with others going through similar experiences"

## Young People Bereavement Group

Christmas Wreath Making, Monday 24th November, 6pm-7:30pm

Ayrshire Cancer Support, 5 Dunsdonald Road, Kilmarnock, KA1 1EQ

Are you a young person who is bereaved through cancer?

Come along to our bereavement group where we will focus on Christmas wreath making. These can be in remembrance of a loved one or simply as decoration or gift. It is an opportunity to connect, have fun, get creative and a safe space to feel supported in whichever way feels right for you.

To book your space, or for further information, please email [01292263435@ayrshirer-cancersupport.org](mailto:01292263435@ayrshirer-cancersupport.org) or give us a call on 01292 263435.



AYRSHIRE  
CANCER  
SUPPORT  
A charity for young people

## 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 is 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-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](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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[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!**