



# Monkton PS and EYC Newsletter May 2026

As we enter May, the sun has been shining and the light, early mornings and evenings are stretching even further. Hopefully this is Spring turning into summer - hopefully!

April was another quick and busy month with a successful P7 Residential Trip to Dolphin House, an EYC Stay and Play and the Easter holidays. May is going to be a busy month in our Early Years Centre and school with bank holidays, reports being written and some class events / trips. Please take note of the 'Dates for the Diary' section for more information on key events including trips, Sports Day, the Monkton Gala, Leavers' Ceremony and EYC Graduation.

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 4th May 2026** - School and EYC closed for bank holiday.

**Tuesday 5th - Friday 15th May 2026** - Fit & Fun Fest Fortnight

**Thursday 7th May 2026** - Inservice Day - school and EYC closed for pupils.

**Friday 15th May 2026** - Sports Day races on field behind school (weather permitting), 1:30-2:30pm - all parent / carers welcome.

**Friday 22nd May 2026** - Dress Down Day for staff and pupils - donations of objects in house colour to make gala hampers (see Gala section below).

P1 School Trip.

**Monday 25th May 2026** - School and EYC closed for holiday.

**Thursday 4th June 2026** - New P1 PEEP sessions at 9:15am or 10:15am (see letter).

**Friday 5th June 2026** - P1-7 Reports to be published on ParentsPortal. EYC pre-school reports to be shared with parents.

**Saturday 6th June 2026** - Monkton Gala - 12-4pm on playing fields behind school.

**Tuesday 9th - Thursday 11th June 2026**- P7 - S1 Transition Days at Prestwick Academy

**Tuesday 9th June 2026** - Whole School Bump up 1:45-2:30pm.

**Wednesday 17th June 2026** - EYC New start BookBug session for new children (am).

PEEP Teddy Bear's picnic for new P1 pupils at 1:45pm.

**Friday 19th June 2026** - EYC trip.

**Thursday 25th June 2026** - P7 Leavers' Assembly, 9:30am - all P7 parent / carers welcome.

**Friday 26th June 2026**- EYC Graduation, 9:30am - all EYC parent / carers welcome.

**Tuesday 30th June 2026** - Last day of term - school closes at 1:00pm and EYC at 3pm.

**Thursday 20th August 2026** - School and EYC reopens for pupils.

**Wednesday 2nd September 2026** - Parent Council AGM at 6:30pm in the meeting room - all parent / carers welcome - looking for a new chairperson (see below).

**Thursday 29th October 2026** - afternoon / evening - Parent Council Halloween Discos - more details to follow in new session.

## Updates (UNCRC Article 17)



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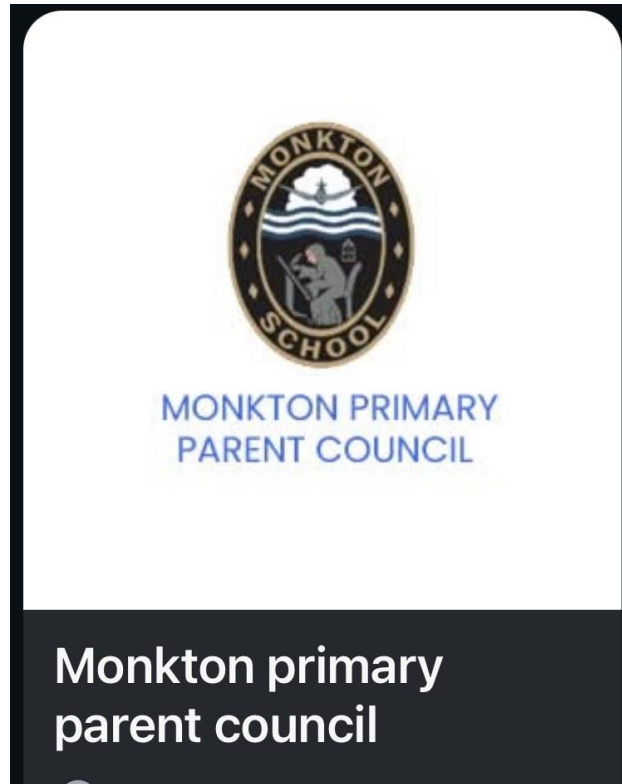
*This section contains important updates and information.*

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**Important Health and Safety reminder - playground safety!**

Once you have collected your child from the school or EYC at 3pm, please leave the school playground - we have a few children who run back up to the school, play football or cycle / scoot round the playground. School staff cannot be responsible for children in the playground after school times. The gate is closed sharp after 3pm. Thank you.



**Wanted - New Chairperson for the Parent Council**

Monkton Primary Parent Council is looking for a chairperson. This would be for after the AGM on Wednesday 2nd September 2026 at 6:30pm. If you are interested or would like more details regarding the role, please contact [monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com)

The Parent Council is sharing a stall with the school at the Gala this year and are running a Teddy Tombola so are looking for donations of teddies (please see more information below).



## **Fun and Fit Fest Fortnight - Tuesday 5th May – Friday 15th May 2026**

We're delighted to remind you that our Fit and Fun Fest fortnight will run from Tuesday 5th May to Friday 15th May and we can't wait to get started! Throughout the two weeks, pupils will enjoy a wide range of activities, including sessions with visiting clubs and coaches alongside fun health and wellbeing activities in class. Children are welcome to wear sports clothes to school each day and on Sports Day we encourage everyone to come dressed in their house colours to build team spirit. We will kick things off with our Great Athletes sponsored event and a visit from athlete Tyler Jolly, who will share his inspiring journey with the pupils. This year we will also build excitement for the upcoming Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, with pupils learning about different athletes, countries and cultures taking part. It is going to be a fantastic, energetic fortnight full of fun, inspiration and celebration of sport.



## **Attendance**

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 for the past two years and all schools are still being asked to look at ways to increase attendance for all. We are pleased to say that attendance at our school is sitting 1.5% above the South Ayrshire average at the moment and also that our attendance stats are very similar to where we were this time last session. However, our current attendance rate is down 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 and you may be invited to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can support you to increase your child's attendance. Your continued support with this matter is greatly appreciated. If you need any support with attendance, please get in touch. Thank you.

We will closely monitor attendance next session and are going to look at creating our own policy on attendance and plan to involve pupils and parents to develop this!



### **Sports Day Races – Friday 15th May 2026**

On **Friday 15th May 2026** (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 children are also going to join us and do two races. 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.



**Children's Activity Wristband**  
**£10 each**  
**Includes:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Sports activities</b>   | <b>Story telling</b>   |
| <b>Climbing wall</b>    | <b>Sensory play</b>  |
| <b>Bouncy castles</b>  | <b>Circus skills</b>  |
| <b>Football skills</b>  | <b>Meet the alpacas</b>  |
|  <b>Assault course</b>  | <b>Crafts</b>  |

**And loads more**

**MONKTON GALA DAY 2026 – Saturday 6th June 2026**

Monkton Gala is back for 2026 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.

Entertainment on the day including a DJ and performances including a pipe band and line dancing.

Games and sport activities from Active Schools and Whitletts Vics.

Alpacas, face painting, climbing walls, arts and crafts and bouncy castles.

Ice cream van, sweets and cake stalls, chippy van and a licensed bar.

The gala committee needs the support of local residents and businesses to help with raffle prizes and to get involved to contribute to the success of the Gala. If you can donate a prize for the raffle, please hand it into the school office by Friday 5th June 2026.

The Parent Council and school are sharing a stall this year. The school is doing a box raffle this year for hampers. Children and staff are invited to dress down on Friday 22nd May 2026 (no football colours or strips please) and bring an item for the hamper in their house colour as a donation e.g. if your child is in Douglas - the red house - they would bring a donation that is red e.g. a food, beverage, toy or toiletry item. If you want to donate a bottle of alcohol, parents should please hand in any bottles of alcohol straight into the office that day - thank you. The pupils in the Pupil Council have been asked to help out at the stall on the day - a letter with details will follow.

The Parent Council is doing a Teddy Tombola so is looking for donations of pre loved soft toys for it, preferably already wrapped if possible. Donations can be dropped off at the school office between 1st May and 29th May 2026. Thank you!

Please get in touch if you are able to help sort / organise items in the run up to the gala or at these stalls on the day of the gala - thank you!

We hope that you can come along to support the school, EYC and Parent Council at the Gala on the 6th June 2026 - it's sure to be lots of fun!



### **Parent Survey Results**

Thank you to all those who completed this year's Parent Survey in March which was for P1-7 parent / carers and was sent out by the authority (who plan to send out a separate EYC survey in the future). We had 52 responses out of a possible 109 families which represents 48% of the

total families across the school. Overall, the feedback received was very positive which reinforces what a great job our staff do in school to ensure that children are safe, building confidence, 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. The full results of the survey can be found here – [General Information | Monkton Primary School and Early Years Class](#)

We also undertook a survey with P4-7 pupils and teaching staff at the same time. We will analyse the data and use all stakeholder feedback to help inform the School Improvement Plan (SIP) next session.



## 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)



### Reports

Teaching staff are currently preparing the annual reports for all P1-7 pupils. This year, we are again using electronic reports which will be sent out on ParentsPortal on Friday 5th June 2026. 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 Curriculum for Excellence levels for all areas, comments for Literacy and Numeracy as well as a general comment. This is the same format that Prestwick Academy use and we, 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. Thank you!

All pre-school children will also receive a report written by their key worker and ante pre school children will have an updated personal plan which will be shared by their key worker before the summer holidays.



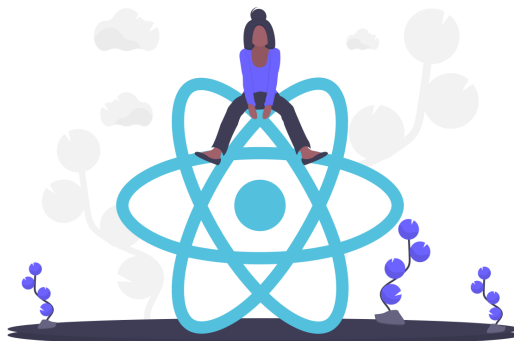
### **Next year's class structure and staffing**

We can confirm that our class structure for next session will consist of 7 classes - **P1, P2, P4/3, P4, P5, P6, P7.**

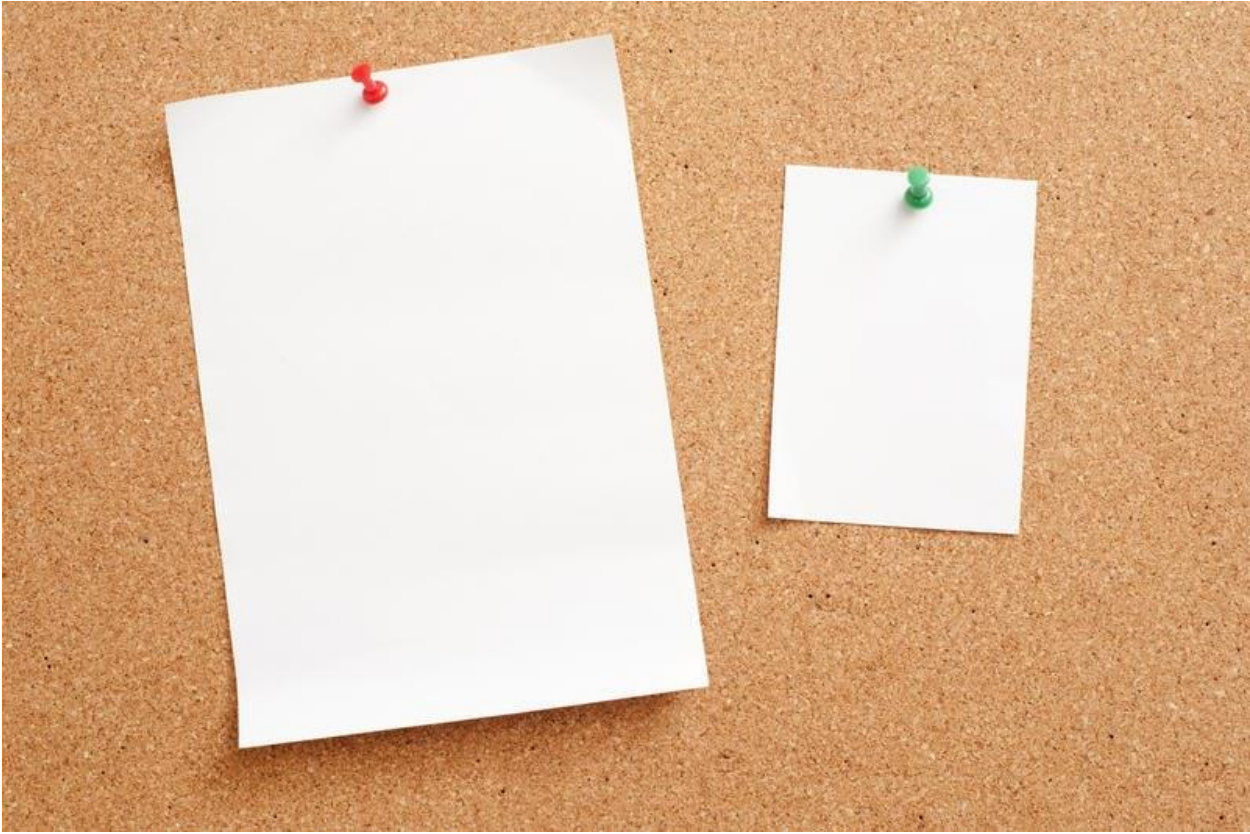
Class teachers will work closely with the HT / DHT when forming the composite P4/3 class, taking social friendships and academic progress into consideration. More information on composite classes can be found here - [Information on composite classes - South Ayrshire Council](#)

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 late May, therefore it is unlikely that we will be able to share our final plans with parents / carers until June - probably just before the bump up afternoon on 9th June 2025.

Mrs Paton finishes up on Friday 8th May 2026 to begin her maternity leave. We wish her all the best and cannot wait to hear her baby news! Miss McCaughie, who has been in the school before, will be the P3 class teacher until the end of June. Parents of children in the P3 class have already received a letter regarding this.



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



# Monkton Primary Parent Council



## Chairperson Wanted Lead Our Parent Council!



- ✓ Help shape the future of our school!
- ✓ Work with other parents & the school.
- ✓ Lead meetings & coordinate initiatives.

**Make a Difference - Apply Now!**

**Contact Us:**

[monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:monktonparentcouncil@gmail.com)





**EVERY LEARNER  
EVERY DAY**

**Term time  
is learning  
time!**



**Every day lost is an  
opportunity missed**

[south-ayrshire.gov.uk/ELED](https://south-ayrshire.gov.uk/ELED)

**South  
AYRSHIRE  
COUNCIL**  
Comhairle Ghraibheil Air a' Deas  
Making a Difference Every Day



**MONKTON  
GALA**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Monkton playing fields





## **Children's Activity Wristband**

**£10 each**

**Includes:**

**Sports activities**

**Climbing wall**



**Bouncy castles**

**Football skills**



 **Assault course**

**Story telling**

**Sensory play**

**Circus skills**

**Meet the alpacas**



**Crafts**

**And loads more**

## **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](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!**