

Governors voluntarily working on your behalf to ensure all aspects of the school's work are effective and compliant.

Chair: Mr T Watson

Vice Chair: Mrs C Langdon

Co-opted: Ms A Marshall, Mrs C Williams, Mrs Louise Fenwick, Mr A Cammiss, Mrs W Fickling.

Parent: Mrs A Jones, Vacancy.

Staff: Mrs J Henry

You may contact any governor via the

school. **Complaints in the first instance are to be communicated to the Head Teacher Mrs J Bowmaker.**

Autumn Term 2 Week 6

News

Week beginning 9/12/24

News is through e mail, Facebook and website – please make sure we have your e mail address.

**ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
94.06**

Shotton Hall Primary School

Working together to

SHINE

**Successful, Happy, Inspired
and Nurtured towards
Excellence**

Head Teacher: Mrs J Bowmaker

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs R Hext

Assistant Headteacher: Ms E. Metcalfe

Behaviour, Attendance and Safeguarding

Officer: Mr K. Morgan

SENCO/Pastoral: Mrs R Hext

Site Manager: Mrs W. Fickling

School Business Manager: Mrs J Treanor

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had such an exciting week in school!

Our musicians impressed their families with their fabulous music concert on Monday. Mrs Sellars from the Durham Music Service has shared with us that we have the largest orchestra out of all of the Durham schools. We are very proud of all of our talented musicians – well done!

Pre-School, Classes 1, 2, 3,4,5 & 6 were absolutely delighted to see a very special visitor attending their Christmas Parties this week, they all had a great time and received a special gift.

Classes 7,8 and 9 performed their Christmas concert 3 times to accommodate parents and grandparents. They sang beautifully and we hope everyone had time to have a coffee and a mince pie. We have more concerts next week starting on Monday (Classes 10 & 11) and Tuesday (Classes 12C & 12 M). Please contact the school office if you need a ticket!

Also, next week we will continue with Christmas parties for classes 7,8,9,10,11,12C and 12M. Pre School and Classes 1 & 2 are attending The Gala Theatre in Durham to watch 'Beauty and the Beast' and 'Breadcrumbs'. Classes 9 and 10 are going to the Discovery Museum to enhance their topic on World War II. We will end the week when the Durham Music Service Rock Band come in to entertain us and our EYFS children will be having their own relaxing 'Polar Express Day' and enjoy hot chocolate and marshmallows in their PJ's!

Yesterday, we enjoyed Christmas Jumper day and our Christmas Lunch. Special thanks to our wonderful cook Mrs Bestford who is retiring next Friday after 24 years at Shotton Hall School (14 years at our Primary school and 10 years at the former Infant school). She joined us in our celebration assembly this morning and the children all congratulated her and gave her three cheers! We wish her a long and happy retirement – well done!!

A HUGE thank you to all of our families, staff and school community who chose Shotton Hall Primary School as their ASDA school cash pot. Together you have helped raised a whooping £1902.77 for our school fund!!

School will close to pupils next Friday 20th December and reopen on Tuesday 7th January.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

Joanne Bowmaker

Head teacher



Please keep checking our diary of events as we are adding more dates soon!

Date	Day	Class/Year	Event	Information
16.12.24	Monday	Classes 10+11	Christmas Concert	Two performances to be held am and after school. More details to follow.
16.12.24	Monday	Classes 7, 8 + 9	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
17.12.23	Tuesday	Classes 12C + 12M	Christmas Concert	Two performances to be held am and after school. More details to follow.
17.12.24	Tuesday	Classes 10 + 11	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
18.12.24	Tuesday	Classes 12C + 12M	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
20.12.24	Friday	Whole School	DMS Christmas Concert	Morning session for the children in school.

Certificates:

Resilient: Gracie C (12M)

Reflective: Jessica J (C11) Emily W (C7) Ivy U (C12C), Mila F (C6) Lydia H (PS), Nathaniel M (C9)

Resourceful: Bea R (C5) Freya Newby (C4)

Reciprocal: Charley T (C10)

Respectful: James S (C3)

Pen Licence:

Well done to you all!

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Silja R (Pr), Daisy S (C2), Maisie H (C2), Arthur J (C3), Amore D (C1) KS2: Daniel S (C7), Oliver H (C8) Madeline R (C8)

BIRTHDAYS:

Pre-School: Alfie P, Mila T and Tommy S

Class 4: Solomiia Z and Freya N

Class 7: Toby M, Thomas D

Class 9: Harrison A and Jazmin N

Class 10: Cody M

Class 11: Daniel W

Class 12C: Charlotte F

Class 12M: Athena M

CLASS DOJO: We are very pleased to announce that our admin team now have access to Class Dojo. This means you can message them directly for appointments or admin enquiries. You can send them a message under “Admin” in the message section.

We always need to speak to families when children are off school ill, therefore please continue to advise of any sickness absence by telephone.

You may have noticed that there have been a number of updates to Class Dojo recently. There has been a group messaging function added, which allows parents to include more than one teacher in a message. You may also now receive a 'class announcement' which are important messages sent directly to all parents in the class. Please ensure you have the most recent version downloaded to ensure this works correctly. If you have any difficulties accessing Class Dojo please let us and know and we will try to help.

Please be aware that teachers may not always respond to messages straight away as they are busy in class and teachers may not reply outside of school hours. If you query is urgent, please contact the school office directly.

AIR-UP BOTTLES: We have noticed in KS2 a lot of children are bringing “Air-Up” water bottles to school. (Fancy water bottles which have a scented pod at the top to trick you into thinking you are drinking flavoured water). They are very trendy at the moment and popular on TikTok. However, these bottles start at £39.95 – and therefore as a school **we will not accept any liability** in the event your child’s bottle is lost or broken.

ASSEMBLIES: Our “Celebration Assemblies” are continuing along with our “Citizenship Assemblies”. The “Citizenship Assemblies” are designed to help our children become responsible and informed members of our local, national and international communities. Every Monday, children in KS1 and KS2 will attend a Citizenship Assembly. In these assemblies, children come together in the Key Stages to reflect upon and learn about a diverse range of issues. Citizenship Assemblies are always age-appropriate. They cover topics such as:

British Values

UNICEF Rights of the Child

News Items (such as elections or the jubilee)

Stories about inspirational people

Special days or months (Black History Month, International Womens Day) Religious festivals

Personal safety (anti-bullying week and internet safety)

DAY GATE: The “Day Gate” will continue to be locked between 3.00-3.25pm for safeguarding reasons.



URGENT SAFEGUARDING: At SHPS we believe we all have a duty to keep all children

safe. If you have a concern about any child or young person ‘First Contact’ has made it very easy for you to get in touch with them and this can be done anonymously. Telephone: 03000 267979, E-mail: scd@durham.gov.uk. www.durham.gov.uk/firstcontact **Thank you so much for your vigilance.**

ONLINE SAFETY: The game “PC Horror puzzle game” which is PEGI rated 12+ is not suitable for younger children. However, the game is being imitated on the popular game Roblox and it is also very popular on Youtube. Because of the innocent name of the game many videos are not being picked up by YouTube’s filters. We urge parents to be vigilant in what their children are playing and watching online.

BREAKFAST CLUB: Can we kindly remind you that due to insurance purposes we cannot allow pupils to enter site before 7.45am for Breakfast Club and that the Day Gate buzzer will not be answered before this time. Also there is no access to Breakfast Club through the staff car park. Thank you.

ROAD SAFETY: Please can we remind parents **NOT** to use the entrance to the school in Waveney Rd as a turning circle, as there has been damage done to the fence and it can cause a problem for staff entering the site. Thank you.

BIKES & SCOOTERS: Please can we remind you that bikes and scooters are **not** to be used on school site as this is a safety hazard. Thank you.

LUNCHES: Please inform the school office if you would like to change your child to either packed lunch or school dinners, we need 2 weeks notice to make the necessary changes. Thank you.

SCHOOL MEAL CHARGES: As of Monday 1st April 2024 school meals have increased to £2.81 per day (£14.05 per week) until 31st March 2025. **Preschool meals are at a cost of £3.37 per day (£16.85 per week).** **WEARABLE**

TECHNOLOGY: Please could we remind parents that pupils are not allowed to wear Apple watches or Smart watches in school as they can be connected to the Internet and are also expensive items. **JEWELLERY:** Small stud earrings can be worn but necklaces, bracelets and other hooped or dangle earrings are not allowed for safety reasons. Earrings must be removed for P.E or plasters provided from home to cover them.

BREAKFAST CLUB: Breakfast Club is open to Reception children up to Year 6, this does not need to be booked but will need to be paid for in advance please through Parentpay. The cost per day is £2 for the first child and £1 for any siblings.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB: 'Night Owls' Club must be booked via the office (NOT on Class Dojo) and paid for 1 week in advance via Parentpay. The club is open to Reception children up to Year 6 from Monday to Thursday. Due to low numbers there is no club on Friday.

Collection is via the day gate which needs to be pushed as it does not open automatically and from the small hall doors next to reception. We do not release children to walk down the drive for safeguarding reasons. Siblings must be minimum 14 yrs of age to collect other siblings and a form will need to be completed to authorise this. **Children must be collected no later than 5 pm.** The cost per day is £4.00 for the first child and £3.50 for any siblings.

CONTACT DETAILS: Please can you ensure we have up to date contact numbers in case of illness or accidents in school.

PACKED LUNCHES: We operate as a healthy school. **Children with sweets and chocolates/chocolate bars will not be able to eat them at lunchtime so please do not put them in their lunch boxes.** We ask children to take their rubbish or leftovers home for parents/carers to see what they have eaten.

PARENTPAY: Please pay by card rather than bank transfer as these take longer to process. Please pay for dinners either weekly or monthly in advance.

SCHOOL TIMES:

Gates open 8.40 am and close at 8.55 am, reopen at 3 pm and close at 3.30 pm.

Preschool entry 8.50 am, gate opens for collection 2.45pm.

Classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 8.55am - 3.15 pm

Classes 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12G, 12M 8.55am-3.20 pm

POLITE REMINDERS:

Contact the office to report sickness as messages via Dojo do not come to the office.

Complete a leave of absence form for any time taken out of school time.

Contact the office if your child has to attend an appointment- they do not have access to Dojo.

Keep your dog on a lead and away from the entrances.

In line with DCC policy this is a non smoking site including vapes.

Please do not play loud music in your car whilst waiting for your child, as this can be disruptive for our neighbours. Thank you.

Holiday dates

Friday 20 th December 2024	School closes for Christmas holidays
Monday 6 th January 2025	CPD Day school will be closed to pupils
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	School opens
Friday 21 st February 2025	School closes for Spring half term
Monday 3 rd March 2025	School opens
Friday 11 th April 2025	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 28 th April 2025	School opens

Friday 2 nd May 2025	School closes for May Day bank holiday
Monday 5 th May 2025	May Day bank holiday school closed
Tuesday 6 th May 2025	School opens
Friday 23 rd May 2025	School closes for Summer half term
Monday 2 nd June 2025	School opens
Friday 18 th July 2025	School closes for Summer holidays
Tuesday 2 nd September	School opens



Attendance

Yellow – 95.45% STM

Blue – 92.33% NA

Green – 94.32% SDA

Red – 93.47% QEII

CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4	CLASS 5	CLASS 6	CLASS 7	CLASS 8	CLASS 9	CLASS 10	CLASS 11	CLASS 12C	CLASS 12M
97.69% WINNERS!	95.09%	90.22%	93.50%	95.00%	95.65%	84.56%	95.45%	95.22%	95.00%	95.19%	92.79%	97.40% WINNERS!



Geoff the Chef Award has been given to Class 12C this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS2 – Well Done!



Sue the Chef Award has been given to Class 6 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Eco Turtles Award has been given to Classes 7,10 and 12M

