

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 L Morgan.**

Spring Term 1 Week 6

News

Week beginning 10/02/25

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

ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
96.37%

Shotton Hall Primary School

Working together to

S H I N E

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

Head Teacher: Mrs J L Morgan

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 are delighted to share with you our Ofsted report from our recent school inspection on 21st and 22nd January. The report is available by following the link to our website and it will also be published on the Ofsted website within the next 5 days.

We are so proud that the HMI Ofsted inspector immediately highlighted that.....

'There is a warm, caring atmosphere at Shotton Hall Primary School. Respectful relationships are at the heart of the school. Staff nurture the pupils and know them very well. As a result, pupils are happy, and they thrive'.

<https://shottonhallprimary.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/10346404-Shotton-Hall-Primary-135838-final-PDF.pdf>

We are also thrilled that we have officially been awarded our UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award at the highest level of 'Gold'. The assessment on 23rd January showed that children's rights continue to be embedded across the school and underpin every facet of school life.

We are so proud of all of our achievements and the whole team have worked together to ensure the best outcomes for each and every child in our school.

This week Classes 8 and 9 have had a lovely treat visiting Sambuca's restaurant in Seaham. They enjoyed their lunches and the restaurant were so impressed with how well-mannered and polite the children were over both afternoons. As part of their English work the children are now going to write a restaurant review. This is what some of the children thought.....

'I would recommend the restaurant as the staff were really nice, they got the meals out quickly and they were delicious' Flynn W

'I would recommend the restaurant as the staff were very helpful. They made two extra dishes for two children which was very kind' Isla, S

'The food was lovely, the staff were friendly and the restaurant was really nice. I would definitely recommend Sambuca in Seaham'' Gracie B

Class 3 enjoyed their parent workshop on Thursday morning. They have created some super lunch boxes with some very interesting designs! Thank you to all of the adults who came into school to work alongside the children, we hope you had fun too!

Classes 10 and 11 have again been joined by Durham Constabulary to take part in 'mini police' - a three-week project where they work with members of the police force, learning about their jobs and how they can help to support them. Yesterday, the children were fascinated to hear about the police helicopter and how it is used across the region!

They have also been working really hard in History and Art, learning all about the Egyptians. They have used moulding techniques, Modroc and metallic paint to create some fantastic replica Canopic jars.

On Wednesday, 30 of our Year 1 pupils enjoyed going to Peterlee College for their multi-skills festival. The children took part in a range of activities that were suitable for all levels of abilities. Well done to you all, we are so proud of you!

Today, our EYFS children have invited parents into school for their 'bring someone you love morning'. The children sang songs and enjoyed a carousel of activities in the hall, we hope that all of the adults enjoyed the morning too and managed to get a good photograph under the balloon arch! A big THANK YOU to our brilliant EYFS staff for organising everything!

The winner of the name the bear competition is Scarlett S who predicted the correct name 'Valentine' and Maisy H who guessed the exact number of marshmallows in the jar, which was 56 - well done!

Can I remind everyone that school closes next **Friday 21st February** and reopens on **Monday 3rd March**.

Have a lovely weekend,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

Certificates:

Resilient: Matthew S (C2), Jax B (C6), Harry U (C7).

Reflective: Theo K (C11), Callie F (C12M) Hendrix P (C3)

Resourceful: Maisie F (C1), Emily C (C12C), Harper P (C9), Sonny R (C5), Sienna M (C4),

Reciprocal: Alisha-Mae S (C8),

Respectful: Chloe L (C10), Frankie H (PS),

Pen Licence:

Well done to you all!

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Nancy B (PS), Annabelle R (PS). KS2: Sofia L (C6), Thea W (C11), Fearn C (C11).



BIRTHDAYS:

CLASS 3: Hallie P.

CLASS 8: Jacob C.

CLASS 10: Jacob W.

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: Earrings need to be removed for PE and swimming. Your child is fine to do this in school, however if they struggle with this then can they be removed at home. Unfortunately, taping them up isn't a safe option. If for whatever reason they cannot be removed, then there will be parts of the lesson that they are unable to participate in for their own safety.

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.

Dates for Your Diary

This diary is given in good faith to enable you to set your own diaries. There may be some changes beyond our control and we will communicate this through text or via the newsletter. There may also be additional events which we will inform you of as they occur. Please make sure we have your up to date phone number and e mail.

Date	Day	Class/year	Event	Information
21.02.25	Friday	Classes 5 & 6	St Cuthbert's Church visit	Please see class letter.
05.03.25	Wednesday	Classes 8 & 9	Beamish Visit	Please see class letter.
06.03.25	Thursday	Whole School	World Book Day	Dress as your favourite book character.
07.03.25	Friday	Classes 5 & 6	Glass Workshop	More info to follow.
12.03.25	Wednesday	Year 4 & 5	Sister Act	Performance at the Academy
13.03.25	Thursday	Year 2 & 3	Sister Act	Performance at the Academy
13.03.25	Thursday	Class 11	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
14.03.25	Friday	Year 6	Sister Act	Performance at the Academy
17.03.25	Monday	Preschool	Chick Hatching Program	In class - chick hatching program
20.03.25	Thursday	Class 10	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
21.03.25	Friday	Whole School	Red Nose Day	Non uniform donation via Parentpay
27.03.25	Thursday	Preschool	Tweddle Farm Visit	More info to follow.
27.03.25	Thursday	Class 9	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
02.04.25	Wednesday	Whole School	Reports	Reports will come home with your child.
03.04.25	Thursday	Classes 3 & 4	Discovery Museum	More info to follow.
03.04.25	Thursday	Class 8	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
07.04.25	Monday	Whole School	Parents Evening	Appointments will be available via Dojo.
08.04.25	Tuesday	Whole School	Parents Evening	Appointments will be available via Dojo.
10.04.25	Thursday	Preschool	Easter Parade	More info to follow.
08.05.25	Thursday	Class 7	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
15.05.25	Thursday	Class 6	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
22.05.25	Thursday	Class 5	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
05.06.25	Thursday	Class 4	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
09.06.25	Monday	Year 3	Moorhouse Adventure	More info to follow.
12.06.25	Thursday	Class 3	Class Assembly	9.10am in the large hall. Parents/carers welcome.
19.06.25	Thursday	Class 1 & 2	Stay and Play	More info to follow.
10.07.25	Thursday	Preschool	Preschool Graduation	More info to follow.
Last week of term (TBC)	TBC	Year 6	Year 6 Musical Production	More info to follow.
14.07.25	Monday	Classes 5 & 6	Raby Castle & Deer Park	More info to follow.

Holiday dates

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 5th 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



Attendance

Yellow – 96.26% STM

Blue – 95.60% NA

Green – 96.16% SDA

Red – 97.24% 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
99.04%	93.30%	94.20%	94.00%	96.15%	100.00% WINNERS!	93.94%	98.05%	97.06%	97.00%	96.15%	98.08% WINNERS!	95.83%



Geoff the Chef Award has been given to Class 9 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS2 – Well Done!



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



Eco Turtles Award has been given to Classes this week – Well Done!

