

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: Mr A Cammiss, Mrs W Fickling x 2 vacancies.
Parent: 2 x vacancies.
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.**

Autumn Term 1 Week 3
News
Week beginning 15/09/25

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

ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
94.55%

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,

Our Year 6 pupils had a great time at Ullswater last week and have been sharing their favourite moments.....

'I loved it when we went gorge walking and we climbed up a waterfall. It was a bit scary at first but we all managed to do it and we enjoyed it! Will C-W

'My favourite part of the trip was rowing the boat back across the lake. It took a lot of effort and teamwork – it was fun'. Mena D

'I really enjoyed the underground tunnels. We climbed through different sized tunnels, like a maze – it was exciting' Cody M

'I loved it when we climbed the mountain, the views were amazing – I would love to go back some day' Lola M

Please have a look at the fabulous photographs on our Facebook page!

Yesterday, we had a visit from Durham Police who held a special assembly to speak to children in Years 3 – 6 about hate crime. The assembly was delivered at an age-appropriate level and was very informative. The children were delighted to meet 'Ben' the two-year-old police dog and even had the chance to stroke him. The officers were very impressed with our children's mature attitude and their understanding of the important messages shared.

Yesterday, we held the auditions for our school choir. We are hoping that this year will be the best ever! There were 56 children who attended the auditions and we are under strict guidelines from the competition organisers regarding choir numbers- which cannot exceed 30. However, Mrs Gilmour will also run a 'fun choir' so nobody is disappointed. Our Year 6 choir members had the very difficult job of deciding who would join them! A big well done to everyone who attended the auditions – we are proud of you.

Mr Sumby has also been recruiting for 'Radio Rumble' which is open to Year 5 pupils this year. The children have submitted some very impressive application forms – It will be a tough decision for him. Also, Mr Sumby will begin 'retro gaming club' next week with Year 6 pupils. In addition to this, to help enhance our children's personal development, we are also offering a range of other after school clubs;

Monday Y5/6 Mixed football

Wednesday Y3/4 Outdoor Adventure Activities

Thursday Y5/6 Multi skills

We will send information regarding Year 1 and 2 clubs over the next couple of weeks, these will begin after half term.

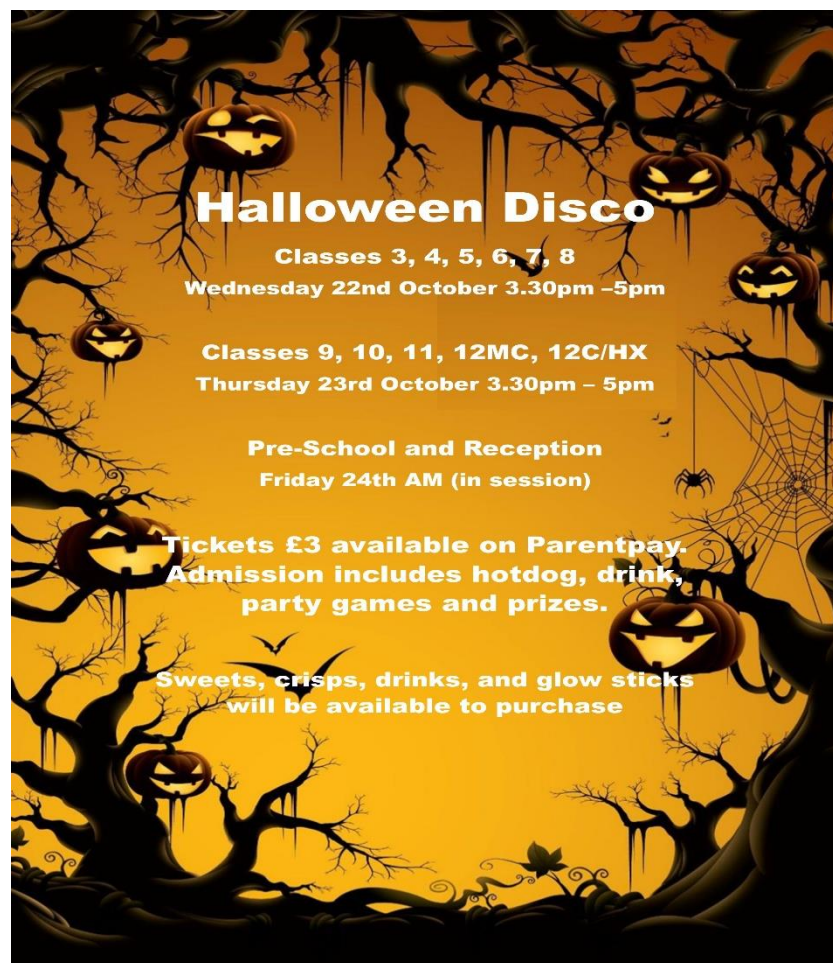
Staff are busy mapping out all of the educational visits for this academic year. They include lots of exciting trips and visitors linked to their cultural capital offer. As soon as the dates are finalised, we will share these with parents!

Just a reminder that on **Monday 22nd September** Tempest photographers will be in school and will take both individual photographs and also separate photographs with siblings of children in school.

Have a great weekend,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher



Certificates:

Resilient: Maeva J PS, Carter T C7, Colin C C8, Charlie S C12C/Hx.

Reflective: Juneau N C1, Halle E C3, Tommy D C3, Sienna M C6, Isobel D C12McK, Charlotte L C4, Noah C C10, Jake W C11.

Resourceful:

Reciprocal: Jack L C9.

Respectful: Annabelle R C2, Grayson W C2, Tyler K C5.

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Koby B C4, Amelia K C5, Caleb A C6. KS2: Olivia L C12McK, Monroe B C12C/Hx, Madison O'D C12McK.

Pen Licence:

Well done to you all!



BIRTHDAYS:

CLASS 2: Charlie P

CLASS 7: Hudson P, Bea R.

CLASS 8: Mila F.

CLASS 9: Sophie M.

CLASS 11: Ella T.

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 31st March 2025 school meals have increased to £2.95 per day (£14.75 per week). **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. **As of September 2025 the cost per day is increasing to £3 for the first child and £2 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. As of September 2025 the cost per day is increasing to £5.50 for the first child and £4.50 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.

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.

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
22.9.25	Monday	Whole school	Tempest Photography	School photos and photos with siblings (already in school)
09.10.25	Thursday	Class 7	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
13.10.25	Monday	Whole school	Nasal flu vaccine	More info to follow.
16.10.25	Thursday	Class 8	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
22.10.25	Wednesday	Classes 3-8	Halloween Disco 3.30-5pm	More info to follow.
23.10.25	Thursday	Class 9	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
23.10.25	Thursday	Classes 9-12C/Hx & 12McK	Halloween Disco 3.30-5pm	More info to follow.
24.10.25	Friday	Preschool Classes 1&2	Halloween Disco (am)	More info to follow.
04.11.25	Tuesday	Whole School	Parents evening	Appts made via class dojo
06.11.25	Thursday	Class 10	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
06.11.25	Thursday	Whole School	Parents evening	Appts made via class dojo
13.11.25	Thursday	Class 11	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
14.11.25	Friday	Whole School	Children in Need	More info to follow.
20.11.25	Thursday	Class 12McK	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
27.11.25	Thursday	Class 12C/Hx	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
21.01.26	Wednesday	Class 6	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
22.01.26	Thursday	Class 5	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
29.01.26	Thursday	Class 4	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
05.02.26	Thursday	Class 3	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
13.02.26	Friday	Class 2	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
13.02.26	Friday	Class 1	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
12.03.26	Thursday	Class 11	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
19.03.26	Thursday	Class 10	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome

26.03.26	Thursday	Class 9	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
02.04.26	Thursday	Preschool	Preschool Easter Parade	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome

Holiday dates

Friday 24th October 2025	School closes
Monday 3rd November 2025	School opens for Autumn Term 2
Friday 28th November 2025	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Monday 1st December 2025	School opens
Friday 19th December 2025	School closes
Monday 5th January 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Tuesday 6th January 2026	School opens
Friday 20th February 2026	School closes
Monday 2nd March 2026	School opens
Thursday 2nd April 2026	School closes
Monday 20th April 2026	School opens
Friday 1st May 2026	School closes
Monday 4th May 2026	School closed Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5th May 2026	School closes
Friday 22nd May 2026	School closes
Monday 1st June 2026	School opens
Friday 17th July 2026	School closes
Monday 20th July 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)



Sue the Chef Award has been given to Class 3 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Kindness Tree Award has been given to Jessica B C11 and Ivy M C3.

