

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 5
News
Week beginning 29/09/25

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

ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
97.30%

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,

What an exciting week we have had. I have been in classes observing Maths lessons and have seen lots of wonderful learning! Yesterday, our children in pre-school really impressed me with their knowledge of counting. They sang 'Five green bottles' and 'Five currant buns in the baker's shop'. Some of the children even counted beyond 20! They have also been learning about the season of Autumn and they have baked their own home-made loaves of bread, which smelt delicious – how clever! Next week, they are off to Castle Eden Dene looking at the changes around them, we know they will have lots of fun.

The children in Class 2 have also been very busy working on their magic number of the day '3'. They were counting along a number line and naming the numbers 'before' and 'after' – well done everyone!

In Class 6 the children were counting forwards and backwards in 2's, 5's and 10's. They were using their own number squares and the working wall in the classroom to help them find missing numbers – I am so impressed.

In Class 12 McK our Year 6 pupils were recognising and using multiples of given numbers then sorting them into Venn diagrams, they have covered so much work in a short space of time – you are all superstars!

Our Year 5 children have been busy researching for the next episode of Radio Rumble – we can't wait to hear the next edition. We now have lots of applications for our team captains in Year 6 and will be looking very closely at these over the next few days.

Yesterday, Mr Hagan and Mr Robinson took 23 children to the Cross Country event at East Durham College. They did a brilliant job and for the first time ever our Year 3/4 girls' team came 1st as did our Year 3/4 boys' team! They will now automatically qualify for the County Cross Country Event. Our Year 5/6 girls' team and boys team finished 2nd and we are awaiting news to see if they qualify too. They were very proud of their trophy and their shiny medals at the front of assembly this morning – we are so proud of you all.

Yesterday, the children enjoyed a choice of BBQ Chicken Pizza or Cheese and Tomato Pizza. There was also a choice of Chips, Carrots and Sweetcorn. For dessert the children savoured Chocolate

Cookies and Vanilla Ice Cream. There was also freshly baked bread, salad bar, fruit, yoghurt, jacket Potato (with Cheese or Beans) and ham sandwich. Everyone had huge smiles on their faces.

Finally, we have added another couple of items to our Christmas diary, to keep you updated.

Date	Day	Class/Year	Event	Information
02.12.25	Tuesday	Preschool	Christmas sing-a-long	Morning session in the school hall.
03.12.25	Wednesday	Reception Classes 1+2	Christmas Nativity Performance	Two performances to be held am and pm. More details to follow.
5.12.25	Friday	Years 1+2 Classes 3-6	Christmas Production	Two performances to be held am and pm. More details to follow.
8.12.25	Monday	Classes 7 + 8	Christmas Concert	Two performances to be held am and after school. More details to follow.
9.12.25	Tuesday	Classes 9 +10	Christmas Concert	Two performances to be held am and after school. More details to follow
10.12.25 and 12.12.25	Wednesday Friday	Classes 11, 12Mck, 12 C/Hx	Christmas Concert	Additional morning performance due to three classes. More details to follow.
11.12.25	Thursday	Whole School	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch	More details to follow
12.12.25	Friday	Year 2 (classes 5 and 6)	Christmas at Raby Castle	More details to follow
15.12.25	Monday	Pre-school, Class 1 +2	Christmas Party	Morning session in school
15.12.25	Monday	Classes 3 + 4	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
16.12.25	Tuesday	Classes 5 + 6	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
17.12.25	Wednesday	Classes 7 + 8	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
18.12.25	Thursday	Classes 9+10	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
19.12.25	Friday	Whole School	Rock band	Whole school

19.12.25	Friday	Classes 11,12C/Hx + 12McK	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
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Have a lovely weekend!

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

Certificates:

Resilient: Thomas G C2, Ivy A C3, Harley H PS, Oliver C C7, Freddie L C8, Sofia K C12C/Hx, Gracie O'G C12C/Hx.

Reflective: Matthew S C4, Elliot O C11, Toby M C9.

Resourceful: Oliver P C12McK, Evelyn F C6.

Reciprocal: Madeline R C10.

Respectful: Esme S C1, Frankie H C2, Tom C C5.

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Joey D C4, Oz N C6, Robynn N C6. KS2: William B C11, Layla C C12McK, Will C-W C12McK.

Pen Licence:

Well done to you all!



BIRTHDAYS:

CLASS 6: Autumn L

CLASS 10: Alice C.

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. Please DO NOT include anything with nuts in, as we are a NUT FREE school and have children with severe allergies.** 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
07.10.25	Tuesday	Classes 1 & 2	Harvest Festival at Grampian House.	More info to follow.
08.10.25	Wednesday	Preschool	Castle Eden Dene Visit	More info to follow
09.10.25	Thursday	Class 7	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
13.10.25	Monday	Whole school	Nasal flu vaccine	Please refer to emails sent out.
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.
24.10.25	Friday	Year 6	The Story @ Durham	WW1 workshop in school. More info to follow.

04.11.25	Tuesday	Whole School	Parents evening	Appts made via class dojo
05.11.25	Wednesday	Classes 5 & 6	Christmas at Raby Castle	More info to follow
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
07.11.25	Friday	Classes 3 & 4	Iskcon Temple Visit	More info to follow
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
05.12.25	Friday	Class 9	Discovery Museum – Lightbulbs and Circuits	More info to follow
10.12.25	Wednesday	Preschool	Christmas Eve Panto at Durham Gala Theatre	More info to follow
16.12.25	Tuesday	Year 5	Peter Pan Panto at Billingham Forum	More info to follow
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 opens
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)



Geoff the Chef Award has been given to Class 11 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS2 – Well Done!



Sue the Chef Award has been given to Class 4 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Attendance Yellow – 98.58% STM Blue – 95.98% NA Green – 96.88% SDA Red – 95.98% 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/Hx	CLASS 12McK
94.50%	100.00% WINNERS!	100.00% 2 lates	96.88%	96.74%	97.50%	99.52% WINNERS!	97.83%	98.86%	96.67%	91.18%	95.67%	99.50%

