

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: 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 2 Week 1

News

Week beginning 03/11/25

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

ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
95.42%

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,

It has been a very busy start to this half-term. Thank you to all of those parents who have been in to school to see their children's books and speak to staff. We still have a couple of parents' evenings to arrange and will be in touch with those parents as soon as we have another date. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

We have had some very exciting news today and are thrilled to announce that our choir are through to the FINAL of the 'Northeast Primary School Choir of the Year' competition. They sang beautifully in our Key Stage 2 assembly this morning and are excited to learn a new song to perform at Ushaw Chapel in Durham on the 10th December. A special thank you to our choir master Mrs. Gilmour for her hard work and dedication- well done!

On Monday, Classes 10 and 11 were lucky enough to take part in a workshop delivered by "The Story, Durham". Children looked at archive documents, objects and artefacts to uncover the real-life stories of men and women from County Durham who served their country in conflicts from the First World War to the present day. The workshops were very moving and thought-provoking and helped children understand the importance of Remembrance Day.

On Wednesday Classes 5 and 6 visited Raby Castle. They spent the morning exploring the Castle and taking part in a 'Horrible Histories' workshop. The children were thrilled to discover all of the gruesome ways in which the castle was defended and other gory facts! During the afternoon they had great fun in Plotters Forest – which they described as magical. As always, our children were superbly behaved – well done!

Class 10 had a fantastic morning on Thursday at their parent workshop. The children had researched and designed Ancient Egyptian Shadufs as part of their History and DT units of work. Parents and carers then came in to help their children to bring their designs to life! The children and adults enjoyed making some wonderful counter balance shadufs and the opportunity to improve on their designs! Thank you so much to all of the parents and carers who took the time to come along and support their child, we really appreciate it.

Well done to our Tag Rugby Team who participated in a competition yesterday. After only a handful of practise sessions they applied themselves to the tactics and rules of the game exceptionally well. They played 4 group games scoring lots of great tries with everyone chipping in with great assists and scores. A special mention to Joshua who scored a hat trick in

consecutive games. The team had a much-improved approach in the '3rd place play-off' and won comfortably 4-2 against South Hetton. They took home bronze medals after a long, yet exciting afternoon. Well done to you all.

Our Year 5 pupils have been working really hard with Mr Sumbly to produce their first Radio Rumble broadcast! Please click the link below to access their show.

<https://shottonhallprimary.durham.sch.uk/radio/>

This afternoon our Reception children joined us in assembly. They sat beautifully and sang with the rest of Key Stage One. They have been taking part in lots of exciting work this week around Guy Fawkes. They worked with Mr Scorer in Forest School to build a fire in the fire pit and enjoyed their hot chocolate too. Our pre-school children even joined in – you are all superstars!

In our Key Stage 2 assembly this morning we announced our new team Captains, Vice Captains and two Head Captains. They have already been taking their roles seriously and we know that they will be fantastic ambassadors for our school this year. Well done to everyone who applied – we are so proud of you all.

On Friday 14th November we will be supporting Children in Need and this year's theme is 'Challenge yourself'. Children can come to school in their Pudsey t-shirts, headbands and onesies! We will be asking for £1 donations, which will be payable via Parent Pay, for Children in Need. Children will be taking part in themed activities that afternoon and having a wonderful day of celebration. We will be sure to share lots of photographs with you via Class Dojo and our school Facebook page.

Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Monday 17th November until Thursday 20th November. On Friday 14th, children from all classes will have the opportunity to look at the fantastic range of books we will have. There will be something for everyone! Lots of the books will be priced at £5 or less. From Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th, children will be able to buy books in school. On Monday 17th November, from 3:20pm, we will also be inviting parents into school to buy books with their children. The Book Fair will then be collected on Thursday 20th November. Any rewards we receive as a result of your purchases, will be spent on books to enhance the curriculum for our children. This is always an extremely popular event in school and as ever, we are grateful for your support.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

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
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.

Certificates:

Resilient: Dominic B C2, Leo O'D C4, Billie R C12C/Hx, Sonny R C7, Vienna P C8.

Reflective: Jack A C6, Kelly M C9, Ivy M C3, Max F C11.

Resourceful: Bleu H PS, Effie C C5, James H C12McK.

Reciprocal:

Respectful: Jasper B C1, Ivy J C10.

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Ralphy H C2, Amelia E C5, Amelia J. KS2: Arlo A C9, Harry U C9, Oliver P C12McK.

Pen Licence:

Well done to you all!



BIRTHDAYS:

CLASS 1: Roman S, Mason B

CLASS 4: Charlotte L

CLASS 6: Charlie S

CLASS 12C/Hx: Joshua C and Theo K

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
13.11.25	Thursday	Class 11	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
14.11.25	Friday	Whole School	Children in Need	Dress in Pudsey clothes.
17.11.25	Monday	Whole School	Book Fair	Book Fair will be open to parents/carers from 3.30-5pm in the small hall (card payments will be preferred but cash can also be used)
18.11.25	Tuesday	Whole School	Book Fair	Open to children during school hours.
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
27.11.25	Thursday	Classes 3 & 4	Iskcon Temple visit	Please see original class letter
04.12.25	Thursday	Classes 1 & 2	“Jack and the Beanstalk” Panto at Gala Theatre Durham	More info to follow.
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
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Holiday dates

Friday 28 th November 2025	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Monday 1 st December 2025	School opens
Friday 19 th December 2025	School closes
Monday 5 th January 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	School opens
Friday 20 th February 2026	School closes
Monday 2 nd March 2026	School opens
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	School closes
Monday 20 th April 2026	School opens
Friday 1 st May 2026	School closes
Monday 4 th May 2026	School closed Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 th May 2026	School opens
Friday 22 nd May 2026	School closes
Monday 1 st June 2026	School opens
Friday 17 th July 2026	School closes
Monday 20 th 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 1 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Kindness Tree Award has been given to Annabelle R C2, Flynn W C11 and Harrison A C11.



Attendance Yellow – 96.59% STM Blue – 94.83% NA Green – 92.33% SDA Red – 97.87% 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
86.50%	98.00%	97.50%	96.43%	99.46% WINNERS!	94.00%	96.15%	97.28% WINNERS!	93.94%	96.21%	96.32%	95.67%	93.00%

