

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.**

## Spring Term 1 Week 6

### News

Week beginning 02.03.26

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

ATTENDANCE  
WHOLE SCHOOL  
96.60%

## 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

Lead: 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 a fantastic first week back in school after the half-term break.

On Wednesday, Classes 5 and 6 went on an educational visit to Saint Cuthbert's Church to support their R.E unit on Christianity. They enjoyed a lovely morning with the church ladies, who visit our school every Tuesday. The children have been looking at the features of Christian churches and it was really interesting for them to see these things in real life. They had a tour of the church, looked at lots of the features, counted many different crosses and heard the bell ring too. A particular highlight of the morning was being able to stand in the pulpit and use the microphone! Many thanks to the church ladies for their kind invitation.

On Thursday, we enjoyed a special whole school assembly to celebrate 'World Book Day'. The children (and staff) looked amazing and they enjoyed completing lots of activities throughout the afternoon. This is what some of the children thought.....

*'My favourite part of world book day was coming to school dressed as piglet- my favourite character. It was a fun day'. Hannah C (Piglet)*

*'I loved coming to school dressed as Matilda. I love the part when Miss Honey adopts her'. Aria W (Matilda)*

*'I love world book day as everyone gets to come to school in their costumes – even the teachers'. Alice A (Mary Poppins)*

*'I love coming to school dressed up as a book character and seeing who my friends are dressed up as too.' Effie C (Hermione Granger)*

Well done to everyone for making such a huge effort. In Year 2, Mr Cleugh (Fantastic Mr Fox) and Mr Johnston (the chef Alfredo Linguini from Ratatouille) seem to enjoy their day more than the children! Please check our Facebook page to see lots of wonderful photographs of the day.

Today, Classes 1 and 2 enjoyed their Friday morning in our Forest School area. They were so excited to explain to me that they have created their own 'Bog Baby Habitat'. The children collected leaves, twigs and raindrops to ensure that their Bog Babies have a very suitable home! I know that they were all proud of the finished results – well done to you all.

Today, our children have attended the County Finals Swimming Gala in Durham. The squad did a fantastic job and missed out on 3<sup>rd</sup> place by one point! We are so proud of the children and their attitudes. A special mention to Ivy. J who won her individual race and James. H & Freddie.A who both won theirs too. Our relay team -Will.G, Eugene. L, James.H and Freddie.A also came in first place. You are all absolute superstars!

Just a reminder that we will be supporting Comic Relief in school on **Friday 20th March**. The theme for this year is, 'Take Yourself Funny for Money!' Children are welcome to come into school wearing their red noses, t-shirts or their weekend clothes. We will have an afternoon of exciting activities in class! If you are able to, please make donations via Parent Pay. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

#### Certificates:

**Resilient: Daisy R (C2), Isaac H (C11)**

**Reflective: Thea B (C3), Jake C (C4),**

**Resourceful: Robin N (C6), Arlo A (C9), Alyssa T (C10), Cody M (12McK)**

**Reciprocal: Oliver C (C7)**

**Respectful: Addison S (P.S.), Lola C (C1), Zachary W (C8), Aaron W (C12G)**

**HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Lydia H (C2), Tilly F (C5), Hendrix P (C5) KS2: Nevaeh L (C11), Ruby L (C12G), Emily H (12McK)**

**Well done to you all!**



#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

**Class 1: Oliver A**

**Class 3: Scarlett S**

**Class 4: Jacob C, Koby B.**

**Class 8: Poppy C, Zachary W**

**Class 12McK: Oliver S**

**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](mailto:scd@durham.gov.uk). [www.durham.gov.uk/firstcontact](http://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 31<sup>st</sup> 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
12.03.26	Thursday	Class 7 & 8	The Baltic visit	Please see class letter
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
20.03.26	Friday	Whole School	Comic Relief	More info to follow
24.03.26	Tuesday	Preschool	Wharton Park Visit	Please see class letter
24.03.26	Tuesday	Classes 1 & 2	Washington Wetlands	Please see class letter
26.03.26	Thursday	Class 9	Parent Workshop	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
31.03.26	Tuesday	Class 9	Beamish Visit	More info to follow
02.04.26	Thursday	Preschool	Preschool Easter Parade	9.15am large hall, parents/carers welcome
22.04.26	Wednesday	Preschool	Tweddle Farm Visit	More info to follow

## Holiday dates

<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>School closed Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2026</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2026</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2026</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2026</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2026</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2027</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2027</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2027</b>	<b>School closes for half term</b>
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2027</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Mar 2027</b>	<b>School closes for Easter</b>
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Apr 2027</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Apr 2027</b>	<b>School closes</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027</b>	<b>School closed Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2027</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2027</b>	<b>School closes for half term</b>
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2027</b>	<b>School opens</b>
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2027</b>	<b>School closes for Summer holidays</b>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2027</b>	<b>School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)</b>



Geoff the Chef Award has been given to Class11 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS2 – Well Done!



Sue the Chef Award has been given to Class 5 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Kindness Tree Award has been given to Jasper B (C1)



**Attendance** Yellow – 97.30% STM Blue – 94.77% NA Green – 97.70% SDA Red – 95.93% QEII

CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4	CLASS 5	CLASS 6	CLASS 7	CLASS 8	CLASS 9	CLASS 10	CLASS 11	CLASS 12G	CLASS 12McK
100.00%	99.04%	99.48%	97.32%	97.83%	96.00%	96.97%	96.50%	92.20%	97.00%	92.28%	95.45%	95.67%
<b>WINNERS!</b>									<b>WINNERS!</b>			

