

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, Dr M Treanor x 1 vacancy.

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.**

Summer Term 1 Week 2

News

Week beginning 27.04.26

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

Lead: Mr K. Morgan

SENCO/Pastoral: Mrs R Hext

Site Manager: Mrs W. Fickling

School Business Manager: Mrs J Treanor

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week our EYFS children have enjoyed their topic all about transport 'A ticket to ride,' where they have explored a range of vehicles. This has provoked a range of inquisitive questions, fostering a deeper understanding of the world around them. They have thought about how they might design their own vehicles and are beginning to bring them to life using junk modelling. The children demonstrated an interest in jobs that vehicles might be used for and have spent time investigating the 'People who help us' and their role in the community. Children have talked confidently about the role of police officers, firefighters, nurses, doctors and vets. It has been lovely to see the children take on these different roles within their play, demonstrating what they have learned. They have also ventured onto the BIG yard this week and have made lots of new friends with Year 1 and 2 children - we are so proud of them!

On Thursday, our Year 3 children enjoyed their mosaic making parent workshop. In their Art lessons, the children researched and designed their own mosaics - taking inspiration from the Roman era. The children worked together with their grown-ups to create their mosaic, using their design. The children told me all about their designs and the final mosaics were very impressive. They are all proudly displayed outside their classrooms for everyone to admire - well done to you all.

The girls' football team were in action again on Monday evening. They were thrilled to come in 3rd place in the competition. The girls all received a huge round of applause in this morning's celebration assembly – you are all superstars!

Our Pre-school children have been collecting food items that have been delivered to our school charity 'East Durham Veterans'. Mrs Devine and Miss Brown delivered all of the donations to them last night. Thank you so much for your kindness, it is greatly appreciated.

We have already started making plans for 'Shotton Hall Live' which will take place on the afternoon of **Friday 3rd July**. The children are always very excited about this event and have been so enthusiastic to begin learning the songs - we will have a few surprises included in the show this year too! We will send more details nearer the time.

Just a reminder that our Year 6 pupils will have a run through of arrangements for SATs from **Tuesday 5th May**, so the children are familiar with the procedures. The children will then sit their

Statutory Assessments in English reading, grammar, punctuation, spelling and maths from **Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May**. Our Year 6 children are welcome to come into school each morning at 8.15am to have a breakfast snack and drink with their friends, this will be provided by school.

School will reopen for pupils on **Tuesday 5th May** – enjoy the long, bank holiday weekend!

Kind regards,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

Certificates:

Resilient: Emily H C12McK, Aria P C11, Aria W C5, Ollie K C1.

Reflective: Ida R PS, Evan F C3, Archie D C3, Matthew T C12G, Zachary L C4, Myla-Grace L C7.

Resourceful: Miya C C2, Elsie S C8, Max B C9.

Reciprocal: Tommy P C6.

Respectful: Rae F C10.

Pen Licence:

HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Silja R C1, Rowan F C2, Archie D C3, Jake C C4 KS2: Jude L C12McK, Thea W C12G, Daniel W C12G.

Well done to you all!



BIRTHDAYS:

Preschool: Cole T

Class 1: Elijah M-D

Class 6: Harry M

Class 7: Remi W, Myla-Grace L, Mila B

Class 8: Oliver E

Class 9: Skyler O

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
07.05.26	Thursday	Class 6	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
W/C 11.05.26	Monday-Thursday	Year 6	SATS WEEK	
14.05.26	Thursday	Class 5	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
21.05.26	Thursday	Class 4	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
01.06.26	Monday	Class 7	Moorhouse Adv Centre	Please see class letter
02.06.26	Tuesday	Class 8	Moorhouse Adv Centre	Please see class letter
W/C 08.06.26	Monday-Thursday	Year 1	Phonics Screening	
11.06.26	Thursday	Class 3	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
18.06.26	Thursday	Class 2	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
25.06.26	Thursday	Class 1	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
25.06.26	Thursday	Year 6	Dragon Boating	Please see class letter

29.06.26 PM	Monday PM	New Reception Starters	Visit to school	More details to follow
30.06.26 AM	Tuesday AM	New Preschool Starters	Visit to school	More details to follow
30.06.26 PM	Tuesday PM	New Reception Starters	Visit to school	More details to follow
02.07.26	Thursday	Preschool	Preschool Graduation	9.10am in the large hall
03.07.26	Friday	Whole School	Shotton Hall Live	More details to follow
07.07.26	Tuesday	Preschool	Seaham Beach	Please see class letter
08.07.26	Wednesday	Classes 7 & 8	Big Sing	Please see class letter
08.07.26 AM	Wednesday AM	Preschool	Sports Day	More details to follow
08.07.26 PM	Wednesday PM	KS1 Classes 1-6	Sports Day	More details to follow
09.07.26 PM	Thursday	KS2 Classes 7-12	Sports Day	More details to follow
10.07.26	Friday	Year 6	Tommy's Trek	More details to follow
15.07.26 PM	Wednesday	Year 6	Year 6 Leavers Performance	More details to follow
16.07.26 PM	Thursday	Year 6	Year 6 Leavers Performance	More details to follow

Holiday dates

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)
Tuesday 1st Sept 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Wednesday 2nd Sept 2026	School opens
Friday 23rd Oct 2026	School closes
Monday 2nd Nov 2026	School opens
Thursday 26th Nov 2026	School closes
Friday 27th Nov 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Monday 30th Nov 2026	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Tuesday 1st Dec 2026	School opens
Friday 18th Dec 2026	School closes
Monday 4th Jan 2027	School closed to pupils (PD Day for staff)
Tuesday 5th Jan 2027	School opens
Friday 12th Feb 2027	School closes for half term
Monday 22nd Feb 2027	School opens
Thursday 25th Mar 2027	School closes for Easter
Monday 12th Apr 2027	School opens
Friday 30th Apr 2027	School closes
Monday 3rd May 2027	School closed Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4th May 2027	School opens
Friday 28th May 2027	School closes for half term
Monday 7th June 2027	School opens
Tuesday 20th July 2027	School closes for Summer holidays
Wednesday 21st July 2027	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 6 this week for the best behaviour over lunchtime KS1 – Well Done!



Eco Turtles Award has been given to Classes 3 and 12McK this week – Well Done!



Kindness Tree Award has been given to Jack L C8 and Mila T C1 – Well Done!



Attendance Yellow – 95.74% STM Blue – 94.12% NA Green – 94.40% SDA Red – 96.37% 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
97.50%	97.12%	99.48% WINNERS!	94.64%	97.92%	98.00%	94.23%	96.74% WINNERS!	86.36%	95.45%	93.56%	93.50%	96.00%

