

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 3

#### News

Week beginning 04.05.26

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

ATTENDANCE  
WHOLE SCHOOL  
95.25%

### 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,

Although it has been a shorter week, we have been very busy in Shotton Hall Primary School.

Sir David Attenborough, the English broadcaster and conservationist is celebrating his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday today. Children have been learning some interesting facts about his remarkable life. Our Year 1 children told me that they have researched what he was famous for and about the television programmes that he has made over the years. In Year 2, Classes 5 & 6 continued to explore mini beasts and micro-habitats in science, feeling more inspired after watching an assembly celebrating his incredible life. They looked at film clips of some of his most amazing achievements and discussed the importance of caring for our planet.

Also today, Classes 1 and 2 have spent the morning in their favourite place - Forest school! Each week, the children are building confidence and resilience as they explore every corner of the forest. They have enjoyed sorting bugs into 'legs and no legs', they have made aliens using natural resources like leaves, sticks and stones, they have enjoyed counting to 10 and beyond on the tree swings and practised waiting as they queued for their turn. The children have been working hard to create bug hotels in various places so that the creatures of the forest have safe places to hide and sleep. Some children practised their rolling skills as they rolled small tyres down the gravel path, checking which tyre managed to travel the furthest! Other children enjoyed launching the foam rockets down the grassy bank and measuring which travelled the furthest too.

The children were so excited to tell me about their research this morning. Both classes were amazed to see the 'Coke and Mentos' experiment where they predicted what might happen if they were to put the Mentos mints into the fizzy drink. The children had some fantastic ideas and were super excited as they watched the explosive fountain of coke fire into the sky like a rocket! This was the perfect introduction to their new topic all about Space! This is what some of the children told me.....

*'I saw the bottle of coke fizz up and explode, it gave me a big shock' Phoebe J*

*'I predicted that when we put the mints into the Coca-Cola it would fizz up and it did – Miss Case got a little bit wet, it was funny' Eva L*

*'It all fizzed up and shot up – it nearly went all of the way up to the moon' Brody E*

*'I thought it was going to go on me but it went on Miss Case – it made me laugh'. Bonnie*

Yesterday, Class 6 children really enjoyed their kite making parent workshop. In their DT construction lessons, the children researched and designed their own kites. They worked with their adults to turn pieces of paper and sticks into glorious flying machines. Some of the partnerships created some very flamboyant designs. Afterwards, they went outside and successfully flew their kites around the yard.

Well done everyone – you really impressed Mr Johnston!

Our Year 6 pupils have shown an impressive attitude towards their 'Mock SAT's' this week. The children are now familiar with the procedures and are ready to give their best-efforts next week, beginning on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. Our Year 6 children are welcome to come into school each morning at **8.15am** to have a breakfast snack, hot buttered crumpet, croissant and a drink with their friends. If children prefer to come into school at **8.40am** and have some quiet time at home, that is fine too. If your child is in another year group and you arrive late (**after 8.55am**) you will need to hand your child over at the main reception double doors, as we have some children working quietly in the small offices over these four days.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Have a lovely weekend,

Joanne Leah Morgan

Head teacher

#### Certificates:

**Resilient: Will G C12McK, Lilah S C8.**

**Reflective: Max S PS, Jude L C1, Charlotte P C3, Jessica J C12G.**

**Resourceful: Jacob S C5, Lydia H C2, Cole D C9, Aria J C10, Kai S C11.**

**Reciprocal: Leo C C6.**

**Respectful: Isla G C4, Bella U C7, Hallie-Grace D C7.**

#### **Pen Licence:**

**HEADTEACHERS AWARD: KS1: Rudi R C1, Phoebe J C2, Tommy P C6. KS2: Hudson P C7, Macie-Ella W C11.**

**Well done to you all!**



#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

**Preschool: Harley H, Freya H and Robyn H.**

**Class 2: Nancy B, Eva L, Phoebe J.**

**Class 4: Jacob B, Noah R.**

**Class 5: Lockie R.**

**Class 12McK: Will G.**

**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
<b>W/C 11.05.26</b>	<b>Monday-Thursday</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>SATS WEEK</b>	
14.05.26	Thursday	Class 5	Parent Workshop	9.10am in the large hall
18.05.26	Monday	Class 11	Durham Cathedral	Please see class letter
19.05.26	Tuesday	Class 10	Durham Cathedral	Please see class letter
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
<b>W/C 08.06.26</b>	<b>Monday-Thursday</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Phonics Screening</b>	
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
23.06.26	Tuesday	Year 5's Class 10	Paddle boarding Experience	Please see class letter
24.06.26	Wednesday	Class 11	Paddle boarding Experience	Please see class letter
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
07.07.26	Tuesday	Classes 3 & 4	Washington Wetlands	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
13.07.26	Monday	Classes 1 & 2	South Shields Beach	Please see class letter
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

<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> Nov 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>

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



Geoff the Chef Award has been given to Class 12G 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!



Eco Turtles Award has been given to Classes 2 and 7 this week – Well Done!



Kindness Tree Award has been given to Flo W Preschool – Well Done!



**Attendance** Yellow – 98.11% STM Blue – 95.69% NA Green – 95.02% SDA Red – 92.64% 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
98.67%	91.03%	95.83%	95.83%	97.92%	94.67%	88.46%	92.75%	92.42%	99.49%	98.48%	94.00%	98.67%
<b>WINNERS!</b>									<b>WINNERS!</b>			

