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.
Parent: Mr Angell, Miss Potts & Miss Patterson.
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 3
News
Week beginning 16.11.26

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

ATTENDANCE
WHOLE SCHOOL
94.05%

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 another busy week in school this week!

On Tuesday, Mr Hagan and Mr Harrison took a team of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils to an athletics competition. All children took part in both track and field events. The children performed brilliantly and finished in third place overall, bringing home a bronze medal! What a fabulous achievement for everyone involved!

Yesterday, Class 12McK welcomed their grown-ups into school for their parent workshop. Over the last few weeks, children have been designing and creating their own sculpture based on the work of Yayoi Kusama. Yesterday, children had the opportunity to finish their sculptures, by decorating them with their grown-ups. Everyone did a great job – well done!
Next Thursday, it is the turn of Class 12C and we look forward to welcoming parents and carers again then.

As you are aware, the Scholastic Book Fair returned to school this week. There were lots of lovely books and stationery items on sale and as always, the fair was very well attended. All money made will be spent on books for our children in school. Thank you for your continued support!

This week, Mrs. McKitten and I have been into some English lessons. We have seen some fantastic writing and have enjoyed watching children engage with a variety of different texts. Keep up the hard work everyone. We are so proud of you all!

As I mentioned last week, the Christmas Calendar section of our newsletter has been updated to reflect the times of our performances. Rehearsals have started in school and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school to celebrate the festive season with us.

Next Thursday (26th November), children will be bringing home their Autumn Term short reports. A reminder that school is closed for children on Friday 27th and Monday 30th November. We will reopen on Tuesday 1st December and look forward to our Preschool Christmas sing-a-long being the first of our Christmas events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend!

Rebecca Hext, Deputy Head Teacher



Date	Day	Class/Year	Event	Information
1.12.26	Tuesday	Preschool	Christmas sing-a-long	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30.
02.12.26	Wednesday	Reception Classes 1+2	Christmas Nativity Performance	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30. Doors open 2.15 and performance starts at 2.30.
4.12.26	Friday	Years 1+2 Classes 3-6	Christmas Production	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30. Doors open 2.15 and performance starts at 2.30 .
7.12.26	Monday	Classes 7 + 8 + 9	Christmas Concert	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30. Doors open 3.30 and performance starts at 3.45.
8.12.26	Tuesday	Classes 10 + 11	Christmas Concert	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30. Doors open 3.30 and performance starts at 3.45
9.12.26	Wednesday	Classes12Mck +12C	Christmas Concert	Doors open 9.10 and performance starts at 9.30. Doors open 3.30 and performance starts at 3.45
10.12.26	Thursday	Pre-School	Durham Gala Theatre	Morning session
10.12.26	Thursday	Whole School	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch	More details to follow
14.12.26	Monday	Pre-school, Class 1 +2	Christmas Party	Morning session in school
14.12.26	Monday	Classes 3 + 4	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
15.12.26	Tuesday	Classes 5 + 6	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
16.12.26	Wednesday	Classes 7 + 8 +9	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
17.12.26	Thursday	Whole School	Rock band	Morning session
17.12.26	Thursday	Classes 10 +11	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.
18.12.26	Friday	Classes 12C +12McK	Christmas Party	Afternoon session in school.

Certificates:

Resilient: Gideon M PS, Thomas G C4, Oliver C C9, Charlie S C8.
Reflective: Evie F C1, Natassia L C10, Robyn C C12C.
Resourceful: Dylan L C7, Mason B C3, Heath A C11, Zachary L C6.
Reciprocal: Hunter R C1.
Respectful: HA C1, Maisie D C5, Flynn W C12McK.

Pen Licence: Harper B C7, Hallie P C7, Jasmine S C7.

Well done to you all!



BIRTHDAYS:
Class 5: James B
Class 6: Oscar M
Class 7: Jacob S
Class 12McK: Roman 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. 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 inwhat 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 20th April 2026 school meals have increased to £3.08 per day (£15.40 per week). **Preschool meals are at a cost of £3.70 per day (£18.50 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 needs to be booked and **paid for in advance please through Parentpay under the Clubs section.** As of September 2025 the cost per day is increasing to £3 for the first child and £2 for any siblings.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB: **After School Club must be booked and paid for in advance on Parentpay under the Clubs section (this needs to be booked before 11am on the day).** 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.

Holiday dates

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)**

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
26.11.26	Thursday	Class 12C	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
10.12.26	Thursday	Preschool	The Elves and the Shoemaker – Gala Theatre	Please see class letter
16.12.26	Wednesday	Class 1 and 2	Rapunzel – Gala Theatre	Please see class letter
14.01.27	Thursday	Class 6	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
21.01.27	Thursday	Class 5	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
28.01.27	Thursday	Class 4	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall

04.02.27	Thursday	Class 3	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
11.02.27	Thursday	Class 1 and 2	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
25.02.27	Thursday	Class 11	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
04.03.27	Thursday	Class 10	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
11.03.27	Thursday	Class 9	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
18.03.27	Thursday	Class 8	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
25.03.27	Thursday	Preschool Easter Parade	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
22.04.27	Thursday	Class 7	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
29.04.27	Thursday	Class 6	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
06.05.27	Thursday	Class 5	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
20.05.27	Thursday	Class 4	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
27.05.27	Thursday	Class 3	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall
17.06.27	Thursday	Class 1 and 2	Parent Workshop	9.05am in the large hall



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



Eco Turtles Award has been given to Class 9 this week – Well Done!

Attendance Yellow – 95.45% STM Blue – 94.75% NA Green – 89.02% SDA Red – 94.18% 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	CLASS 12McK
96.00%	**99.00% WINNERS!**	98.00%	93.50%	90.10%	93.75%	94.76%	91.94%	93.55%	**95.24% WINNERS!**	92.84%	91.15%	92.79%

