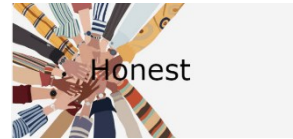




SBPS News



19th December 2025

Issue 2

Price: FREE!

Merry Christmas!

As we come to the end of a long half term, it's definitely time to slow things down and catch our breath. It's been a busy few weeks, and everyone has worked incredibly hard. With Christmas just around the corner, we'd like to say a big thank you for all the support this term. We hope the break gives you the chance to properly switch off, rest up, and enjoy some special time with family and friends.

Wishing everyone a very lovely, relaxing, and restful Christmas!



A Huge Thank You



We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our parents and carers for your amazing support during this busy Christmas period. From buying raffle tickets and joining us at the Christmas market, to coming along to our nativities and Christmas

performances, we really are so grateful! Thanks to your generosity during the festive period, we have raised over £4,000, which will be added to our school fund to help make your children's experiences at Shotley Bridge Primary even more special. We are also delighted to be making a donation of £500 to St Cuthbert's Church as a thank you for allowing us to use the church for our Upper School performances and to help with ongoing repairs to the roof and building. Thank you once again for being such a supportive school community – your generosity really makes a difference!

Parking

Safety is our top priority. Please take extra care when dropping off and picking up children, and always use the crossing patrol whenever available. When driving near the school, keep your speed low—especially when amber lights are flashing. At these times, the speed limit is 20 mph, and exceeding this is dangerous. School car parks are reserved for staff only. We kindly ask parents and carers to park considerately and avoid blocking residential driveways. These simple steps help keep our children, local residents, and the entire community safe. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring Shotley Bridge Primary School remains a safe environment for everyone.



Uniform Reminder



All children should wear fully black trainers, red polo/T-shirts, black jogging bottoms, leggings, PE or cycling shorts and red hoodies, jumpers, or cardigans (school logo and initials are fine). Please remember no jewellery, nail extensions or colourful hairstyles. Watches are allowed as long as they cannot send messages, make calls, or take photos. We also ask that all children bring a drawstring bag to carry their reading books and diaries so that everyone's bags can fit comfortably on their pegs. Thank you so much for your support with this!



Mrs Atkinson
Head Teacher



Mrs Pearson
Deputy Head Teacher

Safeguarding Leads

If you have a concern about the safety of a child in our school, please contact one of our trained Designated Safeguarding Leads. If you have a concern out of school hours, please contact First Contact on 0300026797 or the police.



Mrs Dryden
Deputy Head Teacher/SENCO



Mrs Lee
Pupil Well-Being Lead

Enrichment

At Shotley Bridge Primary School, we deliver a broad and balanced curriculum in line with the National Curriculum. Your support and contributions play a vital role in allowing us to provide exciting and enriching experiences that enhance learning. Throughout the Autumn term, our children have enjoyed a range of amazing opportunities, all made possible thanks to your enrichment contributions of £15 per term. Here is a snapshot of what our pupils have been up to over the past few months:

Y2 Visit to Washington Wetlands



Y1 Crazy Creatures Workshop



Poetry Workshops



Little Ballers Workshops



Y4 Residential to York



Y3 Visit to the Hindu Temple and the Discovery Museum



African Dance and Drumming Workshops



Robin Hood Pantomime



Y4 Visit to the Synagogue



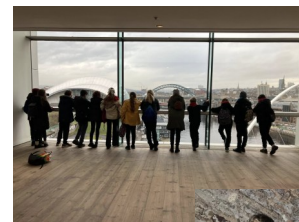
Early Years North Pole Day



Christmas Parties



Y6 Visit to Victoria Tunnel



PTA Invitation

We're excited to reach out, once again, to our school community with an important invitation. As we look forward to the new year, we want to invite all parents and carers to our upcoming Friends of SBPS meeting.

We're always keen to hear your thoughts and welcome new ideas. Our school thrives when we work together and we're ready to listen and support our amazing community. Your input really does matter. Stay tuned for more details about the meeting date and time!



Our New Canopies

Our new canopies completed this week in EYFS! A year ago, the school successfully applied for Government funding of £120,000 and this final stage of the project is now complete. We are over the moon with how they look! The canopies are a wonderful addition to our 2-year-old outdoor area and our preschool/reception outdoor space, and we can't wait for them to be put to good use from January 2026.



OPAL Updates

We've got some exciting updates to share! We've recently installed welly sheds for our children at lower school and now EYFS and reception children are able to access much more of outdoor spaces, making learning and playtimes even more fun. We're also thrilled about our new bikes and scooters that we have paid for using school funds; they are helping all our children stay active and enjoy playtime. A massive thank you to our parents and carers who have supported us by buying resources for den building and to all of you for being understanding about muddy clothes at the end of the day... the children really are having a ball!



Finally, a big congratulations to Mrs Lavery, who, from January will be employed as our new OPAL Play Lead. She'll be leading the team at Upper School, while Mrs Frazer will be paving the way at Lower School.



EARLY YEARS VISITS

WE ARE WARMLY WELCOMING VISITS TO OUR BRAND NEW EARLY YEARS UNIT, OPENED SEPTEMBER 2025!

- Dedicated 2-3 year old room with experienced practitioners.
- Purpose designed preschool and reception space.
- Flexible 2-3 year old spaces available now.
- Limited 3-4 year old spaces available.
- Government funded spaces and additional hours available.
- Full wrap around care available.
- Open for Reception 2026 viewings.

If you would like to book your space on one of these visits, please scan the QR code or click here.



GET IN TOUCH

 shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net

 01207 260444

 shotleybridgeprimary.durham.sch.uk/

Fundraising in Shotley Bridge Primary School

Throughout the year, we have a number of different fundraising events that take place in school (such as the summer fair, bingo night and the Christmas market) that set out to raise money for 'school fund'. Recently some very generous local businesses have approached us to offer support to school by purchasing items for us. During last month's PTA meeting, we agreed it would be a fantastic idea to share with parents and carers what our fundraising efforts are in aid of. Here is some of our most recent fundraising wishlist...



What?: Bean Bags
Why? Classrooms
How much? £100 each



What?: Bell tent
Why? OPAL
How much? £700



What?: Small World Figures
Why? OPAL
How much? £300



What?: More Bikes and Scooters
Why? Transport to school
How much? £500



What?: Outdoor Tuft Tray
Why? Pre-School
How much? £150



What?: Outdoor sandpit
Why? OPAL
How much? £500



What?: Den building equipment
Why? OPAL
How much? £300



What?: Bike racks
Why? Transport to school
How much? £500

As we reach our fundraising goals, we will share with you the items that have been purchased through your donations.



What?: Outdoor speakers
Why? OPAL
How much? £500



What?: Helmets
Why? Scooter and bike safety
How much? £300

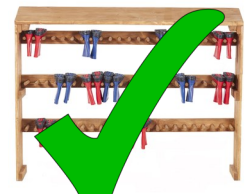
Purchased
Using funds from sponsor walk—
Thank you!



What?: Sand
Why? Refill sandpits
How much? £2,300



What?: Scooters
Why? OPAL
How much? £500



What?: Welly Storage
Why? OPAL
How much? £15,000

The fundraising wish list may grow or change as we respond to the needs of the children in school. If you have any items at home which you would like to donate, we would welcome loved second hand items too!

Shotley Bridge Primary School

LOWER SCHOOL CLUBS

At Shotley Bridge Primary School, we are committed to offering a wide range of exciting and enriching after-school clubs as part of our extra-curricular programme.

Please see below for information about the clubs available in lower school during the first half of the Spring term.

When?	What?	Who?	How much?
Monday 3:20-4:20pm	Creative Kitchen Children will enjoy fun, hands-on cooking activities while learning basic food skills and recipes—ran by Creative Kitchen.	Reception and Year 1	£6 per session payable on Arbor
Monday 3:20-4:20pm	Little Ballers A high-energy club focused on developing basketball skills through games and drills—ran by Little Ballers.	Reception and Year 1	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Wednesday 3:20-4:20pm	Football A fun and active club where children can improve their football skills and enjoy team games - led by Consett AFC.	Reception and Year 1	£3 per session payable by following the link below
Thursday 3:20-4:20pm	Drama and Storytelling Club A creative and imaginative club where children can explore stories through role play, drama, and fun activities – helping to build confidence and communication skills - led by Mrs Salgado.	Reception and Year 1	£3 per session payable on Arbor

Clubs will go live for booking on Arbor at 6:00pm on Friday 19th December. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be made at the time of booking—unpaid bookings will be automatically cancelled. We look forward to another great half-term of fun and learning beyond the classroom!

Shotley Bridge Primary School

UPPER SCHOOL CLUBS

At Shotley Bridge Primary School, we are committed to offering a wide range of exciting and enriching after-school clubs as part of our extra-curricular programme. Please see below for information about the clubs available in Upper School during the first half of the Spring term.






When?	What?	Who?	How much?
Monday 3:25-4:25pm	Team Games A fun and energetic club where children can enjoy a variety of team-based activities and develop their skills - led by AE Coaches	Y2-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Tuesday 3:25-4:25pm	Boys' Football A fun and active club where children can improve their football skills and enjoy team games - led by Consett AFC.	Y4-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Tuesday 3:25-4:25pm	Musical Theatre An exciting club where children can explore singing, acting and movement while building confidence and creativity. Musical Theatre club will be rehearsing to perform a show for parents in the Summer Term - led by Mrs Orrick and Miss Simm.	Y2-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Wednesday 3:25-4:25pm	Japanese Club An exciting introduction to Japanese language and culture through games, crafts and activities - led by Noriko Matsubaru.	Y2-Y3	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Thursday 3:25-4:25pm	Basketball A high-energy club focused on developing basketball skills through games and drills - led by Little Ballers.	Y2-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Thursday 3:25-4:25pm	Chess A challenging and engaging club where children learn strategies, improve problem-solving skills, and enjoy friendly matches - led by Mr Campbell	Y3-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor
Thursday 3:25-4:25pm	Creative Kitchen Children will enjoy preparing simple recipes while learning basic cooking and food safety skills - led by Creative Kitchen.	Y2-Y6	£6 per session payable on Arbor
Friday 3:25-4:25pm	Tag Rugby A fast-paced and enjoyable club where children can learn the fundamentals of tag rugby and work together as a team - led by AE Coaching.	Y2-Y6	£3 per session payable on Arbor


Clubs will go live for booking on Arbor at 6:00pm on Friday 19th December. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be made at the time of booking—unpaid bookings will be automatically cancelled. We look forward to another great half-term of fun and learning beyond the classroom!

Diary Dates

2026







January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			 1	2
5 Back to school! 	6	7	8	9
12	13	14  Y4 Team Building Festival at Tanfield	15	16
19	20 KS2 Swimming Gala 	21	22	23
26	27 Y5/6 Robotics Club Regional Competition 	28	29	30



2026

February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4  Y5/6 Tag Rugby Competition	5	6
9 Children's Mental Health Week	10  Safer Internet Day Children's Mental Health Week	11 Children's Mental Health Week	12 Valentine's Disco (after school)  Children's Mental Health Week	13 Children's Mental Health Week
16	17	18	19 Year 3 Egyptian Day 	20
23 Half-Term Holidays 	24 Half-Term Holidays	25 Half-Term Holidays	26 Half-Term Holidays	27 Half-Term Holidays
				

Diary Dates

2026
March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Sponsor Walk	3 SEN Review Meetings	4 Reception 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' Event	5	6
9 Reception/KS1 Minibeasts Workshop	10 Year 3/4 Dinosaur Dig and Fossil Workshop	11 Year 5/6 Forensic Crime Scene Workshop	12	13 KS1 Invasion Games Festival
British Science Week	British Science Week	British Science Week	British Science Week	British Science Week
16	17	18	19	20
23 Class 8 Bikeability Sessions	24 Class 10 Bikeability Sessions	25 Class 10 Bikeability Sessions Y5/6 Rugby Skills Festival	26 Class 10 Bikeability Sessions	27
30 Class 9 Bikeability Sessions	31 Class 11 Bikeability Sessions Y1 'Come Dance With Me' Festival			

2026
April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Class 11 Bikeability Sessions	2 Class 11 Bikeability Sessions Early Years Sports Festival	3 Bank Holiday (School closed)
6 Easter Holidays	7 Easter Holidays	8 Easter Holidays	9 Easter Holidays	10 Easter Holidays
13 Easter Holidays	14 Easter Holidays	15 Easter Holidays	16 Easter Holidays	17 Easter Holidays
18 Back to School!	19 Year 1 Trip to Beamish	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29 Health and Fitness Day