

Percy Hedley School's

Family Information and FOPHS News Friday 5th June 2026

Welcome back: what a glorious week we had weather wise? I hope that you found some inspiration for activities in my last longer than usual blog. If you know of anything other families might enjoy, please share with me.

School Office hours: Please be aware that, as of this week the school office will close at 16.30 and phones will be on answerphone. The office opens daily at 08.00



Join the FoPHS 100 Club!



School Calendars

Term dates 2025-26

Term dates 2026-27

Events calendar
2025-26



Singing Hands

Yesterday, we had the Singing hands in school, and I am told it was very popular. We even have a PHS school song now which we learned on training day. For those interested, there is a show tomorrow. I shared this in my blog before half term. Here is what they say:



“We are reaching out from The Special Lioness to ask whether you would kindly be able to share our poster for our upcoming Singing Hands event with your families and community.

Singing Hands will be joining us on 6th June from 11am–12pm at Barley Mow Village Hall. The event is open to the whole family and promises to be a fantastic experience for children and adults alike.

Tickets can be purchased through our website www.thespeciallioness.com.

This is something not to be missed, Singing Hands very rarely come up North, and we have been lucky enough to secure one of those rare opportunities. We know it is going to be an amazing session and would love as many families as possible to have the opportunity to attend”.

Father's Day sale:

This is a plea from the student council for donations (no alcohol or nuts) for the above. This is popular with students who can buy a gift for their father or significant male figure in their lives. They have had very few donations and would hate to see students disappointed. Please could you support them and send in gifts which they can sell. The sale is due to be held on Friday 12th June. Gifts can be sent in for the attention of Amanda Waugh.



What's coming up?

Thursday 11th June 09.30-11.00. Drop in (pre booked) with Family Liaison. This can be in person, phone or TEAMS. This form needs to be completed in advance please:

[Drop in session with Family Liaison Officer – Fill out form](#)

Friday 12th June: Father's Day sale

Monday 22nd June 9.30-11.00: Social Coffee morning.

Wednesday 24th June 9.30-11.00: Parent Forum Preparation for Adulthood: Focus on Independence (supported). This is for families of those students in Year 7 and above.

Circus Starr:



This year we have received a smaller allocation of tickets for the circus, which will be held at Newcastle High School for Girls in Jesmond. It will be on Saturday 27th June. There are 2 shows, one at 13.30 and one at 16.00. Priority will be given to those families who have not had tickets before. If you would like to be considered, please email me at e.robinson@percyhedley.org.uk

I have just 5 tickets for the 13.30 performance and 30 for the second. A maximum of 2/3 for the first one per family and 4 per family for the second.

Wheelchair users will need to phone 01260 288690 to reserve a space. There will be a "Changing Places" facility.



Online Safety Information:

The link to the Online safety information can be found on the school website under the heading "Parent and carers area", then "online safety" from the dropdown menu.

[View the online safety blogs here](#)

[And view all information about online safety at PHS here](#)



Grants and Trusts

There are various grants available to families of disabled children. Many have an age limit of 17/18, but there are some for adults too. Often these are for equipment not available through other means. They will usually require financial information; this is to ensure that the neediest are prioritised.

[Here is a link from Wellchild](#)

There are others available too. Here are the ones I know of; some shared recently but just to have them in 1 place:

The Family Fund: There are 2 grants, both of which at the time of writing are open for applications:

Your Opportunity (18-24 year olds): a dedicated grant programme which aims to enhance the life of disabled or seriously ill adults: [Find out more here](#)

Support for Families with Disabled Children/ SFDC (England): The SFDC programme is funded by the Department for Education and administered by Family Fund. It provides a wide range of grant items to families in England raising a disabled or seriously ill child aged 17 or younger and living on a low income. [Find out more here](#)

The Sunshine Fund:

The Chronicle Sunshine Fund is a local North East charity that provides specialist and adapted equipment to children aged 0-19 living with disabilities, additional needs, chronic and terminal illness. The types of equipment we can fund are not available through statutory services like the Local Authority or NHS; yet they are

vital to the daily life of our Sunshine kids. These specific pieces of equipment enrich quality of life for not only the children, but their wider families and communities.

[Find out more here](#)

Disability Grants: Use this to narrow down the grant you need. [Find out more here](#)

Turn2us: *Turn2us* is a charity offering information and support to people facing financial insecurity. We help people gain access to benefits and charitable grants. There is also a benefit checker. [Find out more here](#)

Scope: There is very useful information on this page. Apart from grants it gives information on the application process, how grants may affect your income if you claim benefits and what to do before making an application.

[Find out more here](#)

Grants Funding UK

This is a Facebook group where you may find other grants not included above.

[The link to the Facebook page is here](#)



Just a few groups you may or may not know about.

ICEbox Youth Club:

ICEbox is a youth club for young disabled people aged 16 to 25. It is run by professional artists and experienced support staff.

Each session costs £5. You can attend on a pay as you go basis.

This club offers a range of arts, drama, media, and craft activities. It is also a social space to chill and connect with friends.

Dates:

Wednesday 10 June 2026, 6.30pm to 8.45pm

Wednesday 17 June 2026, 6.30pm to 8.45pm

If interested, call or email using the contact details below.

Phone: [07869713203](tel:07869713203)

Email: info@arcadea.org

Website: <https://arcadea.org/>

Social Media: [Arcadea Facebook page](#)

Organisation: [Arcadea](#)

Smile for Life:

Based at The Old Fire Station
234 – 236 High Street Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne

This charity has 2 groups:

Tuesday night for children

Thursday night for young people over 18 years. Contact kate@smileforlife.org.uk.

<https://smileforlife.org.uk/about-us/>

You can also contact them at <https://smileforlife.org.uk/contact-us/>

Smile through Sport:

SMILE Through Sport was founded by Paralympian Stephen Miller MBE to provide events, sessions and education to improve the health and wellbeing of people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities throughout the North East of England.

We provide a range of services for organisations, individuals and families.

There are regular weekly sessions throughout the region and holiday activities. You do not have to live in the area to access. Your young people must be escorted and supervised; they are not drop off activities

[Find out more here:](#)

Tim Lamb Centre:

Based in the Rising Sun Country Park, Benton. To access you must have a family membership which costs £20 per family for the year. An additional £4 per child is charged for activities. They have a fabulous accessible outdoor play area too.

[Find out more here](#)

Alan Shearer Centre:

Membership is free and they have a secure outdoor play area. Here's what's coming up:



Carer's Coffee Morning



Free Tea & Coffee!

Tuesday 9th June
10.00am - 12.00pm

To celebrate Carer's Week

Are you a carer? Then join us for a free cuppa and a biscuit!

It is absolutely essential that you ring to make a booking
0191 267 8118



Ocean Arts & Crafts



6th - 7th June
1.00pm - 3.00pm

Join us at the Centre and create your ocean masterpiece for World Ocean Day!

It is absolutely essential that you ring to book a timeslot, ring early so you are not disappointed
0191 267 8118



FATHER'S DAY CARD MAKING



20th - 21st June
1.00pm - 3.00pm

Craft a card for your superhero dad!

It is absolutely essential that you ring to book a timeslot, ring early so you are not disappointed
0191 267 8118



Summer Arts & Crafts



27th - 28th June
1.00pm - 3.00pm



Join us for some Summer themed arts and crafts!

It is absolutely essential that you ring to book a timeslot, ring early so you are not disappointed
0191 267 8118

Next week, 8-14th June is Carers Week.

North Tyneside:

See poster below. It doesn't say it is restricted to North Tyneside residents.



North Tyneside Carers' Centre


Carers Week 2026

To celebrate Carers Week, we have joined together with North Tyneside Carers Centre and ALL are invited!

Perhaps you have a young carer at home? Do you care for an adult? Come along to find out who we are, meet some of the Carers' Centre team and learn more about services within your area.

Meet other parent carers and have a cuppa in a very informal session!

When: 9.30am - 11.30am, Thursday 11 June 2026
Where: Howdon Best Start Family Hub, NE28 OAL



Open to any parent or carer who has a child/children who experiences difficulties or struggles in their lives or who has any Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

****No diagnosis required to join us****



We look forward to seeing some more parents/carers at our next meeting which will be on **Wednesday 8th July from 9.45-10.45.**

Afternoon meetings seem more difficult for parents, and we will continue reaching out to ensure that we are meeting your needs.

We will be supporting both the This is Me festival and the Summer MOVE activity days. I will keep you updated.

In the meantime, do contact me with your suggestions.



[Join the FoPHS 100 Club!](#)

Facebook page:

This is a closed group for family and friends of Percy Hedley School, where you can share news and updates about school life. It is not for external professionals who may be working with families. To join, you need to answer the question stating your link with school.

Please note: this group is for sharing news and updates about school life and is not intended to discuss any issues around individual students, and as such all comments are moderated. If you have a particular issue or concern, please contact school directly on 0191 216 1811.



[Join the Facebook Group here](#)



Quote of the Week

“Magic is believing in yourself. If you can make that happen, you can make anything happen”.

Johann Wolfgang Van Goethe



Contact details

Eileen Robinson: Family Liaison Officer

Email: e.robinson@percyhedley.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 2161811 ext. 3260.