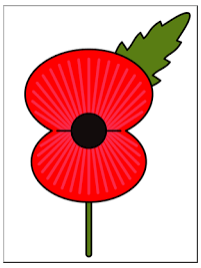
Percy Hedley School's

Family Information and FOPHS News Friday 6th November 2026

I hope that you managed to have some lovely family time over half term. The storms at the beginning of the week certainly affected my plans. Waking up on Monday to iced car windows was a shock to the system too. Monday was, in the Christian calendar All Souls Day and in school there were workshops across the day to remember the "Day of the Dead". This culminated in a march around school towards the end of the day. November is a month of remembrance of those who lost their lives in world wars. PHS is supporting the annual poppy appeal for the Royal British Legion. Poppies, wristbands etc are available from the school office for donations to this worthy cause.



What's coming up?

Monday 9th November: Divali

Friday 13th November: Children in Need

Monday 16th November: Author Jodie James visiting school

Monday 23 -Friday 27th November: Non-fiction week in school

Friday 27th November: Themed menu for St Andrew's Day

On the events calendar you will find dates highlighted as follows:

Student Events in school
Parents welcome
Special menu for school lunch

FoPHS
Friends of
Percy Hedley School

School Calendars

Term dates 2026-27

Events calendar 2026-2027

Term dates 2027-2028



Online Safety

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



Information

Gateshead Ofsted Local Area Inspection

Please note this is for residents of Gateshead only and is not a school inspection.

OFSTED and the Care Quality Commission are visiting Gateshead to inspect the local arrangements for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The inspectors want to know about the help and support that children and young people with SEND get. You can tell them by filling in a survey. There are 2 surveys:

Children and Young People, aged 11-25:

Survey 1

Parents and Carers Survey

The surveys close at 9am on Tuesday 10th November 2026

PA Training

Do you, or are you in the process of employ
ying a PA for your child/young person? If so, do you know that Disability North offer free training for PA's?

Please see poster for imminent dates:



WellChild

Thanks to parent Claire for sharing:

Applications are now open for WellChild's Garden Transformation Programme. Complete our eligibility form and application today. Spaces are limited!
Our Garden Transformation Programme brings businesses and communities together to create safe, accessible outdoor spaces for families of children with complex medical needs. By creating places to play, relax and spend time together, we're helping more children access the outdoors and live well at home and beyond.
Link to find out more here:



Northumberland Parent Carer Forum: Conference

If you live in Northumberland and this is of interest, please contact them soon as the event is next Tuesday 10th November:

🎉Northumberland SEND Conference 2026 🎉
📅Tuesday 10th November 2026
📍Northumberland County Hall, Morpeth
⏰9:30am – 2:30pm
We're getting excited to welcome you to our 2026 SEND Conference, created especially for parent carers and anyone supporting children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
🌟With over 54 services and providers attending, there will be so much to see, explore and discover!
Here's just a little of what you can look forward to:
💬Information stands and stalls from a wide range of services
🤝Opportunities to meet providers, ask questions and find support
💙A wellbeing area for some much-needed time for YOU
🎁Goodie bags and merchandise
☕Refreshments and lunch provided
✨Wellbeing activities, peer support, legal advice and much more!
Whether you're at the beginning of your SEND journey or have been navigating the system for years, this is a fantastic opportunity to gather information, connect with others and discover the support available to you and your family.
📲Want to find out more? We've put together a Canva presentation showcasing the conference and what you can expect on the day. **Take a look at the link here**

🚗**NEED TRANSPORT? Please complete our transport request form:**
🅿DRIVING? Please use County Hall's OVERFLOW CAR PARK on Telford Court, Morpeth, NE61 2EF.
📍**Directions here**
📣PLEASE SHARE! Help us spread the word by sharing this post with friends, family, schools, professionals and anyone who could benefit from finding out more about SEND information, advice and support.
Let's make this a brilliant day for our parent carer community! 💙
🚆Travelling to our SEND Conference by train?
If you're travelling by train to our SEND Conference on Tuesday 10th November, the amazing people at **WATBus** will be providing a shuttle service between Morpeth Train Station and County Hall.
The shuttle will operate between 9:00am and 10:00am, helping you get to the conference with ease.

We can't wait to see you there! 🧡



Activities

This week, and in the lead up to Christmas I am sharing activities your family may be interested in. if you know of any, please let me know.

North East Autism Society:



The following is taken from the North east Autism Societies Facebook page. It is a really comprehensive guide, covering all parts of the North East.
Link here:

Looking for autism-friendly events across the North East this Christmas? ❄️
We've put together a guide to festive events offering more accessible experiences for autistic children and their families.
From quiet grottos to relaxed pantomimes, discover venues making Christmas more inclusive for everyone.
Have we missed an event? Let us know and we'll add it to our guide!
Autism Friendly Event Guide

NAPI North East

Please note that the following are available to Newcastle residents only.

NAPI - North East Action for Children Parents and Inclusion CIO 1161983

🎄❄️SEND EXCLUSIVE WINTER & CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST! 🎁

We're gathering **Expressions of Interest** for our upcoming SEND Winter & Christmas Activities! ⛄✨

If you or your child would be interested in taking part in some festive fun and exciting SEND winter activities, we'd love to hear from you! ❤️

📝Please complete the relevant Expression of Interest form below:

🎨 UNDER 11s - HAF SEND Activities

🎨 **Form here**

🎮 AGES 11–16 - HAF SEND Activities

🎮 **Form here**

🎄 ALL IN SEND Activities

🎄 **Form here**

👨‍👩‍👧Parents and carers are welcome to complete the forms on behalf of younger children.

📌Please note: These are Expression of Interest forms only. Completing a form does not guarantee a place on any activities.

🎁✨We're looking forward to planning some fantastic winter and Christmas fun!

📢PLEASE SHARE with friends, families and anyone who may be interested! ❤️




SEND Christmas Activities
NAPI@Communitytrips
*11-18 yrs
Saturday 19th December
SEND Christmas party
Blueflames Whitley road Benton
2.30-5pm
Tuesday 22nd December
SEND Dinner with The Grinch
Grand Hotel Gosforth
11.30am-1.30pm
Wednesday 23rd December
Home Alone
Tyneside Cinema
Pilgrim Street, NE1 6QG
2pm meet
Wednesday 23rd December
Elf
Tyneside Cinema
Pilgrim Street, NE1 6QG
4pm meet
Monday 28th December
Northern Lights
SEND Activity at the Northern Lights
Leazes Park NE4 6BB
4:30pm meet
Tuesday 29th December
InflateSpace
Benfield Road, NE6 4NQ
10:50am meet
Wednesday 30th December
GLL Trampoline
West Road
Trampoline Park
NE4 9LG
10:50am meet
Saturday 2nd Janurary 2027
Aladdin Pantomime
Tyne Journal Theatre
10:30am meet
11am start
www.napi.org.uk
01912656158
admin@napi.org.uk
*FREE HAF funded places available for children on free school meals / children must attend with parent or carer / dinner included for children 3-16 years old with additional needs and or send diagnosed and undiagnosed


NAPI ALL IN SEND Activities
Wednesday 18th November
SEND Build a Bear Visit to Santa
4-5.30pm
Benfield Football Club
Wednesday 18th November
SEND Sensory Christmas party
6-7.30pm
Benfield Football Club
Thursday 19th November
SEND Build a Bear Visit to Santa
4-5.30pm
Walker Park Cafe
SOLD OUT
Thursday 19th November
SEND Sensory Christmas party
6-7.30pm
Walker Park Cafe
SOLD OUT
Sunday 29th November
SEND Family Party
Hadrian School
3-5pm
Sunday 6th December
Elf Express
Stephenson Railway
3.30pm meet
Wednesday 30th December
Inflatespace
Benfield Road
10am or 11am
Saturday 2nd January
Pantomime Aladdin
Tyne Theatre & Opera House
11am-1pm
www.napi.org.uk
01912656158
admin@napi.org.uk
*Free places available for children and young people with additional needs and or send diagnosed and undiagnosed/ must attend with parent or carer.

Halo Glow Spa
Chester-le-Street ·

Jingle Bells Disco · Oshi ·
Out with the pumpkins, in with the baubles! Our Halo Winter Wonderland includes a SEN session on Saturday 12th. We will also be having a Elf Academy camp. We're excited for our first Christmas at Halo!

See poster for details



FoPHS News

It is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas is coming. The FoPHS will support the fantastic Winter Wonderland again, ensuring that their resources make this better every year.

We will also decorate our very own Santa's grotto on Monday 14th December ready for a visit from a very important guest on Tuesday 15th. I have been adding to the decorations and need the help of some very creative parents to help transform our outdoor learning pod into a spectacular space. If you can help, please get in touch.

Tim Lamb Centre.

In response to some requests from teachers, I visited the Tim Lamb Centre this week with one of our teachers with a view to reinstating our school membership. I am delighted to share that the committee has agreed to fund the £75 school membership which will enable classes to access during school hours. There is an additional £4 per child entry fee.

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

“Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go.”

Unknown



Contact details

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Telephone: 0191 2161811 ext. 3260.