

Percy Main School

THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS

<p>1 Feb 1892 School occupied by the children for the first time 70 Mixed Juniors and 50 Infants</p>	<p>1 May 1895 The Infant section is now officially a separate school</p>	<p>1 Sept 1941 The school ceased to be an all age school – It was re-opened as Percy Main Junior Mixed School</p>	<p>5 Sept 1978 School re-opens at 9.00 a.m. as Percy Main Primary School</p>	<p>1 Feb 1992 Centenary Celebration Year commences</p>
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NOTE: Entries in **RED** relate to health while entries in **BLUE** relate to the 1st and 2nd World Wars

<p align="center"><u>PERCY MAIN BOARD SCHOOL</u> <u>INFANTS SCHOOL TIMELINE</u></p>		
1895	May 1	From this day the infant section of the Percy Main Mixed School forms a separate department under their own head (Miss Harriet A Frater) . The department being conducted in temporary premises (Primitive Methodist Sunday School) in which 36 dual desks and chairs gave accommodation for 160 – a gallery had 50 building squares marked there on. Roll 206 children. Average for past year – 131.6
	May 13	Re-opened school after having been closed for 7 weeks and 2 days. <i>(Author's note : This had been caused by an Epidemic but no details of the illness had been recorded)</i>
	May 22	HMI inspection - 176 present (92 boys 84 girls)
	Aug 7	HMI Report received for 1894-5 ... School was examined on May 22 1895. Infant's School – The inspection took place in the week following the re-opening of the school, after being closed for seven weeks, owing to the prevailing Epidemic . Much of the instruction and training therefore had naturally been forgotten, but there was sufficient evidence to show that most of the classes had been well and carefully taught. Average attendance with 132... Grant awarded to department 132 at 15/- (i.e.15 shillings)
	Sept 20	Several children have been sent home this week as they have Ringworm on their heads.
	Oct 4	The average attendance this week is considerably lower owing to the change in the weather and cases of Ringworm . Average = 150.1
	Oct 11	The average attendance this week has been very small owing to the bad weather and bronchitis caused by the sudden change. Average 132.4
	Nov 29	Average attendance this week 144.6. Many of the children have chicken pox which accounts for the falling off in the numbers. One case of Scarletina reported today.
	Dec 3	The Medical Officer of Health visited school this morning and reported six cases of Scarlet Fever
1896	Jan 24	School visitor (appointed by School Board) called at the school at 8.10 a.m. and found the pupil teachers at their lessons (they had to receive one hour of instruction before the school began from the

		Head Teacher)
	Apr 17	Average attendance for the week = 103.7
	June 15	Attendance very small today ... The attendance officer reports that they 'Fever Scare' in the village has a good deal to do with the small attendance.
	June 19	Attendance is getting worse daily. Only 87 present this a.m.
	July 26	<u>The Head mistress (Miss Frater) transferred to the Headship of Western Infants.</u>
	July 27	<u>Miss Annie M T Ferrie commenced as Headmistress.</u>
	July 28	HMI Report received this morning. Examination May 20 1896. The general character of the elementary work showed careful and painstaking efforts on the part of the staff, but reading might improve in natural phrasing. ... Musical drill and note singing were good and kindergarten occupations varied and interesting. Average attendance on which the grant is payable = 154 Fixed Grant 7/- or 9/- 9/- Variable Grant 2/-, 4/- or 6/- 4/- Needlework and Drawing 1/- Note Singing 1/- Grant on Total Average Attendance 15/- (15 shillings)
	Oct 23	The school visitor arrived at 8.00 a.m. and found the pupil teachers at their lessons.
1897	Feb 26	The Railway Strike seems to be affecting the attendance for it has gone down since the strike begun. The teachers too have been prevented getting to school at the usual time having waited for trains and after all had to walk.
	April 3	The concert on Friday (2 April) evening was a great success. The proceeds are to be used first to pay for the children's tea party given last February : the remainder to purchase toys for the baby class and part to be given to the Indian Famine Fund. (<i>Author's note : Could this be the beginning of our long history of supporting worthy causes?</i>)
	May 3	<u>A new school year commences today</u> ... the number now on the books is 140. (<i>Author's note : A very different date to our current academic year</i>)
	May 7	This week attendance is not good owing to the prevalence of Whooping Cough . The average is 103.
	June 9	HMI Report received...'This school is improving and is now in a very creditable state of efficiency.' HM Grant – 117 at 17/-
1898	Feb 23	The attendance has been going down this week owing to an Epidemic of Measles . There are also one or two cases of Fever .
	March 3	The Epidemic of Measles continues to spread. The attendance officer reports thirteen new cases this morning. The total number off at present with Measles is 47.
	May 2	The school year begins today. 67 children have been transferred to the mixed school leaving 109 on the books,
	June 13	On register 122.
	Aug 10	HMI report received for year ending April 30 1898 There is some good work done in this Infants school, and the order and attention, if not invariably, are generally satisfactory.
	Aug 26	Average attendance - 114
	Oct 7	During the past three weeks an extra effort has been made to improve punctuality. It has been impressed upon the children that if they were not present in the playground by nine o'clock they would be

		considered late and be so marked in the register. .. Marching to music is taken for 5 minutes as the children enter. They like the marching and have been induced to make special effort to be present a it. <i>(Author's Note : So we have come full circle; our school currently (2011 onwards) starts the day with 'Wake Up, Shake Up' which is dancing to music)</i>
	Nov 23	The Quarterly reward Cards were distributed yesterday to those children who had gained them <i>(Author's Note: Once again, history repeats itself – today (2012 onwards) we give out Good to be Green cards which the children collect to gain house points – the winning house wins a treat; e.g. trip to the cinema, arts/craft/dance workshop)</i>
1899	April 21	The attendance has been somewhat better. There has been a few case of Whooping Cough .
	May 1	A new school year begins today.
	May 5	Average attendance for this week 63.6. There are 17 cases of Whooping Cough at present.
	May 8	The weather is fine, but the attendance is still poor. There is a good deal of sickness.
	May 12	Cases of Whooping Cough 31.
	July 19	HMI Report 1898-99. There is no classroom large enough to hold any class with due regard to health and comfort. The teaching is earnest and pains-taking and the children are making good progress. Average attendance on which grant is payable= 107 Grant on total average attendance 17/-
	Sept 29	The attendance is very much reduced this week and the officer reports nearly all those absent to be suffering from colds, coughs or bronchitis . A great many of those present have very bad colds.
	Nov 3	The number of children absent through Scarlet Fever is now 6.
	Nov 10	The quarterly attendance cards for the quarter just ended were distributed this afternoon. Nine children had never been absent during the quarter. <i>(Author's Note : The importance of regular attendance was obviously recognised as far back as 1899, and continues to be emphasised in the 21 century)</i>
1900	Apr 30	School visitor found the pupil teachers at work 8.05 a.m.
	May 1	A new school year commences today.
	May 21	School on holiday for the relief of Mafeking.
	June 15	<u>HMI Report received</u> Considering the awkwardness of the room the classes generally are well ordered and suitably taught, though the Recitation to be of any advantage, should be more clearly and distinctly articulated. Some of the children's Kindergarten work is creditably done, and the needlework is excellent. Grant awarded 17/-
	July 26	<u>Today the school ceases to be conducted in these premises – The Primitive Methodist Sunday School. The new school is to be ready for occupation by the end of the holidays (Author's note : This was not our current building but the previous old school)</u>
	Sept 3	<u>New Infant School building opened</u> with accommodation for 250 – This building was nearby the main school. The school was opened by Mr Joseph Grant – member of the School Board and Mr Ramsay Fenwick both of whom spoke shortly to the children and a number of parents who were present.

		The school was to have been opened a week earlier, but it was not ready. The new school is bright and cheerful looking.
1901	Jan 31	As Saturday (Feb 2 nd) is to be observed as a general day of mourning it has been thought advisable to close the school all day tomorrow (Friday 1 February) (<i>Author's Note : This was in remembrance of the death of Queen Victoria who died on 22 January 1901</i>)
	June 3	Much has been done to encourage the children to come punctually, but with very little result. Giving tickets to those who were in time has been tried for the past fortnight. A prize was given to each child who got twenty tickets in the fortnight. The tickets were taken in every day. From today the children are to take their tickets home and keep them till they have twenty; ten morning and ten afternoon ones – when a prize will be given. The later method should be more effective.
	Aug 30	HMI report received... 'The Infants are occupying the new school rooms which are pleasant and convenient... They are taught and trained in a kind, pleasant and efficient manner.' Average attendance on which grant is payable = 105 Grant 16/- or 17/- Infant school or class = 17/-
	Nov 29	The lateness still continues. There is very little improvement .
1902	April 7	The school in the town being closed in consequence of the Small Pox Epidemic it has been arranged that the pupil teachers (<i>Author's note : These were student teachers</i>) shall receive instruction from 9.00 a.m. in the Jubilee School, these places being taken by adult teachers from the closed schools.
	May 5	The schools in the town being now closed for four weeks the Pupil Teachers (<i>Author's note : again these were Student Teachers</i>) of this school resume their duties here today. They will receive instruction daily from 8.30 to 9.30 a.m. until the re-opening of the Central Class. Evidence of a babies room and four classes of Infants.
	June 9	The town school being now open the Pupil Teachers resume their duties here today,
	June 13	The average attendance this week has only been 95 although there are 150 on the register. A large number of children are absent through Measles . Staff – Headmistress, one certificated assistant, one ex pupil teacher and one pupil teacher.
	June 19	HMI Report for the year ending April 30 1902 received today. The first, second and fourth classes are being suitably prepared and are in good order. The effectiveness of the teaching in the third class is discounted by the weakness of the discipline. Improvement will be looked for in this respect as a condition of recommending the higher principal grant next year. Grant awarded 17/-
	July 4	Average attendance this week only 75.6. Number reported absent through Measles increased by 46 this week.
	July 17	The attendance gets daily worse. The attendance this week have been out of 158 on registers ; 48, 47, 44, 45 41, 43, 41. (<i>Author's Note : Presumably this is due to the escalation of the Measles outbreak</i>)
	Aug 25	School re-opened this morning after midsummer vacation. Attendance improved though still very bad owing to continued prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough . The school has been repainted during the holidays and looks bright

		and clean.
	Dec 3	This afternoon a picture of the King and Queen was presented to the children of this school by the Local Coronation Committee. (<i>Author's Note : this would be Edward VII and Queen Alexandra</i>)
1903	May 1	A new school year starts today. Sixty three infants transferred to the Mixed Department leaving 117 on the Infants Roll.
	June 10	A branch of The Children's National Guild of Courtesy established in the Infant Department with a membership of 70 children. The Daily Conduct Rules and Good Manners chart are hung up in school and these are made the subject of a lesson each week. (<i>Author's Note : This is very similar to something we have today i.e. 'Golden Rules'</i>)
	July 1	HMI report for the year ended April 30 1903he first class has made little progress except in mechanical subjects; the other classes however are relatively in a much better condition. (<i>Author's Note : Not really surprising given the amount of sickness among the children and the shortage of staff i.e. head and 3 teachers</i>)
1904	March 24	A message received from the Education Offices that we are to close the school till the 11 th of April owing to Small Pox Epidemic – and that the Pupil Teachers are to go to Queen Victoria School for instruction tomorrow at 9.00a m.
	April 11	School re-opened this morning at 9 o'clock. All teachers present
	April 19	8.30 a.m. letter received from Education Office stating that the Sanitary Authority has decided to close the school of the Borough forthwith till 14 th May on account of Small Pox Epidemic . 9.00 a.m. Children all sent home. Teachers remained to assist in making up returns.
	May 30	School re-opened this morning at 9.00 o'clock having been closed since April 19 th .
	May	After transferring 62 to the Main School – The infant roll stands at 129 accommodated in four class rooms.
	Aug 2	Report... 'Pupil Teachers now taught at the Pupil Teacher Centre (Queen Victoria School) with part of their time at their own schools.'
	Sept 27	The school will be closed all day tomorrow (Wednesday) as it is a holiday on occasion of the visit of The Channel Fleet (<i>Author's Note : The Channel Fleet was the Royal Navy formation of warships that defended the waters of the English Channel from 1690 to 1909</i>)
1905	July 10	All children over six years (on May 1 st) 83 in number, transferred to the Mixed Department.... <u>The school year had been changed and was now to end on July 31st and not on 30th April as previously.</u>
1906	Jan 25	Commencement of class walks to place of local interest.
	July	Staff – Head, 1 training certificate teacher, 1 certificate teacher and 1 pupil teacher.
	July 10	School closed tomorrow Wednesday on the occasion of the Royal visit to Newcastle (<i>Author's Note : Originally founded as the Newcastle Infirmary in 1751, the Royal Victoria Infirmary was opened on 11 July 1906 by Edward VII on 10 acres of Town Moor given by the Corporation and Freemen</i>)
	July 26	School closes today at 3.45 for midsummer vacation (4 2eeks) Education year ends today.
	Aug 27	School re-opened this morning after midsummer holidays. Staff all present. Attendance of scholars very bad. There has been an Epidemic of Measles during the holidays and many of the children are

		still ill. Number on registers 121 <u>Have today received memorandum allowing admission of children who will be five years 'during the course of the civil year'.</u> (Author's note : previously children had to be five before they could start school)
	Oct 22	HMI Report received (inspection date 10 Oct 1906) Improved methods of teaching are being gradually adopted in this school and in most cases with satisfactory results, but in the lowest class the general character of the teaching is not sufficiently interesting to gain the full attention of the little ones.
1907	May 3	A case of stuffed birds (two Argos pheasants) received from The Free Library Committee.
	June 18	HMI Report received (based on visit 5 June) This school continues to show signs of improvement. Reading, Writing and Arithmetic are all taught according to satisfactory methods, and are making fairly good progress on the whole. The singing receives due attention, but some of the voices are rather harsh. This defect would probably be remedied by voice training being taken for a short time daily.
	Sept 16	A messenger from the Education office has just brought a verbal message that we are to close school tomorrow forenoon as <u>The Mauretania is to go down the river at 9 o'clock.</u> (Author's Note : <i>RMS Mauretania</i> was an ocean liner built by Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson for the British Cunard Line. She was the world's largest ship until the launch of the RMS Olympic in 1911 as well as the fastest until the launch of the Bremen in 1929)
	Oct 4	The attendance has not been so good this week. The office reports several cases of Mumps .
	Dec 11	A bazaar has been arranged to raise money to make and keep up a school garden. (Author's Note : Once again, history repeats itself, we currently have several garden areas around the school which the children maintain)
1908	June 29	HMI Report The work for the most part, proceeds on very fair lines and the children are making progress.
	July 2	The school is closed all day tomorrow as the day is given as a holiday on occasion of the Royal Agricultural Show at Newcastle. The attendance this week has not been good A considerable number of the children have Whooping Cough .
	July 24	For the past three weeks the attendance has been affected by the prevalence of Whooping Cough . Average attendance for this week = 170.8 Number on register = 201
1909	Jan 13	Fire Drill – School Cleared in 2 minutes.
	Jan 29	A few cases of Measles this week.
	Feb 3	Schools Medical Officer visited school this afternoon – advised to exclude all contacts also sending children home who exhibited symptoms. This has been done since the first case.
	Feb 5	The total number of cases of Measles is now 25 and 9 children are excluded as contacts. A number of other children are absent from various causes. Two have Scarlet Fever .
	Feb 13	There is no improvement in the attendance. There is a good deal of sickness other than Measles . One child has died of Diphtheria ..
	Feb 17	Instructions received from office that this department is to be closed

		at once until March 8 th on account of the prevalence of Measles .
	Apr 30	Average attendance for week – 202.
	March 8	Further instructions received that school is to be closed another fortnight.
	May 3	Medical Inspection (<i>Author's Note : this is the first reference to a medical inspection, presumably of the children</i>)
	Nov 1	40 children transferred from the Mixed School back to the Infant Department to form a Junior Class (These were dull children of 7-8 years)
1910	July 15	Attendance has been no better this week. About half the absence is through Whooping Cough . Average this week = 177 Number on registers 209
	July 22	Attendance bad – A considerable number of cases of Whooping Cough . Average this week = 169
	Dec 8	HMI Report ... 'A great advance is apparent in the efficiency of this school. The training of the children is in every way better conceived and the staff is much strengthened by the two new teachers. The premises are very well kept but the doors all open inwards, some of the awkwardly. – Steps should be taken if possible to make the doors open outwards.'
1911	Jan 9	Attendance only fair – present 152. Several children are reported to have Measles .
	Jan 13	The attendance has not been good this week. In addition to the absence caused by Measles the severity of the weather has further reduced the attendance.
	June 30	School closed at 3.30 on account of Coronation Gala being held at night. (<i>Author's Note : This would be the Coronation of George V</i>)
	July 14	Average attendance for past week – 233.86
	Aug 28	Evidence of two section in the four classrooms, namely = Upper Section (7 years) Lower Section (5 -6 Years).
1912	March 20	Children received no play this afternoon. School dismissed at 3.30 as so many wished to leave school to witness the launch of the 'Queen Mary' .
	May 24	Empire Day Celebrations, Registers closed 9.30 a.m.. Children assembled in playground and gave patriotic display attended by a number of parents
	Oct 6	Miss Edith M Dale appointed Headmistress (on May 8 th she had been appointed Teacher in Charge).
	Nov 18	Cases of Measles appearing – 8 new cases this week
	Nov 22	8 more cases of Measles .
1913	April 16	HMI Report ... 'The Gallery in the Main Room is both inconvenient and dangerous... The passages between the desks are so narrow that the teacher has to pass sideways along, and the rise is too great for the infants.'
	Oct 15	3 cases of Whooping Cough reported this week.
	Oct 31	Outbreak of Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever during this week.
1914	March 14	Owing to an Epidemic of German Measles the attendance during the last 2 weeks has been very poor; average for month 169.
	Oct 29	Severe outbreak of Mumps – 24 cases in three days.
1915	Sept 15	Bombardment Drill practiced.

	June 9	Headmistress (Miss E M Dale) transferred to Cullercoats School.
	June 14	<u>New Headmistress – Miss Elizabeth Cramman</u>
	Aug 28	<u>Five classes in four rooms.</u>
	Dec 14	Parents Open Day
1916	Feb 11	Bombardment drill taken – school closed in 3 minutes.
	May 25	Empire Day – Celebrated by children in playground saluting the flag, singing patriotic songs and dismissed at 3.30 p.m.
	Sept 9	<u>Bombardment drill taken on dismissal this morning.</u> The signal is to be four blasts on the horn, <u>a lively march is to be played</u> and each teacher is to march her class through the cloakroom. Each child is to take its hat etc. in hand and put on as it marches outside. Brothers and sisters from the Senior school are to wait in the street for the little ones.
	Nov 15	<u>Owing to Lighting restrictions,</u> consequent on the War, school sessions will be curtailed to allow the children home before dusk. Morning session 9 – 11.45, afternoon 1.15 – 3.30. The time-table has been altered accordingly.
1917	June 1	There appears to have been an outbreak of Measles during the week-end – twenty children have had to be excluded for this reason.
	June 8	School closed this afternoon for the monthly attendance holiday. There are now twenty-five cases of Measles .
	June 15	There are now forty three children excluded for Measles .
	July 6	Several children who have had Measles have now returned, but, unfortunately fourteen of those who had recovered and ought to have returned this week have developed Whooping Cough Altogether forty-two children are excluded now for infectious diseases.
	Sept 14	Eleven children are still absent through Whooping Cough .
	Dec 12	Parents afternoon – over 200 parents and friends... 'The gratified expressions of the parents were very encouraging to the teachers.'
1918	May 24	There are ten cases of Whooping Cough and several other children are suffering from debility.
	June 11	<u>School is closed all day tomorrow</u> to allow children to take part in the <u>War Relief Fund sports</u> , by order of The Education Committee.
	July 5	Twenty three children are absent owing to Whooping Cough and thirty-three are suffering from influenza.
	July 12	The percentage of absences is 39.1 owing to influenza and Whooping Cough .
	Aug 26	104 children transferred to the Main School.
1919	March 21	To meet the requirements of the new Education Act the quarter on the register ends today instead of April 30 th .
	July 11	The percentage of absentees for this week is 25.7 due chiefly to Measles , Chicken Pox and Mumps .
	July 18	School will be closed all day tomorrow (Friday) <u>for the Peace Celebrations</u> which are to take the form of a tea in school for the children, then a procession will be formed headed by a Band and will march to a field at High Flatworth Farm where

		sports and games will be arranged.
	July 19	Peace celebrations – Tea in the school followed by sports and games at High Flatworth Farm.
	July 25	The Epidemic of Measles is not abating – the percentage of absentees this week is 43.9
	Sept 26	Several cases of Mumps have been found in the Third Class and the children were at once sent home.
1920	April 12	School re-opened this morning – several cases of Measles are reported
	April 16	Three cases of Diphtheria , two of Scarlet Fever , Two of Mumps and eight of Measles have been reported this week.
	Sept 12	Evidence of Six Classes.
	Nov 11	A short service was held this morning to commemorate Armistice Day.
	Nov 12	The afternoon the school is closed for the Armistice Half Holiday granted by the Education Committee
	Dec 16	The attendance is very poor this week, so many children are suffering from colds , etc. There are three cases of Diphtheria and four of Scarlet Fever .
1921	Feb 7	The attendance is still poor – so many children are sick.
	April 8	The children were taken in to playground to observe the eclipse of the sun from 9.30 to 10 a.m. The attendance officer has reported 32 cases of Measles , 1 Scarlet Fever , 9 Whooping Cough , 3 Diphtheria this week.
	May 2	New extensions to the Infants School opened today – These wooden extensions with places for 155 children made the total accommodation for Infants 412.
	July 20	School is closed all day tomorrow to celebrate the winning of two cups by the school football team.
	Oct 24	Nurse Kyles began inspection for clothing, footgear and cleanliness of head and body.
1922	Feb 24	Average attendance 302.4 for the week.
	March 6	HMI Report... 'As a whole the work is decidedly good and is carried on in a happy spirit... The premises have been enlarged and the department can now relieve the pressure on the Senior School by retaining some 60 children over eight years of age'.
	Aug 28	Evidence of three class rooms in use in extension.
1923	Feb 2	Seven cases of Measles have been reported this week and many have very bad colds.
	Feb 9	There are 19 children absent with Measles and 2 with Scarlet Fever .
	Feb 16	9 fresh cases of Measles this week makes a tota of 39 suffering from this complaint.
	March 1	23 percent of children are absent this week – chiefly due to Measles and Whooping Cough .
	March 16	Several children have returned after Measles but six fresh cases of Whooping Cough are reported this week chiefly in the lowest class.
	April 25	School is closed all day tomorrow by request of THE KING for the wedding of The Duke of York

	Aug 28	School is closed by order of the Education Committee for 'Daily Mail' Sand Competition.
1925	March 6	The attendance is very bad this week; many children are suffering from coughs, colds and Measles .
	March 16	68 children are absent this week with Measles .
	Apr 20	HMI Report...'The school continues to do well... Both teachers and children work hard and with evident pleasure...The Headmistress (Miss Elizabeth Cramman) exercises a thorough and kindly supervision over the school.'
	Aug 31	Report...'The Gallery has been removed from the large room and new windows put in.'
	July 30	School is closed all day Friday to celebrate the winning of four Sports trophies in the Senior Dept.
	Nov 16	<u>The School Dentist started her this morning</u>
1926	March 17	Head Teacher left school at 2.30 p.m. to attend official opening of the Spring Gardens School.
	Nov 19	Forty children are absent with Mumps .
	Nov 26	Mumps are still prevalent.
1927	Feb 25	Roll – 340 Infants.
	June 27	Re-opened this morning. Eight cases of Measles reported this week.
	Sept 23	N outbreak of Measles has taken pace this week in Cass I; eleven children being affected. The room has been thoroughly disinfected by the Sanitary Authority and every precaution is being taken to prevent further infection.
	Nov 25	Measles, Scarlet Fever and severe colds have caused the attendance to be poorer than ever this week.
1928	July 13	Seventeen cases of Whooping Cough this week
1929	Jan 21	Have admitted a child Harriet. aged 8 years 11 months who has been only a fortnight in school when 5 years old. She was excluded by Senior Medical Office for Diabetes and is now to be re-admitted. She knows nothing of either sounds or number so has been put in lowest class. The teacher will give her special attention and she will be promoted as early as possible <i>(Author Note : Is this the very start of Special Educational Needs being recognized)</i>
	Mar 11	HMI Report...'A competent Headmistress...She watches the progress and knows the needs of each child individually and has won the willing co-operation of the parents with whom she keeps in close touch... She has the loyal support of the staff.'
	May 3	Nineteen cases of Measles reported this week.
	May 17	There are 55 cases of Measles now.
	Aug 26	94 Infants to the Main School.
	Sept 30	<u>The Headmistress (Miss Elizabeth Cramman)</u> retired from teaching (An excellent Head)
	Oct 1	<u>New Headmistress – Miss Gladys May Morton</u>
	Oct 4	Three cases of Scarlet Fever reported. Two classrooms have been disinfected.
	Oct 11	<u>This afternoon, instead of Games, a demonstration on the new gramophone was given to the whole school.</u>

1930	Jan 6	School reopened this morning with a poor attendance. Chicken Pox, Mumps and Diphtheria cases have been reported.
	April 11	There is a fresh outbreak of Mumps this week.
	April 14	All the children who were excluded for Diphtheria have now returned.
1931	Oct 28	An outbreak of Whooping Cough has caused the attendance to drop considerably. % for month .78%
	Nov 27	The attendance still continues very low on account of Whooping Cough .
1932	Jan 11	Dr Murray and Dr McConnell examined all children this afternoon on account of a case of Small Pox which has occurred.
	Feb 1	<u>Start of hot drinks (Cow and Gate Chocolate Milk) with 116 infants participating.</u>
	Sept 21	Head Teacher left school early this afternoon to attend the official opening of new Linskill Senior school.
	Oct 24	134 Infants in the milk scheme.
	Nov 25	Outbreak of Measles and Chicken-Pox has caused attendance this week to drop to 84%
1933	July	HMI Report... 'The new head, maintaining the good school tradition, has in some respects widened the scope of the work, so as to bring it more into line with modern development in education... Generally the school is in a very satisfactory condition.' Staff – Head mistress, 7 assistants Roll - 282
	Oct 30	Head Teacher left school at 2.30 p.m. to attend Foundation Stone Laying of Ralph Gardner Senior School.
1934	Jan 26	Considerable drop in attendance due to Whooping Cough and Chicken-Pox Epidemic
1935	May 6	<u>Royal Silver Jubilee</u> – The children assembled at school this morning at 9.00 a.m. to receive medals and pennies and again at 4.20 for tea. Tomorrow Tuesday 7 th is also a holiday. <i>(AUTHOR NOTE: This would be King George V)</i>
1936	Jan 28	<u>School closed today for the funeral of the last King George V</u>
	Dec 15	The proclamation of HM George VI was read to the children at 3.00 p.m. This was followed by the singing of the National Anthem and the pupils were dismissed at 3.30 p.m. according to instructions. <i>(Author's note ; this was the abdication of Edward VIII and the succession to the throne of his brother Print Albert, Duke of York (who subsequently became King George VI).</i>
1937	Feb 22	Head left school early to attend Foundation Stone laying of Ridges Infants School at 2.30 p.m. <i>(Author's note : This would later become Meadowell Primary School)</i>
	May 12	<u>Coronation of King George VI.</u> A short service was held address being given by Rev H Buxton. After the service children were presented with beaker, new penny, apple and sweets. In the afternoon a fancy dress parade was held. Following the judging of costumes a procession was formed and children assembled at the junction of Backworth Street and Blyth Street. Here the ceremony of crowing of the 'King and Queen' took place. The procession then moved off and paraded around the village. The official programme of

		sports on the Triangular field had to be abandoned on account of weather.
1938	June	HMI Report... 'The school continues in the very sound condition mentioned in last report... The visitor is immediately impressed by the variety and enterprise of the teaching methods and by the general air of freedom and activity which prevails in the infant class.'
	July 27	A letter of congratulation from the Education Committee on the excellent HMI's report was received.
	Nov 11	Short service was held this morning for Armistice Day. School closed in the afternoon for attendance half holiday.
1939	Feb 20	School closed at 3.30 p.m. when all children were taken to Waterville Road to be given respective positions for tomorrow. Each child was given a flag for the royal visit on 21 February.
	Feb 21	<u>School closed all day. Children assembled at 4.15 p.m. to see King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.</u>
	May 30	Regulation – 'If there had been an air raid warning after midnight the school was to commence at 9.30 a.m.
	July 28	Standard Nos. 1 & 2 transferred to what was to become the Junior mixed Department. <u>Leaving this purely an Infant Department.</u>
	July 31	145 children promoted to the main school.
	Sept 1	<u>The school ceased to be an all age school and opened as Percy Main Junior and Infant School.</u>
	Sept 4	<u>School closed on outbreak of war. Teachers on duty to arrange evacuation.</u>
	Sept 6	<u>First evacuation of children.</u> Twelve children from this Department left for Tweedmouth in charge of M Horne Headmaster of Percy St John's School
	Sept 7	Evacuation of eight other children accompanied by mothers and children under school age left for Tweedmouth.
	Oct 6	Children over seven years of age attended school to hear particulars of <u>Scheme of Instruction till schools can be re-opened when air-raid shelters are complete.</u> Attendance in voluntary and 86 children came.
	Nov 17	Children over 7 years of age were asked to assemble this morning to hear details of the amended scheme of voluntary instruction. 116 children attended. A rota has been prepared to ensure that not more than 60 children will be in school at any one time. School hours 9 – 12 and 1.30 – 3.30,
1940	Jan 29	Half-time instruction began this morning. All children now attending once daily. Girls – morning this week, boys afternoon. This system will change weekly. Air raid siren heard at 10.15 children taken to shelters. All clear 10.40.
	March 21	<u>Half time instruction ceases today on completion of Air raid shelters.</u>
	May 16	Telegram notice from the Board of Education was received that all schools in Evacuation areas will be open on Saturday mornings till further notice.
	July 6	Children who are registered for evacuation attended school at 9.00 a.m. for medical and kit inspection.
	Aug 15	Air raid alarm 12.55 – 2.10 p.m.
	Dec 2	To comply with lighting regulations school hours for December and January will be 9.45 – 12.00 and 1.30 – 3.30.
1941	April 10	School did not assemble this morning owing to last night's air raid .

	May 26	Air raid alarm 1.17 p.m. – 2.20 p.m. No registration for afternoon school.
	May 30	In the event of air raid warning being in operation after 10.00 p.m. schools begin instruction at 9.45 a.m. the following day. In the event of the warning being in operation after midnight schools begin instruction with the following afternoon session.
	July 28	<u>As a result of the Re-organisation Scheme the Juniors (Stages 1 & 2) at present included in this department are now being transferred to the Junior Mixed Department leaving this a purely Infant Department.</u>
	July 29	There was some misunderstanding this morning as a result of a neighbouring siren being heard last night. 55 children were present out of 250.
	July 31	School closed this afternoon for mid-summer holidays – four weeks. <i>(Author's note: school re-opened on 1 Sept)</i> 145 children were promoted to the Junior Mixed Department. Free bus travel for five year old children has been arranged from East Howdon after the holidays.
	Oct 3	School closed today. It is being used as a Rest Centre
	Oct 16	No morning session after air-raid alarm last night.
	Oct 31	Morning session begins at 9.30 a.m. As from Monday 1 November if an air raid is in operation after midnight school will now open at 10.00 a.m. the following morning
	Nov 4	School opened at 10.00 a.m.
	Nov 12	Air raid alarm 9.15 a.m. – 10.10 a.m.
	Dec 3	A talk was given to the children on ' Road Safety ' by a member of the police force.
	Dec 9	School started at 10.00 a.m. after air raid . Further air-raid alarm 11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
1942	Jan 30	School Salvage collection finishes today (Author's Note : Was this Percy Main's first step on recycling?)
	Feb 2	Special effort for Warship Week – amount realised £20-9-6 for this department.
	April 16	School morning session began at 10.00 a.m. after air raid last night.
	April 21	6 th evacuation to Wooler – 2 children.
	April 29	10.00 opening this morning <i>(Author's note : presumably due to yet another air raid)</i>
	May 1	Air raid last night – School opened at 10.00 a.m.
	June 5	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – Air raid alarm.
	July 7	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – Air raid alarm
	July 8	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – Air raid alarm
	July 10	A talk on Salvage was given by Councillor Morgan.
	Sept 7	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – Air raid alarm.
1943	March 1	School now opens at 9.00 again <i>(Author's note : This decision was obviously made too soon. See entry 29.10.43)</i>
	March 12	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – air raid warning
	March 15	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – air raid warning
	March 25	School opened at 10.00 a.m. – air raid warning
	May 7	End of 'Wings for Victory' campaign. Amount realised £43. Targets were £35 Parachute £8 Dinghy.
	May 24	School opened at 10.00 a.m. Air raid warning. Empire Day was celebrated this morning. Half holiday declared by the Chairman, Councillor Stanger.

	Sept 23	School closed this afternoon for Fire-Guard training.
	Oct 29	From Monday the school hours are from 9.30 a.m. for four months. After air raid lasting after midnight; 10.00 a.m. opening.
1944	April 3	School closed at 2.45 p.m. for Fire Guard Tactical Training. Registers not marked.
	April 17	Revised accommodation for Infants Dept. – 137 in three rooms.
	June 7	Victory Celebrations today. Children were allowed 1/- (1 shilling) per head and were taken on picnic to Seaton Sluice where they had tea.
1945	Jan 19	Infants school roll – 115
	March 1	School resumes 9.00 a.m. opening.
	May 11	School has been closed since Monday. Tuesday VE day (Victory in Europe) and the following day. Also Thursday for Ascension Day.
1946	Feb 18	School Dinners commenced – 94 Participated.
	July 26	Headmistress (Miss G M Morton) transferred to Headship of King Edwards infants.
	Sept 3	Miss J E G Pease took over as Head Mistress.
1947	Dec 2	Doctor Scott commenced the medical examination.
	Dec 3	Medical inspection completed – the majority of the children were in good condition.
1950	May 1	Miss Pearse having been transferred to Western Infants the new Head Mistress (Miss JWR Lee) took over.
1951	May 24	The Infant School joined with the Junior children in an Empire Day display. The Infant children did the Maypole dance and had a May Queen Pageant. School closed for the half day holiday. <i>(Author's Note : In July 2014 this Maypole was found in the school's loft and we play to re-install this in the playground and research traditional Maypole dance routines)</i>
1952	Feb 6	King George VI died early this morning – School flag is flying half-mast.
	Feb 11	Th Royal Proclamation announcing the accession of Queen Elizabeth II has been read to the children this morning.
	April 1	Miss C A Blair took over as Head.
	April 21	<i>HMI Report received... 'The school meals are most pleasing occasions when the tables are decorated with flowers ... Pupils show good manners.' (Author Note: A very good report for the out-going head – Miss JWR Lee, however concerns were raised in the report regarding the state of 'accommodation') ... The main school building is old and has many of the disadvantages of its age. Two rooms are small and admit little freedom of movement, windows are high and the building tends to be rather dark - a defect not mitigated by a depressing colour scheme unfortunately adopted when the school was last redecorated..... The urinal has no flushing system and is excessively wet, dark and ill-ventilated, several W.Cs have faulty cisterns, and newly supplied chains are too short. All WCs were damp when inspected, and, although kept clean, were not in a condition to encourage good habits. .There has, it is learned, been some trouble with splinters from the hall floor. (Author's note ; Conditions sound pretty grim for both staff and pupils.)</i>
	Nov 20	Miss Dobie visited school today and examined the children for Speech defects. <i>(Author's note : Could this be the beginning of Speech Therapy that we know today)</i> Nurse Marsh also carried out a cleanliness inspection today.
1953	Jan 30	<i>The Head Mistress (Miss C A Blair) transferred to Priory Infants</i>

		<i>School – She was followed as Head by Miss H Grant.</i>
	June 1	Coronation celebrations and presentation of beakers. Closed for three days to celebrate coronation.
	June 16	School visited Rex Cinema to view film ‘A Queen is Crowned’. Buses were hired to transport 130 children.
1956	March 31	Head Mistress (Miss H Grant) transferred to Monkhouse Primary School.
	April 9	Miss Lilian Laverick took over as Head and remained until Dec 16 th 1959. <i>(Author Note: It would appear that the Infant Department had been very unsettled, because in the previous nine years there had four Head Mistresses – The many changes did not help staff or pupils).</i>
1957	Oct 22	Mr Anderson from the Newcastle BBC visited the school to see Rhythm and Movement. He saw class 3 the baby class). He was very pleased with the response of the children.
1958	August	Staffroom decorated.
1959	Sept 1	Outside of school being painted. Hall ceiling whitewashed during holidays.
1960	Jan	Miss Audrey Bewick took over as Head Mistress <i>(Author Note: This was the beginning of a settled period of Sixteen years under the same Head Mistress).</i>
	May 6	School was closed today to celebrate the marriage of the Princess Margaret to Mr A Armstrong-Jones.
	Aug 29	We re-opened school today – 13 children were admitted. The lighting has been improved, and 3 classrooms, hall and scullery have been decorated.
1961	July 26	Open day for parents.
1962	June 18	Paper towel holders and liquid soap containers are ready for use.
	Sept 3	The hall paint has been thoroughly overhauled and cleaned.
1965	Jan 1	Miss Bewick left at 2.20 p.m. for a meeting with Architects at the office. <i>(Author’s note : this was presumably to discuss plans for the new school building)</i>
1963	June 12	New electric record player received.
1965	March 24	Mr George Coles commenced temporary duties as caretaker <i>(Author’s note : Mr Coles continued to be school caretaker for many years and also joined the governing body on 4 November 1977 - the very first meeting of the schools’ governing body - becoming Chair on 27 September 1989)</i>
1965	May 3	Telephone installed during the Easter Holiday
	Nov 15	Two 2 nd year students in classes 1 & 4 from Ponteland T. C. <i>(Author’s note : no explanation is given for what T C stands for – could be Training College. However Percy Main continues to heavily involved in promoting, supporting and enhancing student teacher training)</i>
1967		Evidence of Five Classes. The Main School had been built I 1891 and the Infants Department in 1900 (with wooden additional building in 1921) were in need of replacement. (For details of the new school for Juniors and Infants – see the Main School Section). <u>In this account, we continue in the Infants Department in the Ground Level Building in the New School.</u>
	Sept 19	Miss Bewick attended a meeting of New School Builder, members of the Building Sub Committee and the Chief Education Officer – date of opening to e considered.

	Nov 16	<u>Commencement of the transport of furniture and equipment to the New School in Nelson Terrace.</u>
	Nov 20	<u>A short service was held before the children with their teachers walked to the New School</u> , which at first would accommodate the 293 children on the roll. There were five classes with sixty new tables (forty with shelves) forty new dual desks and twenty chairs
1968	Jan 24	<u>Official Opening of the New School.</u>
	Feb 8	<u>School Nurse examined 147 children.</u>
1970	Oct 13	<u>Tape Recorder delivered.</u>
1971	April 26	<u>New Record Player received.</u>
1972	April 17	School Department (Infants) roll - 203
	Nov 1	Additional room opened for use.
1973	Sept 24	Roll – 151 Staff – Head and 7 assistants.
1974	Jan 7	Roll - 193
	April 1	This Percy Main School, along with all the schools in the former County Borough of <u>Tynemouth became this day under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Borough of North Tyneside's Education Committee</u> with Mr J F Partington as Director of Education.
	July 4	All six year olds, with their teachers, visited Lambton Lion Park.
	Sept 17	Roll – 153 Full time and 24 Part-time Staff – Head and 7 assistants in 7 classes.
1975	Sept 2	<u>New Nursery Unit opened.</u>
1976	April 14	Retirement of the Head Mistress (Miss Audrey Bewick) after 16 years as Head of the Infants Dept.
	May 3	<u>New Head Mistress – Mrs Olive Higgins.</u>
	June 7	Children who were 3 years of age (up to August 7 th) were admitted into the Nursery Class
	June 25	Log Book Entry – <u>'School numbers are dropping due to the re-housing of families in the houses south of the Percy Main Railway Station</u> – The department is likely to lose a teacher.'
	July 8	Parents Open Day.
	Dec 9	Roll now 173 (this includes the Nursery Unit)
1977	Feb 18	Afternoon sponsored silence followed by an Ice Cream for everyone, then the school closed for two weeks Spring Holiday.
	Sept	Four classes for 121 children and Nursery class for 43.
1978	June 5	<u>The school advised that the amalgamation of the two departments would take place and form a Primary School</u> with Mr Robin W Gilhespy as the Head Master and the present Head Mistress of the Infants (Mrs D A Higgins) being re-deployed to Brierdene First School.
	July 20	Log Book indicated that the Infants Department in the Primary School will have 89 children in it.
	July 21	Closure of the Infant School – it will open after the holidays as the Percy Main Primary School