



Cook of the Year 2023

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Cover image:
Creative photography
at the beach

AUTUMN 2023



Autumn
2023

A busy term of
discovery and
exploration!



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School NEWS

Forest School

A change of venue...

This term, our classes have been held at the beach!

The beach provided a great environment for the girls to enjoy the North Sea air while using their creativity for art and challenging themselves to some good old rock pooling. Although the weather was not ideal, we are already looking forward to getting back to nature to make some Forest School inspired Christmas decorations.

Mrs McNaught and Mrs Nicholson



Wellbeing Wednesday

I get really excited every Wednesday as I never know who is going to come along but it's been great to have a bit of fun, relax and spend time with girls in different year groups.

WBW (Wellbeing Wednesday) is a really lovely concept, we just get together, play games (whatever the girls want to do really!). I also love providing the girls with a sweet snack at the end of every WBW session - which always goes down a treat! It's just a lovely idea overall and provides the school community with a safe and nurturing environment to enjoy and make the most of!

Hend A, Upper 6



Non stop laughter during a game of Charades.

Fundraising for Morocco and Libya



I organised the non-uniform day and bake sale for the devastating earthquake and floods in Morocco and Libya with the aim of demonstrating that our voices collectively hold the power to bring about meaningful change.

I believe that every life carries equal value, and it's crucial for those enduring suffering worldwide to have a voice when theirs go unheard.

The event exceeded expectations, raising over **£200!** I want to emphasise to every student that even our modest contributions can have a significant impact, reinforcing the idea that every effort, no matter the scale, matters.

Aminah H - Lower 6

Bonfire Night and Fireworks



We had another successful night where the whole Westfield community came together to enjoy the exciting fireworks.

This is a special event that brings former pupils, incoming pupils (those that are registered to start Westfield in September) the Gosforth community, family and friends. Thank you to the Westfield Parents' Association volunteers and to Mr Keightley and Mr Jeffrey for arranging the fireworks display and Mr Byrne and Mr Armstrong for building the bonfire.

For more information scan the QR code.



Pyrotechnic Perfection Westfield

Sixth Form

We've had a great start to the year in Sixth Form.

All of our Lower 6 students have really embraced the many new challenges and responsibilities available to them and I am incredibly proud of how positively they are contributing to school life. The Timetable Takeover showcased this commitment; the careful preparation, in-depth subject knowledge and confident delivery of the lessons taught was exceptional and it was brilliant to see some students taking on the challenge more than once!

Big Sister Little Sister

The Upper 3 girls have really adjusted to Senior House life and it's been wonderful to see how the Big Sister Little Sister initiative plays a part in this. Overseen by our brilliant Deputy Head Girl, Olivia, the Lower 6 have loved taking part in activities and making sure their Little Sisters are being well looked after. From a Barbie-themed welcome party, to Halloween pumpkin carving, to decorating gingerbread people, it is great to see the relationships between the Big and Little Sisters getting stronger all the time.

Mrs McGowan, Head of Sixth Form



Timetable take over in Geography



Pumpkin carving.



Nana with her Diya lamps.

We have had a fantastic first term together in BrightStart! The girls have made lovely friendships and really impressed us with all of their hard work and focus.



Finding a circle in our 'shape' hunt.

Learning about Diwali

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Monika Nahal for bringing in so many lovely Diwali treasures such as bangles, Diya lamps and clothing, to teach us all about the Hindu Festival of Diwali! She read us the story of Rama and Sita and even gave us some of our own Diya lamps to keep! This was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to learn about special times for different cultures and religions and we hope to see Mrs Nahal again soon!

Memorable Visits

The girls also enjoyed a fabulous trip to the Newcastle Quayside and Seven Stories earlier this term as part of our topics on The Great Fire of Newcastle and The Tiger who Came to Tea. Thank you so much to our parent helpers who made this trip possible; the visit really brought history to life for our older girls and our little ones were very impressed with the special attic story-time... almost as impressed as they were by the giant Tiger!

A New Addition

We would also like to say a very big welcome to the newest member of our BrightStart family – **Jay Jay** the hamster! He is settling into school really well and the girls have learned so much about caring for animals. They have written fact files and menus inspired by Jay Jay and many of them can't wait to take him home for the weekend! If you would like to have Jay Jay as a house guest please get in touch via the school office.



Natural materials and exploring the outdoors have been an integral part of our Maths and Literacy this term. The Reception girls have been sorting natural materials according to their characteristics while the older girls in KS1 have been using conkers as counting aids to help recall their number bonds to ten and twenty.

Christmas Nativity

The girls are currently working hard, practising their songs and actions for the upcoming Nativity play and we are looking forward to seeing you all there!

Mrs Pocock and Mrs May



MFL Challenge Day



La gran batalla de las tortillas

On Thursday, 30th November, all Lower 4 and Upper 4 girls were involved in a fun challenge day, immersing themselves in the wonders of Spanish cuisine.

The girls were set a series of challenges to work in small groups, each representing their House. The challenges included the creation of an instructional video demonstrating how to prepare and cook a tortilla de patatas, create a bilingual recipe card illustrating a step-by-step set of instructions and a final showcase in which they shared their successes of the day.

As the challenge involved girls who don't take Spanish, those that do took a 'Big Sister' approach to share the wonders of Spanish language and culture.

The girls really embraced this challenge and it was heart warming to see so many girls take an interest in where the study of Spanish could take them.

Challenge Day Results

The winning team was from Wansbeck House and comprised of Ava, Zhara, Maia and Anna - Enhorabuena!

Runners up were the following:

Coquet House - Heidi T, Abiha, Jess S, Meg, Sewa and Izzy F

Coquet House - Lily, Georgina, Alex, Lisa and Thembi

Tweed House - Giulia, Izzy Mc, Zara and Hattie

Special spot prizes were awarded to:

Abiha in Upper 4 for her amazing fluency in her video tutorial, Lily in Upper 4 for her relentless positivity, which was infectious, and finally, Heidi, who kept a cool head and rescued her team's tortilla from the jaws of disaster.

Mr Quinn





Round Square International Fundraising Day – Fri 24th November



On 24th November, we celebrated Round Square Day by taking part in a variety of creative activities, producing goods to sell at a fair in the afternoon.

The aim of the day was to raise enough money to cover the school fees of Maryanne, the girl we sponsor to attend Starehe Girls' School in Nairobi, Kenya. The funds raised now ensure Maryanne remains at school and can complete her education, which she could not do without our support.

This year, we decided to approach the day differently. After registration, we broke into mixed year activity groups to create products to sell in the afternoon. Lower 6 aided the teachers with their morning crafting sessions, helping their groups to set up their stalls in the gym for the afternoon's fair.

A wide variety of crafting activities were on offer, each with an eye to recycling and

repurposing, in line with the Round Square Environmental Pillar. We gave new colour and sparkle to old tree decorations and made festive greetings cards from parts of older ones. We were grateful for donations from parents, students and staff, which meant that we kept our environmental impact to a minimum, while creating tie-dye garments, festive tea light jars, crocheted goods and jewellery.

Girls from Pre-School to Year 4 were the first to visit our afternoon fair. They were very excited by everything, particularly the jewellery. The rest of the school joined in later. Hot chocolate and a selection of baked goods were very popular, transforming the Camellia Dining Room into a pop-up café.



International Fundraising Day





As well as the craft stalls, the Upper Sixth offered a Lucky Dip and the ever-popular Chocolate Chuck to boost our funds.

Overall, our new-look Fundraising Day was a great success, raising more than enough money to pay Marianne's fees, meaning we can also give her some pocket money.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this success. We hope you thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn new skills and uncover hidden talents.

Amelia M, Round Square Prefect



Well Done everyone!

Fri 24th November



Music



Senior and Junior House have had an exceptionally busy Term.

In November we held our Winter Music Spectacular with girls from Year 3 to the Sixth Form performing in front of their families and teachers.

Some of the highlights of the evening were Tilly R and Izzy F's piano and violin duet, some funky duets from our Junior House students including Poppy B and Poppy G and a beautiful rendition of 'Walking in the Air' from the joint Senior Choir and The Melodics.

In December, our KS2 choir visited Newcastle School for Boys for a Choral afternoon with their choir.

This has been an amazing term, culminating in our choirs performing at the carol service in All Saints' Church and a selection of girls entertaining the shoppers in ASDA with festive singing.

Well done, everyone, especially those starting a new instrument and performing or finding their voices for the first time in choir.

Miss Masters, Music



STEM DAY



Girls in STEM Extravaganza

On Wednesday 6th December, we were delighted to welcome Holystone Primary School and Gosforth Junior High Academy for our regular STEM outreach event that encourages girls to consider Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths careers at a young age.

The girls got involved in a number of activities ranging from Psychology (how the brain works), Chemistry (making fireworks) and Engineering (bridge building). They also met a chemist from Sterling Pharma who talked about the exciting options available in STEM careers and the valuable difference she makes to people's lives.

Mr Simon Keightley from Northern Powergrid spoke and demonstrated the engineering aspect of his role working with high voltage electricity.



STEM Careers Talk

In November, we were really fortunate to welcome back to school, Jess Allan, a former Westfield pupil, now pursuing an exciting career at Formula 1 Red Bull.

Jess, who works with the likes of Max Verstappen and Sergio Pérez, left Westfield in 2013 and studied Physics at the University of Boston.

Jess talked to our Upper 4 girls about her career route as a data engineer and talked about the various roles and technology required for the smooth running of a winning F1 team.



Jess Allan



The girls were able to try on actual Red Bull F1 equipment, as well a crash helmet once worn by Max Verstappen himself.



FASCINATING!

AMAZING!

EXCITING!

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

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$E = mc^2$

STEM

Westfield

2,000,000.00

45°

From jewellery making and robotics to hockey, drama and everything in between, you name it, we've got it!

Extra-Curricular



Extra-Curricular Activities

I am absolutely delighted with the way all the girls have embraced the extra-curricular activities on offer.

This term we've introduced a bit of competition between the Houses and the House with highest extra-curricular attendance will receive 50 House points towards their term's final total. We also have individual achievement awards up for grabs in the form of glitter star badges which the girls can wear on their blazer to acknowledge and show their involvement in the activities they attend. Whether it be academic, sporting or creative we have something for everyone. Well done to all involved in the smooth running of our extra-curricular programme; we hope to see you all again in the New Year!

Mrs Knowles, Art and Textiles, Extra-Curricular Co-ordinator



Jewellery club.

Queenie working hard perfecting her necklace.



PE and SPORT



Millie R (Year 6) has been winning lots of medals for her ice skating performances at Whitley Bay.



Tilly R captivates the audiences with her ballet performance.

Lily and Libby have had an excellent gymnastics term and heading to the National Championships.



Year 6 cross country at Mowden Hall

Our trampolining team has had a great start to the year as they recently competed at Whickham High School where we came second and qualified for the Zonals. Zonals will be held in Wakefield and the girls can't wait to compete.

A big well done to Alex B and Evie R, who qualified as individuals and a special mention goes to Libby G who scored the highest marks in her section.

More adventures are about to take place in a couple of weeks' time as our Lower 4 to Upper 6 girls head to the ski slopes of Italy.

Junior House have had an excellent cross-country season and they came 4th in the latest hockey tournament at Dame Allan's.

Millie, PE and Creative Arts Prefect

There has also been an outstanding list of sporting achievements outside of school too, ranging from gymnastics, swimming and ballet and not forgetting my Westfield Old Girls' Netball team who are going from strength to strength, having won the League last season. Next term, I am hoping to set up a parents' netball team so watch out parents. I can't wait to see you play, possibly going head to head with your daughter? Who knows?

Miss B, Head of PE and Creative Arts



Billie wins a Rising Star Award at the Civic Centre for her achievements in gymnastics..

Cook of the Year

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COMPETITION



In November we were delighted to welcome back Mr David Whitehead, *Owner of The Jolly Fisherman in Craster* and Kevin Mulraney, *Head Chef and owner of Bewicks Kitchen in Rothbury*, to judge this event.



*Tilly R's
Vegetable Calzone
and Festive Winter
Cheesecake.*



KS3 girls were invited to submit entries for a savoury and sweet recipe with a winter theme. All the girls researched, planned and executed their dishes to perfection and were even able to explain to the judges why they chose their dishes and demonstrated some high level skills as they went along.

Our visitors chose Tilly R's vegetable calzone and festive winter cheesecake as the winning dishes and 2nd place went to Thembi for her winter vegetable soup and apple and cinnamon cake. Their winning recipe cards will be posted on the Westfield Website, just search Cook of the Year in the search function.



And finally, we wish you all
Merry Christmas!

Westfield
SCHOOL

