

Summer
2024

A busy term of
discovery and
exploration!

SUMMER 2024

Bright Start

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A summer of Sport

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Cover image: Sports Day in the sunshine

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Head Girl,
Eva Simpson.

Deputy Head,
Rachel Robinson.

Westfield Day

Another tradition in the Westfield calendar. We celebrated our **64th** birthday.

During assembly, we acknowledged the great achievements of former pupils like Susie Appleby (former England Rugby player) and serial entrepreneur Sara Brennan.

Our current Head Girl Georgia, joined our youngest pupil Eboney to cut the birthday cake and everyone enjoyed a gorgeous BBQ lunch out in the sunshine.



We had a **64th** Birthday cake

Introducing our new Head Girl and Deputy

After their initial application form was submitted, every applicant was invited for an interview with Mr Walker and Mrs McGowan.

The next stage in the election process was a full presentation to the whole school with photos and videos followed by a vote.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Eva Simpson as Head Girl and Rachel Robinson as Deputy Head Girl.



"I feel so honoured to have been voted as this year's Head Girl and to have been entrusted with the opportunity to be the voice of the girls here at Westfield. Over the last year, I've had the privilege of witnessing Georgia and Olivia set such a high standard, which I hope to continue next year. Having taken over from Georgia recently and getting an insight as to what my responsibilities will entail, I'm looking forward to fully taking on my role in the next academic year."

Eva.



...and a BBQ lunch in the school grounds



Upper 6 girls celebrate their last Westfield Day



Muddy Stiletto Magazine



Abiha's live interview.

Abiha K in Upper 4 was one of only three girls, picked from a shortlist of hundreds of girls from GSA schools, to be interviewed for 'Muddy Stiletto' magazine to speak up about how they feel about the world and their place in it, what makes them happy, how they want to live their lives, and where they see their place in the world.

There are some great comments in the article; to read it in full, search Westfield School, news stories.

“ I like the fact that if I want to do something, I can put my mind to it. I have the resources and I have people who can help me do it; there's nothing holding me back. I really want to go into a job that helps people; that's my passion, to be able to help and do something good for the world.

One thing I like about being in a girls' school and a small school like Westfield is that I feel comfortable and can be just myself; I don't think I'd feel like that in a co-ed school. ”

Aminah delivered a message during assembly to encourage everyone to embrace each other's cultures and think about those who live in less fortunate circumstances to us and help raise money for Doctors Without Borders (Médecins Sans Frontières).

The girls came dressed in a variety of dress/costumes and brought in a multitude of cakes for the 'Around the World' bake sale.



Bright Start



Big Sister, Little Sister

This term we have had lots of fun with our Big Sisters from Year 6.

They have played lots of lovely games with us and even helped us to make some delicious vegetable soup! They also listen to us read our books and complete maths challenges. We are really going to miss our big sisters next year when they go to 'big girl school', but we have made them some beautiful cards to say thank you for taking such good care of us!



Baby Ducks

This term we also watched three baby ducklings hatch as part of our topic on 'Life Cycles'.

The girls really impressed us with the gentle and caring way that they handled the baby ducklings, who they named Bluey, Bingo and Dave! All of the girls were able to talk about how the ducks changed as they grew and the Reception girls even kept their very own duck diary.

Bluey, Bingo and Dave have now gone back to their farm to live with the rest of their family, but I'm sure we'll have some more adorable feathered friends to look after next year!



Cancer Run

Well done to all of the girls who took part in the Children's Cancer Run!

We raised lots of money for a great charity and you all did so well! We are very proud of you and Miss McKale has put your pictures up on our Achievements board in Nursery. We hope to see as many of you as possible at the start line next year too!

Mrs. Pocock



During our 'STEM week' Reception and KS1 were lucky enough to visit the Life Science Centre and take part in two amazing workshops!

We learned how astronauts survive in space and measured out a balanced breakfast that weighed exactly 100g. We also took part in lots of experiments using our five senses, such as extracting scent from an orange peel to create our own perfume. The girls loved exploring The Brain Zone, learning about the science of colour in the Science Theatre and finding out about the constellations during the Little Bear show in the Planetarium!

Junior House

Bright Start

Tynemouth Aquarium

The Bright Start girls had a fabulous time on our visit to Tynemouth Aquarium!

We loved watching the seal show and meeting some interesting rock pool creatures. The girls found using the aqua-scope to take a closer look at the rock pool creatures super interesting. Darcy told me "It's so bumpy and squishy! Did you know it can grow it's leg back if it gets chopped off?" while she was looking at the starfish.

After the aquarium we went down to Longsands beach and enjoyed a short play in the sunshine – we collected shells, dug a deep hole, and buried each other in the sand!

A huge thank you to Mrs Nicholson and Mrs McNaught for organising this amazing trip; the girls had the best time!



Visit to Jarrow Hall

On our visit to Jarrow Hall, Years 3 to 5 were able to experience life in an Anglo-Saxon village.

We spent the morning exploring the Anglo-Saxon farm, learning which animals would have been kept and their uses. After this we explored replica houses and listened to the Beowulf story around a campfire, which the girls thoroughly enjoyed. In the afternoon, the girls took part in two workshops: a religion and burials one in which we performed an Anglo-Saxon burial, and a battle workshop in which we fought the Vikings!

Mrs Redhead



Macbeth

From 18th- 24th March, Year 6 celebrated Shakespeare week.

We found out about Shakespeare's life, learnt some Shakespearean language, (including some insults!) and studied some of his plays. Then on 23rd April, the date considered to be the anniversary of both Shakespeare's birth and death, and, after only two weeks of rehearsals, we put on a performance of Macbeth.



"I really enjoyed the fighting battle scene."
Anna

"I enjoyed my death scene," said Millie who played Lady Macbeth. "It was a fun play because lots of people got to die!"

"I liked becoming King at the end and looking at all the dead bodies," said Alannah.

"I felt very proud of myself for learning all my lines." Molly, who played Macbeth.



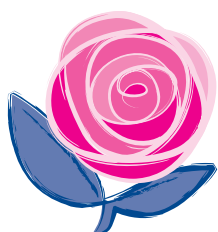
A summer of Sport 2024

Senior House Sports Day

Summer term has proven to be yet another busy one for PE and sports fixtures.

Senior Sports Day was a fantastic success with lots of teamwork and leadership displayed throughout the whole day,

Our Sixth Formers actively encouraged all the younger girls to give events a try and everyone helped by cheering each other on.



For all up to date news on individual sporting achievements head to our social media channels on



Mixed Touch Rugby Tournament at Sixways, Worcester

Our Upper 4 girls teamed up with Newcastle School for Boys for the annual Touch to Twickenham Tournament at Worcester. The girls have returned with lots of enthusiasm and a genuine hunger for rugby. Thank you to Miss B for taking them through this fantastic rugby journey and for driving the team there and back.

'I'd only just joined Miss B's extra curricular club this summer and had barely even picked up a rugby ball before that - but we practised throwing and passing whenever we were free around school. I really loved the whole experience, playing at a proper stadium against other schools around the country' Heidi M.

'I just loved the whole experience! Mixing us girls with the boys brought lots of different skills together and we worked really well as a team' Lily F.

'I really loved the tournament. We learnt a lot quite quickly just by being there. I wish we could go every year; I'm actually hoping to join Northern. I know there's a good girls team there and know Thandi (Year 10) and Thembi (Year 8) play there already. Edie J.



NETBALL - Upper 6 Team



SPORTS DAY
Laila in action!

MIXED NETBALL - with Newcastle School for Boys.



RUGBY - Thandi and Thembi D.



ATHLETICS
Molly with her running trophy.



SHOW JUMPING
Mollie O C.

Sports Day



The sun was out for our Junior Sports Day and the team spirit was in full force.

What makes Westfield special is the teamwork and genuine compassion displayed at events like this. The girls supported team mates across each year group; cheering and high fiving each other throughout the whole

afternoon. There was a variety of events ranging from athletics to the more traditional events like egg and spoon, skipping and sack races.

Well done to all our younger competitors who took it upon

themselves to tidy up each hurdle after each jump! Special mention to Anna McAlindon for her athletics achievements, and as House Captain for Coquet (Green House), picking up the winning cup.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions



I really enjoyed the training walk and I managed to get through the weekend without any blisters or injuries but the hills were quite tough at times. Overall, it was a

really fun experience and I was so chuffed that we got to celebrate my birthday as well. I think we just need to review our map reading skills so that we don't get lost. Anya.





This year, we hosted our very first Junior Conference and were delighted to welcome schools from Pakistan, Columbia, USA, Bangladesh, India, Romania and the UK.

Alannah and Ayra from our Year 6 travelled to Berwick for a weekend on the theme of 'Finding Friends and Facing Fears at Ford Castle'.



We spent the whole weekend taking part in a wide range of exciting and challenging activities. This included the zipwire, Jacob's Ladder, rifle shooting, obstacle course and abseiling. Alannah was really scared about abseiling off a bridge; it looked such a long way down but she completed it and we were all so proud of her.

We were awarded a wrist band for helping everyone to their bedrooms and for overcoming our fears.

Finding Friends and Facing Fears

The scariest thing we had to do was make a speech in front of everyone who was at the conference. It was so daunting!

We had to do another one at the end of the conference but that didn't feel so bad as we had faced our fears by then.

Our favourite activity was the zipline as we raced each other down it.



Finding Friends and Facing Fears at Ford Castle

RS CONFERENCE 2024
WESTFIELD SCHOOL



STEM Stories

Girls embrace STEM Outreach Day

On Wed 5th June, we hosted our second 'Girls in STEM' Extravaganza Day for this year and were delighted to welcome Simonside, Beech Hill and St Robert's Primary Schools and New Hartley First School to Westfield.

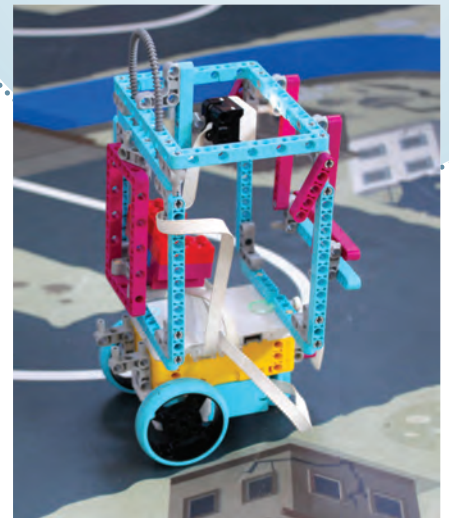
Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

2,000,000,000

STEM

$$E = mc^2$$

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Girls in STEM Day is our regular KS2 outreach day that attracts over 50 children per event, with girls participating in a carousel of activities ranging from creating fireworks in Chemistry, learning how the brain works in Psychology and building bridges challenges in Engineering.

Mrs Monica Mason kindly came in to talk to the girls about her career journey as a Pharmacist. She talked about her school life and the subjects she enjoyed when she was in primary school. She also talked in depth about the value of teamwork and her passion for her work at the RVI.



Monica Mason talk

ARMY STEM Workshop

Mrs Swift organised for representatives from the British Army to run a robotics workshop for KS3 pupils. The girls learnt some valuable lessons on the type of roles available in the British Army and got the girls to think about the use of STEM skills in the British Army, e.g. planning, testing, teamwork and exploring.



STEM workshop with the British Army

Frankenstein

Frankenstein was the KS3 drama production for this year and, under the guidance of Mrs Forster, A Level drama students Maliah and Noah directed and produced it all by themselves.

“Directing Frankenstein was a spectacular experience which allowed our creativity to flourish. From selecting the cast to eventually putting on our play, I learnt a lot of valuable skills, specifically, the importance of effective communication. Communication with both my co-director, Noah, and the cast in general, was incredibly important in the process of getting things done. Knowing what we wanted from one another really helped speed up rehearsals, meaning we could move through the play effectively to meet our end deadline, performing for the whole school and visitors!

Another skill I learnt is the importance of patience when it comes to problem-solving; not everything is going to go smoothly, and that's okay. In the end, it created some lovely memories which I now share with the girls acting in the play. Of course, directing a play wasn't easy but it was worth all of our hard work and dedication to see the end result; a very rewarding production that both Noah and I were so proud of.”

Maliah.

“My experience in directing 'Frankenstein' really helped me to learn valuable life skills that I'll be able to apply after I leave Westfield. More specifically, directing the play gave me the opportunity to improve my organization skills, something I've always struggled with. It was definitely a challenge trying to manage the budget, marketing, rehearsal schedule, and more, all on a deadline. However, I found the organisational process really helped me develop that important life skill.

I also enjoyed sharing the skills that I already possess. For example, I applied my knowledge of choreography and blocking from my years of contemporary dance training. The whole process of directing the play taught me some very important life skills and, although it was difficult at times, I found the experience really rewarding.”

Noah.



And finally... **FAREWELL** to our **Upper 6**

Upper 6 and Upper 5 year groups celebrated their exam leave in style.

Upper 6 enjoyed pizza after their 'muck up' day where they got to display their favourite 'Westfield memories' and lay their stamp on the school.

Best wishes to everyone!

We look forward to seeing you all back for a visit soon..



...and our **Upper 5** go on Study Leave



The whole of Senior House came together to watch the Staff vs U6 rounders match.

