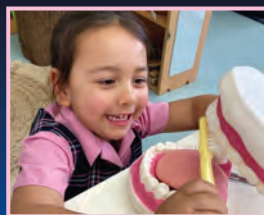


Spring-2025  
A busy term  
of learning and  
discovery!



# SPRING 2025



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Cover image: Our amazing Upper Sixth get together before their exams.

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# Bright Start (Pre-School to year 2)

It's been another busy term in BrightStart

The girls have been visiting some exciting places as well as working hard and having lots of fun playing and exploring!



## Books & Brunch

Our BrightStart girls were so excited to welcome their grown ups for Books and Brunch to celebrate World Book Day!

It was wonderful to have so many parents and carers attend – your handmade bookmarks and super-vegetables were just fantastic!

*Mrs Pocock*



## Castles, castles, castles!

Our KS1 girls had a fabulous time visiting Warkworth Castle and the Castle Keep in the city centre.

They had so much fun exploring this topic and created some amazing castle fact books shaped like ACTUAL castles!

We were so impressed with their DT skills when they made and tested their own catapults and cardboard castles too.

*Mrs Pocock*



*Skye reads to her dad.*







## Special Forest School Visitors

We were very lucky to have our friends from NSB visit us for our Forest School Sessions this half term.

The girls were excellent hosts and some of them even knew the boys already! It was great having some new friends to play with and we hope to see them back again to meet our baby ducklings for another 'stay and play'.

## The Great North Museum

Our KS1 girls enjoyed a trip to The Great North Museum in January to further explore their 'Animals and their Habitats' topic.

They saw a huge collection of animals and fossils and discussed the different ways animals are adapted to their environment.



## A Visit from the Dentist!

We were so grateful to have a special visit from Ms Porter the dentist!

Ms Porter (Zara's mummy!) taught us all about brushing our teeth carefully to get rid of sugar bugs! She also explained what happens when our baby teeth fall out and our grown-up teeth start to appear. Ms Porter and her glamorous assistant even let us borrow some of her story books about teeth and some fascinating model teeth!

*Thank you so much!*

*Dani brushes the teeth model.*







## Years 3 and 4

This term, Year 3 and 4 have been learning about atlas skills, using symbols, compass directions and grid references.

Our KS2 Gibside trip complemented this, as the girls were able to use their mapping skills for their geocaching workshop. We have also been learning about the Romans, including why they invaded Britain, how they lived, Boudicca and Hadrian's Wall.

We also went on a fantastic trip to the Great North Museum for Science week where we took part in a rocks and fossils workshop. We also explored the Roman gallery where we were able to analyse the model of Hadrian's Wall.

Mrs Redhead and Mrs Ridley

## Year 5

It's been a busy, hardworking but fun term in Year 5.

Some highlights for me have been how the girls have been so engaged in every part of their studies, especially in literacy, where they have created a range of different pieces adapted to their purpose, like emails to a friend, stories and a travel guide for Northumberland. It was a great pleasure to hear the girls perform in front of their parents for their Disney themed presentation.

Mr Drake

## Year 6

Year 6 has had a busy and thriving term throughout every area of our curriculum.

I've been really impressed with the level of understanding and enthusiasm of the girls coding skills and especially pleased with their creative writing as they wrote biographies on personalities such as Taylor Swift, Princess Diana and Ada Lovelace.

Mrs Slack

*Well done girls!*

The class pulled out all the stops to ensure that this year's World Book Day was the best ever!

A huge amount of creativity went into planning their costumes and they showed great enthusiasm as they brought their characters to life.



## All years took part in World Book Day

Junior House students and staff were absolutely amazing as usual; everyone used great skill and creativity to bring their favourite book characters to life.

The girls took time to talk to each other about their favourite book and spread the joy of reading.







### Gymnastics

Well done to Islay in Year 6 who has been achieving some fantastic accomplishments in gymnastics.

Islay is pictured here with the 1st place trophy she won in a competition at Benfield on Saturday 29th March.



### Ice Skating

Millie in Upper 3 has also had some fantastic successes with her ice skating at Whitley Bay Ice Rink this term.

Millie, taking number 1 spot on the podium at Whitley Bay, and displaying her medal at school.



CONGRATULATIONS GIRLS

### The Daily Mile

Junior school pupils have been completing the 'Daily Mile' and have been using our grounds to warm up in preparation for the North East Children's Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse.



# Sport



Remember to keep an eye on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites for our up to date sporting news!





# Round Square International Fundraising Activities



In February we held a non-uniform 'PYJAMA DAY' to raise money for the Round Square Discovery Fund.

The proceeds will be used by Round Square to fund materials for their international service projects.

This year's is taking place in South Africa and all pupils over the age of 16 can apply to participate on one of the service projects.



*Matching pyjamas for Billie and Evie*

## PYJAMA DAY



### Maryanne and Vivian - Starehe School Update

Maryanne Adera, the student from Starehe Girls' School in Nairobi, Kenya who we have sponsored for three years, passed her KCSE (Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education) exam with an A minus grade.

Maryanne will now study the university course of her choice and we wish her well. This means we have now committed to the sponsorship of a new student at the school for the next three years. Her name is Vivian Muisyo and she has ambitions to be an engineer.

She has settled very well into life at the school and is enjoying being part of Ranger Scouts and the journalism club. The money we raise on our annual Round Square Fundraising Day pays for Vivian's education at Starehe.







# Culture Day

This year, all Houses have been working on projects which embody the Round Square Pillar IDEALS.

Wansbeck organised 'CULTURE DAY', and invited Senior House pupils to attend school dressed in a way that reflected their culture.

Money raised in aid of **Save the Children International**



Sixth Form girls dressed as Ant and Dec.



## CULTURE DAY



Amelia as a suffragette.



Guess who? Volodymyr Zelenskyy look alike.



We end the term with an IDEALS day on 7 April, based on the Leadership Ideal.

Throughout the day each of our three Houses will create two business models from scratch and then be given the opportunity to see how successful their business is.

Profits raised will be turned into House Points!!!





## 'India visits Adelaide, Australia'

Recently I had the opportunity to go on exchange for 5 weeks to Adelaide, Australia.

I have so many highlights from my time at Wilderness School that it's difficult to choose just one. Some of my favourite things were definitely attending the school's formal in my first week there, taking part in the swimming carnival and other fun activities at the weekends.

I also enjoyed trying touch rugby and the excitement of my 'debut' match. Apart from all the school related activities, I also had the opportunity to explore Adelaide, see dolphins whilst paddle boarding, visit the amazing beaches and see koalas.

Before going on exchange, I hoped to make friends and gain new experiences, and this was definitely achieved. One of the main reasons I was excited about the exchange was because my mum had participated in a similar programme when she was at school, also visiting Australia. While she was there, she made friendships that still last.

I believe going on exchange is an amazing opportunity, I wish more people were lucky enough to experience the incredible opportunities it provides. *India B, Lower 5*



## British Science Week



For British Science week A level Biology students were looking at the medical application of clinical laboratory techniques, cultivating microbial plates of bacteria to discover which antibiotic should be prescribed. We looked at aseptic techniques in order to safely grow the bacteria, and discussed the role of the doctor and laboratory technician.





# Music

We've had an incredibly busy and exciting term in both the Senior and Junior House. Here's a recap of our musical adventures:

## Choral Day

Our term kicked off with Choral Day, when we joined with NSB and other schools to sing in four-part harmony.

From Bernstein's "America" to Miley Cyrus's "The Climb," we explored a diverse range of songs and harmony choices. It was a fantastic experience for all involved!



## Ceilidh Day

We celebrated St Patrick's Day with a Ceilidh Day, joining various schools to perform and learn traditional ceilidh dances. Students had the opportunity to play music for the dancers and join in the fun themselves. It was a day filled with joy and cultural exchange.

Finally, Junior House girls shone in our Disney Concert. They learned two-part harmonies and practiced a mix of recent hits and classic Disney songs. The concert was great fun, showcasing the students' hard work and enthusiasm.

As we look forward to the summer term, we're excited about our upcoming Summer Soirée and Prize Giving Ceremony.

We can't wait to see what other musical adventures await us!



*Islay and Elva performing with their violins.*





# Food and Nutrition



## This term we have embraced the 'FISH IN SCHOOL HERO' Programme

This is a fantastic initiative which aims to promote the consumption of sustainable fish.

Fish and shellfish can often be seen to be tricky to prepare, but thanks to donations of salmon and mussels, together with training provided by the Food Teachers' Centre, girls in Senior House were given the opportunity to prepare, cook and eat the dishes they created.



## Pancakes

Shrove Tuesday is always an exciting time of the year and Mrs Mather kindly organised a Pancake Festival at morning break, with proceeds from the sale of pancakes going to charity.

The pancake theme continued with a visit from **La Petite Crêperie**, who ran workshops tailored to both Junior House and Senior House girls. The Chef from La Petite Crêperie talked to the girls about French history and geography, French traditions and culture. The girls were also able to practise their language skills in a real-world context by ordering freshly made crêpes in French.



## Rotary Young Chef Competition

**Congratulations to Elva in Lower 4** who continued with her culinary successes, following winning our Cook of the Year in December. In February she competed in the regional finals of the Rotary Young Chef Competition in Middlesbrough. Cooking against some much older and more experienced competitors, we were delighted that she came first.

Elva is extremely passionate about cooking and, when she is not rehearsing or performing at concerts with her violin, she can be found cooking and preparing delicious meals for her family.



*Elva receives recognition from a member of the Rotary Club, Newcastle.*



# THE 'FISH IN SCHOOL HERO' PROGRAMME



# Footloose Rehearsals are underway!

Non uniform  
'80's' fashion  
to raise money  
for  
**'Footloose'**

At the time of writing, final rehearsals are underway for our joint biennial musical production with Newcastle School for boys, which brings together the musical and dramatical talents of both schools for three performances at Northern Stage in Newcastle.



This year the production is 'Footloose' which is based on the 1984 film of the same name.

*'Footloose' is the story of Ren McCormack. Ren and his mother move to the small town of Bomont after his father abandons them. Upon arriving, Ren finds himself at odds with most of the town, including the Reverend Shaw. With the help of his new friends, can Ren convince the Reverend to let the teenagers dance and, in the process, help the town to heal from a tragedy that affected them all?*



Footloose the Musical





# National Careers Week



The week commencing Monday 3 March was National Careers Week and Miss Molloy organised a busy and interesting week of presentations and talks from a diverse range of professionals.

Former pupil, **Tallie Bush** (nee Adams), who left Westfield in 1999, studied at the University of Surrey after completing her A Levels in Physics, Biology and Christian Theology. Tallie now heads up a start-up business called Circadacare in Newcastle, an innovative engineering project that helps individuals to live independently.

**Ashley Taylor** kindly shared her career route into her hairdressing business and encouraged the girls to keep finding ways to stay motivated, as well as the pros and cons of following academic vs apprenticeship routes. Ashley also talked about turning her passion into a career and how focusing on transferrable skills in the workplace can create a wide variety of options. Ashley has a passion for netball and has been developing the game in France, as Head Coach of Netball France and a sports development lead.

Other contributors included: **Ellie Ramsay**, a physiotherapist undertaking a PhD in stroke research; **Becky Rutter**, a doctor and medicine educator; **William Larkin**, a Northumberland business entrepreneur specialising in digital marketing; **Emily Thomas**, an award-winning publicist with 10 years' experience in the publishing industry, and **Helen Holmes**, who delivered a really valuable insight into her career journey as a female lawyer and about running a successful law firm specialising in family law.

**WESTFIELD SCHOOL CAREERS WEEK 2025 MEDICAL CAREERS**

**SPEAKERS**



**Ellie Ramsay**  
BAND 5 PHYSIOTHERAPIST AND CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING A PHD IN STROKE RESEARCH  
Ellie will be with us on Tuesday 4th Morning P3



**Becky Rutter**  
DOCTOR AND MEDICINE EDUCATOR  
Becky will be with us on Tuesday 4th afternoon P5



**Tallie Bush**  
BIOLOGIST WITH PHD IN NEUROSCIENCE AND ENGINEERING - COO CIRCADCARE  
Tallie will be with us on Thursday 6th afternoon P5



**Netball France**

**Talk #2 Ashley Taylor**

Ashley will be coming in Period 2 on Monday 3rd March for the Sports development talk

**Head Coach Netball France and sports development lead**

Ashley will be coming in to discuss how you can turn your passion into a career and how focusing on transferrable skills in the workplace can create a wide variety of options in your career. She will be discussing the importance of co-curricular and what employers from a wide range of sectors will want and expect.

In addition, she will also be discussing her current role developing netball in France as well as previous experience as Head coach of Scotland netball teams and Manchester Thunder.

**Register Now!**



**SPEAKER #6**

**William Larkin**

Thursday 6th March P1

Will is an entrepreneur from Northumberland and has organically built his own Digital Marketing Agency. Will works largely with the hospitality and leisure sectors, with a growing portfolio of bars, restaurants and wedding venues.

Recently, Will has been shortlisted for Young Entrepreneur of the Year and his business voted one of the top Marketing agencies in Newcastle. He will be providing information on careers in Marketing, Business and IT.

**YARWOOD HOLMES LAW LIMITED**

**Helen Holmes**

Managing Director Lawyer and Solicitor

Sign up now!

Helen will be with us on Wednesday 25th March (Alternates for P7-8 dependent on timbers)

Helen will be talking all things Law:

- How to become a lawyer and the different routes and areas of Law you can go into.
- The kind of salaries for Lawyers from training to being higher up in the industry.
- Her journey and advice for anyone aspiring to have a career in Law.

**NATALIE BUSH**

COO, product developer and Founder Circadacare

Tallie is coming to speak to us on Thursday 6th March P5

**About Natalie:** Natalie Bush has recently been announced in February 2023 as one of the UK's leading women innovators and been granted £75,000 in funding from the government.

Based in Newcastle Upon Tyne, Circadacare is at the forefront of care technology, developing solutions that enhance the quality of life for older adults and those with cognitive impairments. More recently Tallie has been integrating AI powered technology to allow discreet health monitoring, advanced environmental adaptation and advanced data analytics.

Natalie's qualifications include: Doctoral Research PhD (Cambridge University) York and Boston, MSc in Science (Newcastle University) Bachelor of Science Degree (Gourley University) Mechanical engineering Degree (Surrey)

