

2020-2021  
Senior and  
Junior House  
Appointments

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## Stories from STEM PAGES 6-8

Teaching science, technology, engineering  
and mathematics during the pandemic

## Forest School Autumn 2020

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### Cover:

Making 'biscuit atoms'.  
An innovative way to learn  
about subatomic particles.



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## SENIOR HOUSE



### Upper 6 Leadership Team

#### Head Girl

Asmaa Bouchelouche

#### Deputy Head Girl

Emily Anderson-Faulkner

#### Senior Prefects:

Big Sister/Little Sister	Ruby Burridge and Ellie Pearson
Community and Marketing	Romany Martin
Hospitality	Hafsah Subhani
Junior House Prefect	Elly Caisley
Round Square	Dorothy Gordon

#### Lower 6 House Captains:

Coquet House	Captain: Emily Phillips Deputy: Ellie Ruffman
Tweed House	Captain: Katie Collyer Deputy: Abbey Cooke
Wansbeck House	Captain: Safia Simpson Deputy: Lily McKimmie

#### Lower 6 Posts:

Art and Graphics	Silvie Boyle and Holly Ewart
Environment	Emily Browning and Emily Stedall
Games	Olivia Morrison and Harriet Mutch
Performing Arts	Ella Clarke
Service	Sophie Dryden and Izabella Guy

## JUNIOR HOUSE

### Junior House Officers:

<b>Coquet</b> (Green)	Captain: Evie Armstrong Vice Captain: Lily Fice
<b>Tweed</b> (Red)	Captain: Asha Bennett Vice Captain: Tori Roberts
<b>Wansbeck</b> (Yellow)	Captain: Anna Rowley Vice Captains: Ava Prince

### Form Captains:

Lower 3	Form Captain	Isabelle Lam
	Vice-Captain	Alex Brooman
	Eco Monitor	Ava Prince
Upper 2	Form Captain	Lena Taye
	Vice-Captain	Scarlett Taylor
	Eco Monitor	India Rutherford
Lower 2	Form Captain	Lily Roberts
	Vice-Captains	Beesan Al-Qahtani/Elva Green
	Eco Monitors	Amelia-Rose Partis/Freya Prince
Upper 1	Form Captain	Flora Hubb
	Vice-Captain	Millie Robinson
	Eco Monitor	India Puntis



## Big Sister

## Little Sister

### Lunch by the Forest School Firepit



Senior House big sisters in Lower 6 teamed up with their little sisters in Upper 3 for a lovely lunch by the Forest School firepit.

It was lovely to hear the older girls share stories and memories of when they were in Upper 3. They enjoyed hot chocolate and marshmallows toasted in the firepit and then played a game of 'Copy The Dance Moves'



## Performing Arts Advent Calendar

Christmas is an exciting time of year and normally we would be able to fill the newsletter with lots of lovely pictures of our Soirée, Carol Service and nativity plays but this year is a bit different. The feedback and excitement over the daily Advent Calendar performances has been absolutely fantastic. Westfield followers from all over the world (including Japan and Canada) have been waiting for the daily roll out of a performance at 3.30 pm from the 1st December including the weekend. Well done to all the performers for spreading lots of Christmas cheer each day of Advent.



## Tune Up Tuesday

'Tune Up Tuesday' took place on Tuesday 24th November. This is a national initiative aimed at encouraging school children to get involved in the arts, celebrate them, and learn about their positive impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing.

The girls in EY's and I really enjoyed following the programme led by Adele Waites. This began with an 'Energy Warm Up', also known as the "Cheeky Monkey body shake" to prepare us for the drama activities.

Body language is important in drama; we explored different body shapes, wide, tall, and small. We also practised using facial expressions to portray different emotions and exaggerated these which made us all laugh. Our favourite activity was talking gobbledygook which involved trying to make conversation without real words and trying to make our partner understand.

*Mrs Alexanders*



## Upper 3 visit Bamburgh

Friday 25th September was the windiest day of 2020; It was also the day that Miss B, Mr Shieber and Mr Walker accompanied Upper 3 to Bamburgh for a visit. Usually, Upper 3 would have been enjoying a residential stay at Broomley Grange, but COVID-19 regulations ruled this out. Instead, we took part in a series of team-building activities on the beach.

Getting from the car-park to the sands was a hair-raising experience, especially for those people carrying body boards for dune-surfing. Once we got to the beach, Miss B divided us into groups and set us our first challenge of the day – to build a sand sculpture.

Mr Walker joined in with his shoreline version of the Westfield Camellia. During lunch, we found shelter in the dunes and tucked into our sandwiches. We then split into two teams to play 'Capture the Flag' under the shadow of the castle. This gave us the chance to work together while outwitting both Mr Walker and Mr Shieber by hiding our flags among the greenery.

After so much activity, we needed to refuel and walked back into the village to buy some delicious ice cream.

Salted Caramel was a definite favourite!

Suddenly, it was time to head home.

While the girls in Miss B's minibus sang loudly all the way home, all the girls in Mr Walker's bus (including Mr Shieber) were worn out by the sea air and enjoyed a cheeky nap.

We had a great day out, despite the weather, and learned a lot about one another. Many thanks to our teachers for giving up their time to spend the day with us.

*Upper 3 Pupils*



# Bamburgh





# The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

BRONZE

## Adventures on the Northumberland Coast.

In October, our Bronze D of E girls finally got the opportunity to complete their delayed qualifying expedition...with a difference! Although there was no camping, the girls were able to demonstrate their camp craft skills and cooked their tea following a two day walk on the blustery Northumberland Coast.

Well done to everyone involved. *Mrs Harris*

'We both really enjoyed it, I would definitely recommend doing D of E to anyone that hasn't done it. It taught me some really useful life skills' *Alex C*

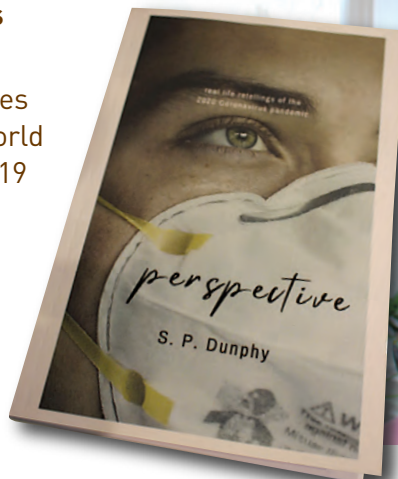
'I loved it! It was a really good bonding experience for us all. We learnt new things about each other. We got a little bit lost along the way but my map reading skills came into good use; we were so happy that we actually weren't too far from where we were supposed to be' *Holly P*



## Aminah has her story published!

Well done to Aminah who has had a short story published in SP Dunphy's book 'Perspective'.

Perspective showcases the experiences of young teenagers throughout the world during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020. These are our voices, the voices of the young, and these are the experiences that will help to shape us, the adults of the future.







# Round Square International Fundraising Day



At Westfield we have always sponsored pupils from Starehe School, Nairobi, Kenya. Lots of the families with pupils at the school really struggle to find funds to help and support their children and to give them the best start in life. So Westfield and other organisations help fund many of the girls in the school so they can have the best education and the best life chances as possible.

As Coronavirus has badly affected the country and the school, our two sponsored girls, Martha and Mercy, must repeat the year and pay full fees. They are in their final year of their education so it is even more important to support them so they can complete their studies.

Because of the rules surrounding social distancing it was even more challenging to raise funds through the normal fundraising day activities this year. Instead, we extended the copper chain to include coins of all denominations and the Sixth Form designed a whole-school quiz to be completed in our 'bubbles'. We all dressed up for the day in the colours of the flag of our chosen country. With our non-uniform money we raised an amazing total of **£644.00!**

The coin collection in Junior House was won by Tweed House (who also won the Senior House coin collection and, therefore, were the overall winners).

***The day was a great success!***

*Mr Ratcliffe*

**£644.00**  
**raised in**  
**a day!**



# Stories from STEM

Normally in the Autumn Term, we look forward to welcoming schools from our community to join our 'Girls in STEM Extravaganza' event. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19, we have been unable to hold this event but there have been plenty of fun science lessons taking place. Some have been filmed and put onto the school Facebook site, so have a look there. But here are few notable experiments;

## Chemistry

Lower 5 were making biscuit atoms and learning about delicious subatomic particles.



“ The best thing about this lesson is that we got to eat our atoms afterwards  
Katie ”

Zara shows the results after creating her biscuit atom.

An innovative way to study subatomic particles.



# Making biscuit atoms





## Balloon Race

'It's Rocket Science' - using Newton's Third Law



Upper 3 had a fun balloon racing challenge outside in the sunshine.

Well done to Coco who had a really successful run with her balloon.

## Dissection Experts Lower 6 Biology

Our Lower 6 Biology students have been learning about animal transport systems and came in ready and prepared to dissect a fish head to remove and inspect the gill plate. The girls were extremely skilled at using their dissection instruments and were able to study the gill filaments using a microscope, completing a sketch of what they observed. Izzy in particular wasn't phased at all by the physical aspect of dissecting a fish head and I was really impressed with how carefully she handled the task. Other animals we have dissected recently include a sheep's heart and lungs.

'I was quite surprised with the texture. I was expecting the fish to be quite flexible but it was quite rigid and it was hard to cut through the gills, but I really enjoyed it and it didn't smell quite as bad as I thought it would for what was actually quite a big fish head'

*Izzy*

'We dissected a lung and that was quite interesting, seeing how the air flow went when we pumped it up. It didn't smell great but we didn't find it too off-putting.'

*Izzy and Emily*

*Izzy*





## Engineering PRIMARY LEADERS AWARD

A huge congratulations and well done to Kirsty and India

Kirsty in Upper 4 and India in Upper 2 have both WON the Primary Engineers Leaders' Award for their respective year groups for the whole of the North East.

Kirsty and India submitted their ideas for the 'If you were an engineer what would you do?' competition

You can go on the full virtual tour and view all the entries as well as our winners. Just Google Leaders Award, North East 2020 Winners.



Kirsty



India

## Extra-Curricular Activities ENGINEERING CLUB

'Plan, design and create The Angel of the North using spaghetti'

Engineering club takes place every Thursday lunchtime and has been an extremely popular extra curricular activity.

In one of the early competitions, the girls were set a challenge to create The Angel of the North using spaghetti. Lydia, Emily, Millie and Safa were the overall winners.

The girls had to think about the principles of structural support and the winner was selected based on aesthetics and model stability.

Their most recent project was to design and create a paper aeroplane that is capable of holding five 1p coins.

(See picture of this via FB @WestfieldSchool)







# Sporting Round Up

We are pleased to see so many girls getting involved in all the lunchtime activities.

Due to Covid 19, we are unable to enter any competitions or tournaments but we will be running some inter-house competitions so the girls can get into the competitive spirit within school.

It has been especially pleasing to see how many girls have taken up a new sport and interest since arriving in September, e.g. Gracie in Upper 3 who had never picked up a hockey stick before, is always seen at hockey club and is doing extremely well and has already picked up some really good skills. What's really important for me though, is to hear how much she loves it! *Well done Gracie!*

In addition, thank you to all those that have been sending me emails about all your achievements outside school. Special mention goes to: Charlotte S who not only is a fantastic gymnast representing CNGA (City of Newcastle



Gracie H, enjoys hockey



Gymnastics Association in Benfield), but has been successful in her trial for the U13 North East Regional Academy as part of the England Netball Pathway. Only 25 girls were selected for the Academy in the North East region.

Also, well done Ava B who has also made it through the Northumberland County netball trials and will now be part of the regional set up.

Miss B.



Ava B, netball and trampolining



Charlotte S, netball and gymnastics

## Tycoon Enterprise 'ILLUSIO'



**Tycoon is a unique national enterprise competition that is backed by successful entrepreneur and star of Dragons' Den, Peter Jones CBE..**

Our Tycoon Enterprise group - Illusio - consists of six Lower 6 girls. We are working to create a unique brand, producing distinctive screen printed designs, on products such as t-shirts and tote bags. The designs are stylised and

modern while still retaining an informal tone. We are working to set up our business; currently carrying out market research and product development. Our social media pages will be up soon, so keep an eye out for our product launch!

Follow us @illusiodesigns on Instagram for designs coming soon!

Ellie R - CEO, Sophie D - MD

*"I'm so impressed with the girls in the manner in which they've organised themselves and used the skills they are studying to create these designs, I'm so excited to see how the business progresses!"*

Mrs Carton,  
Business Studies teacher



# FOOD TECHNOLOGY

## Lower 4 Bake Off! Christmas Cookies!

The annual Christmas baking challenges are underway and the school corridors are smelling so festive.

Isabelle in Lower 4E was overall winner for her beautiful Christmas tree cookie tower with a Disney theme.

Ava C was the overall winner in Lower 4W for her gingerbread house.

The girls were judged on technique, design, aesthetics as well as completing on time and keeping a tidy and clean area.

Keep up with all the other 'Bake Off' winners on our FB site @WestfieldSchool



## Junior House Maths Week

During maths week the whole of Junior House engaged in a wide range of maths activities almost entirely outdoors.

Although we are always keen to keep maths as practical and hands-on as possible it was a good opportunity for the girls to always be prepared with the right clothing! Activities ranged from measuring the height of trees by looking through their legs, to creating huge 3-d shapes by binding fallen branches with rope. It was also a good opportunity to use estimation strategies for measuring and overcoming problems in a team setting.

The activities were fantastic in prompting discussion and reasoning skills, with many of the girls not even realising that they were actually doing maths.

Mr Drake





# FOREST SCHOOL

## Autumn 2020



**The weather has been kind to us this term at Forest School and we have only needed to use our new shelter on a couple of occasions.**

Thanks to help from Mr Rutherford, and Mr Armstrong's hard work during lockdown, the new Base Camp is looking great.

Mr and Mrs Johnson's very kind donation of log seats, cut and collected from their

wood, means the girls have really enjoyed having such a permanent site from which to work.

We have rolled out tool use across all classes and every girl can safely and effectively use a hand drill.

Lower 3 have also begun to learn how to whittle using a sheath knife. Key Stage Three, Upper 2 and Lower 3 are all able to use a fire steel to light a fire and we have

enjoyed toasting marshmallows and cooking damper bread.

The abundance of natural resources around school has allowed us to produce lots of different projects, such as artwork inspired by the natural artist Andy Goldsworthy, nature crowns, Halloween conker spiders webs and of course woodland based Christmas Crafts.

*Mrs Nicholson and Mrs McNaught*





# Oakfield House



## THE WILLIAM COCHRANE PLAQUE

Pictured with Mrs Harris, the commemorative plaque to William Cochrane who lived at Oakfield House (our main school building).

Although the plaque commemorates William Cochrane's contribution to the mining industry and his philanthropy, Cochrane is important to the history of Westfield because it is believed that a red camellia and a white camellia were planted in the garden at Oakfield House on his and his wife's tenth wedding anniversary. Only a pink tree grew and was carefully preserved as the oldest camellia in this country. This is why our school emblem is a pink camellia!

In addition to his link with Westfield, William Cochrane was responsible for the rebuilding of All Saint's Church in Gosforth 'no doubt that, without Mr. Cochrane, the church would never have been completed in all its present glory. Cochrane also founded the Sick Children's Hospital and served as their honorary secretary for 25 years.

As well as his philanthropic work, William Cochrane was a Mining Engineer at Elswick Colliery, he was described as 'a brilliant, shrewd, and efficient businessman, it was his driving force and foresight that kept the momentum going through constant setbacks. He is mentioned in the Grace's

Guide to British Industrial History, "In 1857 he went north to superintend the development of Elswick, Tursdale, and New Brancepeth Collieries. His abilities as a mining engineer were soon recognised, and he was frequently engaged as a professional witness in important mining cases and arbitrations." Cochrane was also a past president of the Mining Institute and was instrumental in introducing the Guibal ventilating fan into this country.

Grace's Guide also mentions that Cochrane helped found the Durham College of Science (a forerunner of the University of Newcastle-on-Tyne), and was a member of its Council from the commencement. "Attempts to realise a place for the teaching of sciences in the city were finally met with the foundation of the College of Physical Science in 1871. The college offered instruction in mathematics, physics, chemistry and geology to meet the growing needs of the mining industry, becoming the Durham College of Physical Science in 1883". The University of Durham in 1901 conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Science.

William Cochrane died on 25th November 1903 at Oakfield House. His son, Sir Cecil Cochrane lived at Oakfield House until his death in 1960. Oakfield House was then purchased by the founders of the school.

*Thank you to Mrs Harris who researched William Cochrane and put the case for a commemorative plaque, in recognition of his contribution to the City of Newcastle and connection to Westfield, to Newcastle City Council.*

Due to Covid 19, we were unable to host the Lord Mayor to officially unveil the plaque, but we do hope to rearrange this ceremony in the future.

The plaque has a prominent position on Elmfield Road and it's great to see so many people stop to admire it.



And finally...

*We wish you a very Merry Christmas, from all at Westfield School!*

