

2021-2022  
Senior and  
Junior House  
Appointments

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## STEM Stories PAGE 6

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics during the autumn term

## Out and About PAGE 9

*Cover image:* Upper 6 Superheroes were voted 'Best fancy dress' for Round Square Fundraising Day



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SPORTS ROUND UP • OUT AND ABOUT • FOOD AND NUTRITION • FOREST SCHOOL



**SENIOR HOUSE**



**Upper 6 Leadership Team**

**Head Girl**

Katie Collyer

**Deputy Head Girl**

Sophie Dryden

**Senior Prefects:**

Big Sister/Little Sister

Harriet Mutch,  
Deputy: Emily Phillips

Community and  
Marketing

Rebecca Miller-Wallace,  
Ellie Ruffman

Hospitality

Izzy Guy

Junior House

Holly Ewart

Mental Health

Safia Simpson  
Deputy for JH Lily McKimmie

Round Square

Emily Browning, Emily Stedal

**Lower 6 House Captains:**

Coquet House

Jasleen Gill

Tweed House

Siel Coosemans

Wansbeck House

Emily Morton

**Other Captains:**

Art and Graphics

Emily Morton

Adventure and  
Environment

Olivia Callaghan

Challenge

Meg Kinnear

Digital and Media

Lily Ratcliff

Drama

Izzy Crowe

Games

Livvy Congerton

Music

Jess Gibson

Service

Nyasha Mandishonha

**JUNIOR HOUSE**

**Junior House Officers:**

**Coquet** (Green)

Captain: Poppy Hubb  
Vice Captains: Meg Osborne  
Lena Taye

**Tweed** (Red)

Captain: India Rutherford  
Vice Captains: Olivia Murphy  
Jessica Ogle  
Izzy McArdle-Lloyd

**Wansbeck** (Yellow)

Captain: Georgia McCheyne  
Vice Captains: Natasha Robson  
Scarlett Taylor



**Macmillan  
Coffee Morning**

**It was important for us to get back to fundraising again and the Macmillan Coffee Morning was the first event of the academic year.**

The Camellia Dining Room played host to the nation's biggest coffee morning and the atmosphere was amazing as we were finally able to welcome parents and visitors on site. All the cake donations were scrumptious. Mrs Graham's sticky toffee brownies were a big hit and they sold out within minutes. Our Sixth Form were a great help on the morning and we are delighted to report that we raised **£750 for Macmillan.**

**£750.00  
Raised for  
Macmillan**



**SIXTH FORM  
'Stretch and Challenge'**

**Timetable Takeover**

**Only at Westfield...** do we encourage our talented and dedicated Sixth Formers to share their passion for learning through the planning, preparation and delivering of their own lessons. As part of our Stretch and Challenge initiative across the school, Sixth Form students provided learning opportunities across the curriculum; Saffy taught both Maths and PSHE; Olivia, Nyasha, Katie and Emily all opted for Geography; Jess covered Drama; Izzy chose English; Siel took control of Games; Lily and Emily

went for Physics; and Izzy and Emily really took the initiative, using their time to showcase their learning in A Level Economics to our eager Upper 5s. The challenge was a huge success, really bringing the girls out of their comfort zone and allowing them to develop skills of organisation, resilience and independence.

*'I was so proud of the Sixth Formers; they really embraced the challenge and this activity demonstrated just how passionate the girls are about their love of learning.'*

Mrs McGowan





## House Re-branding

**Our House Captains took charge as they co-ordinated a team challenge with the aim of re-branding their respective Houses: Coquet, Tweed and Wansbeck.**

By the end of the afternoon we were introduced to our new inspirational Leaders, Tabitha Tweed, Whitney Willow Wansbeck and Camellia Coquet. Each leader came with their own back story chosen by the pupils. The House members also had to create a portrait, logo, mascot, song and cheer to represent their House. It was truly an enlightening afternoon for us to observe. Our students really took on this challenge with great enthusiasm. They picked some great models for their House 'person' and they articulated their project to the whole school with great passion. The newly appointed House Captains did a tremendous job organising and supporting all members of their Houses.

*Dr Corbin*

## Climate Conference

**On Thursday 11th November, Upper 5 to Upper 6 students took part in Westfield's own, paperless, Climate Conference running in parallel with the crucial UN COP26 Conference in Glasgow.**

Mixing up the year groups, the girls formed delegations representing major players in the climate crisis such as China, Russia, the USA, least developed countries and small island states. One Lower 6 girl led each group as an Ambassador and the whole conference was run by three joint Chairpersons from the Upper 6. After an introduction to the issues by the Chairpersons, delegations then researched climate change issues and presented a 'position statement' in turn, which led to heated debate over the responsibility for the climate crisis. Mirroring the COP26 process

exactly, delegations then proposed their own emissions targets and, using a neat bit of Teams technology, the Chairpersons revealed the impact of these targets on future global warming.

Delegations from lower income countries argued to increase emissions to fuel development whereas China, the USA and Russian delegations were widely viewed as 'not having done enough'. Interestingly, the overall outcome was similar to the 'real' COP26 conference: progress, but not enough.

The whole event was pupil led, and there was superb engagement, debate and passion on display throughout the conference.

*Mr Dunn*



Climate Conference



# The Duke of Edinburgh's **GOLD** Award

## Canoeing in Scotland.

During the second week of half term, Jess and Siel in Lower 6, along with eight Upper 6 boys from NSB completed their Gold DofE qualifying expedition, canoeing along the River Spey in Scotland.

Having braved a cold first night, the ten canoeists launched their boats at Aviemore, pitched their tents 20 km down river and then continued on day 2 another 25 km without a capsized to Cragganmore even managing to stay afloat through the rapids called Washing Machine.

Knockando rapids were renamed 'nothing-you-can-do' when four of the six canoes turned over, including the one containing two members of staff from NSB, Mr Drax and Miss Thompstone. Despite the poor conditions, the group managed the 27 km to the final wild camp before dusk, just 17 km short of the finish at Spey Bay. Squally winds battered the campsite and persisted on day 4 so Martin Simpson of Simonside Outdoor Adventure decided to finish the expedition 8 km short of the sea at Fochabers bridge.

Some of the feedback comments noted how they learned a lot about kit as prior to the expedition they had no idea what to pack or how to put up a tent. Many had far less previous experience because of the pandemic.



Many thanks to the NSB DofE Leaders, Mr Drax and Miss Thompstone as well as the staff from Simonside Outdoor Adventure.

Mrs Harris

## 'Create a Book' Day

On Tuesday 23rd November, Mrs Forster headed up a Key Stage 3 Stretch and Challenge activity called 'Create a Book' Day. Mrs Carton and her Sixth Form Business Studies students acted as business advisers to assist in the marketing and sales tactics of promoting the books.

Each House had to create two books, one fiction and one non-fiction to appeal to an audience as young as 3 to 4 year olds. Each House had to come up with their own ideas and illustrations for their books. In order to get inspiration and steer them in the right direction, the girls interviewed both Early Years and Key Stage 1 at the start of the day to see what they wanted in a book. At the end of the day, they read their books to the girls to check that they had hit the brief from their target market.

Finally, the three House teams presented their books at the final assembly in front of Westfield's Dragons' Den judges, Mrs Quinn and Mrs Jok who agreed that the best books on the day had been written by Wansbeck.

*Well Done!*



**KEY STAGE 3**  
**'Stretch and Challenge'**





# Round Square International Fundraising Day – Fri 26th November



**In early November, plans commenced for our new sponsorship of a student from Starehe Girls' Centre in Kenya. Maryanne Adere is a cheerful 14 year old whose ambition is to study Medicine and become a Doctor.**

From humble beginnings Maryanne has embraced the opportunities provided by Starehe school and she is grateful for the huge contribution the girls at Westfield are making on her behalf. Maryanne joined our assembly via Zoom at the beginning of November and it was lovely to see the recipient of our fundraising efforts in person. She really is a delightful girl. Due to the lifting of some Covid restrictions we were able to hold our usual Fundraising Day on 26 November. The entire school dressed in costumes taken from their favourite film characters. Upper 6 won the best dressed class for their Action Movie costumes – the Head girl leading the way with her 'Superwoman' costume. In Junior House Lower 2 won dressed as 101 Dalmatians and Junior girls were inspired by Disney, Mary Poppins and the Jungle Book. During the afternoon a fun range of activities took place in the hall. The stall that made the most money was the Lower 5 East Café in the Home Economics room (the cakes were to die for!) closely followed by Lower 6's 'Lucky Chocolate Chuck' and the Sixth Form 'Rave'.

***In the one afternoon we raised a total of £912.80, a magnificent achievement and much appreciated by Maryanne!***

*Mr Ratcliffe*

**£912.80**  
**raised in one**  
**afternoon!**



# 'Girls in STEM' Extravaganza

On Tuesday 7th December, we were delighted to welcome our visitors from; Mowden Hall, Kells Lane and King Edward Primary schools to our outreach day. It was so exciting to finally be back running this event (after a 2 year absence due to Covid).

A few quotes from the girls who stood up to give their 'reflection' at the end the afternoon.

“  
Today was amazing; I really enjoyed learning about how my brain works  
”

“  
I learned that women can become great inventors  
”

“  
I learned about how a firework is made and that girls like me can invent things  
”

The aim of the day was to highlight the shortage of girls in STEM based jobs and provide inspiration to the next generation, particularly on how some of these career choices can help save the world, e.g. Chemical Engineers help provide clean water to less developed countries, Scientists developing vaccines for viruses like Covid 19 and Mechanical Engineers who help to build hospitals and schools.

The schools took part in a carousel of activities and received presentations from Mrs Swift who in a previous life worked for Unilever and Emma Marshall who is a Senior Mechanical Engineer at RPS UK and former Westfield pupil.



Emma Marshall, Senior Mechanical Engineer at RPS



Newcastle University Street Science team demonstrate the values of water filtration



Girls from Mowden Hall learn how the brain works

# STEM Stories

## Forensics

As part of our Upper 3 taster day, external pupils and our own Lower 3 pupils had a go at our Reece Foundation Forensics resource.

The Maths department was turned into a crime scene and the girls were provided with special skills and resources to identify and catch criminals with credible forensic evidence.



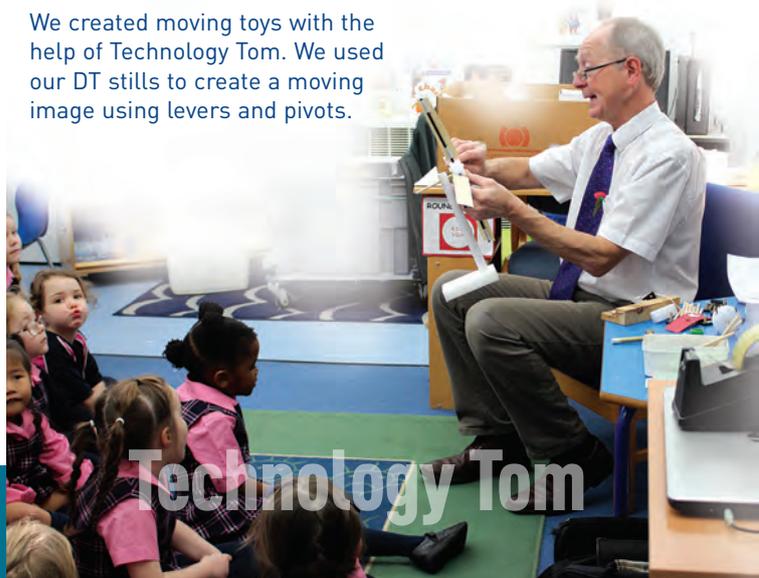
## Primary Engineer Programmes



Olivia was awarded 'Overall Year 5 Winner' for the North East for her invention 'Dentifier'. 'It's a special toothbrush which has a built-in sensor; the sensor picks up lots of information about my teeth and sends it directly to my dentist. It means that if I have any problems with my teeth, I can get treatment a lot quicker.'

## Technology Tom

We created moving toys with the help of Technology Tom. We used our DT skills to create a moving image using levers and pivots.



Technology Tom



The early autumn sunshine was wonderful and the girls enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities.

## Early Years' Round-up

Early Years explored seasonal changes, sorting autumn leaves by shape, size and colour and making tiles by pressing leaves into wet clay. Once the clay had dried they mixed up different shades of orange and decorated their tiles, adding gold paint.

Early years girls love cooking activities, which are often inspired by stories we share with them. We made pumpkin soup, hedgehog bread buns, plum jam and avocado salad.

Harry and the Dinosaurs "Romp in the Swamp" drama was great fun and a wonderful way to retell the story and talk about the characters and events.

We thoroughly enjoyed learning about Diwali. The story of Rama and Sita was very exciting and we made brightly coloured Diya lamps to light their way home. Exploring colour and shape to

create Rangoli patterns in our outside area was great fun! We continued to make outdoor artwork of a more permanent nature, painting poppies onto our play house to commemorate Remembrance Sunday. Circles in a circle by Wassily Kandinsky inspired us to explore the properties of cylinders and cones, printing circles and adding lines in the style of his work.

Early Years girls really look forward to taking part in activities with the older girls. Our Lower 3 "Big Sisters" help us to select books from our "Little Library" and members of the Upper 6 often support us in our classroom. It was great to have Senior House girls design and produce "lift the flap" books for us and we loved listening to the stories.

*Mrs Alexanders*



## Junior House Round-up

**We have had an exciting start to the new school year, especially with the introduction of our Heroes of Discovery education framework.**

This is something that we feel very passionate about as it links everyday life skills in and through our curriculum. It gives our children and teachers the opportunity to talk about how they have worked as a team, how they have shown perseverance and tenacity towards something they have found difficult, how they can be a good friend to others to name but a few.

The animated characters for each life skill give a role model for our girls to aspire to and act as a reference point for our teachers. Already we have seen great interest and enthusiasm from our girls who are talking about which heroes they are like and want to be.

On the extra-curricular front, again this has been a very busy time, with a huge array of sporting clubs both at lunchtime and after school. With hockey, netball, gymnastics and football we have got many bases covered. We are also delighted to welcome back the long-awaited return of fixtures with other schools. In other areas we have been able to offer board games, cookery, chess, gardening, ball skills and orchestra to name but a few.

Many of the Junior House musicians and singers, contributed to the very successful, whole school Harvest Festival, Recital Evening and Carol Service. And, last but by no means least, all of Junior House took part in our Christmas Production of 'Babouskha'; it was lovely to feel as if Christmas was back to normal.

*Mr Drake*



# Sporting Round Up



**Competitive interschool sport is finally back in the diary and we've been competing in Hockey, Netball and Cross Country, with lots of successes including:**

- Our Senior Netball Team winning the City Tournament
- Lily finishing 8th in the county in the TWSSA cross country race
- And, Lower 4 are yet to lose a netball match

Lessons have been great fun, with the senior girls playing Hockey, Netball, Volleyball and creating fantastic Gymnastics 'Sport Accro' routines.

The juniors too have played Hockey and Netball and performed in Dance and Gymnastics.

Extra-curricular clubs have been full and the girls have enjoyed Trampolining, Gymnastics and Volleyball alongside Hockey and Netball.

## **Achievements outside school:**

- Billie competed in her first elite gymnastics event in Guildford.
- Mrs Lloyd completing the GNR, raising money for The Alzheimers Society
- Evie competed for Newcastle Swim Team at the NE Regional Championships in Sheffield.
- Harrier League XC achievements for Olivia.
- Ava B achieved 1st place, Level 2 age 15 category in trampolining.
- Eve and her shooting achievements.
- Alex B in County Netball.



See Facebook for full details.

# Out and About

## Upper 4 visit High Borrans

It was wonderful for the girls to be back on a residential trip and enjoying the great outdoors. Activities ranged from ghyll scrambling, caving, kayaking and rope obstacle courses.



“ When we were ghyll scrambling we were sliding all over the place to begin with but once we all got going and got used to the ice cold water we started to help each other out and work as a team. ”

Lexie

“ Ghyll scrambling was great and we were so tired, but it didn't stop us all having a go at the low ropes. ”

Libby W.

“ We faced lots of challenges during caving, like squeezing through tiny holes and going through low passageways. Most of us enjoyed it but for those that were feeling worried, we sang 'Sofia the First' to help them get through it. ”

Ava and Charlotte S.



## Lower 4 visit Hawkhirst, Kielder

Outdoor adventures at another beautiful setting not far from Westfield, canoeing and team building was just what the girls needed to get the term off to a great start.



# Food and Nutrition

It's always busy in the Food and Nutrition room but the second half of term is exceptionally busy as we gear up towards Christmas.

**Cooking Club** (after school) has been a huge success, with vegetable pizzas, Millie's cookies, and Christmas cake gifts on the menu. The atmosphere in the room is amazing and I love the way the older girls are passing on their skills and knowledge to the younger ones. They are great models and I am so proud of them, especially Olivia G, Ava C and Eva S.

**The Lower 5 GCSE students** have been studying food hygiene and will shortly be working towards an extra qualification, the Level 2 Food Hygiene certificate.

**Upper 5 GCSE students** have been working hard on their NEA (controlled assessment) which is 50% of their grade, with projects including tackling cardiovascular disease, improving children's diets, and Italian cuisine.

**Sophie in Upper 6** has been completing her report and investigations based on the science of lemon meringue pie! She is also organising a Christmas Sixth Form Bake Off.

I was exceptionally proud of my form (Lower 5 East) who, on Round Square Fundraising Day, created an amazing Café and baked the most exquisite treats for the school to enjoy. **They raised an astonishing £137.42!**

Mrs Graham

**£137.42  
Raised**



# Forest School Autumn 2021



## A very dry and mild Autumn meant all groups have been able to make the most of Forest School.

This term we introduced rope swings and hammocks which the older girls have been learning to put up safely themselves. We have also had a big focus on campfire cooking with the arrival of our tripod and grill. We have cooked damper bread, chocolate orange brownies (brownies cooked in scooped out oranges and wrapped in tin foil), pitta bread pizzas and lots and lots of toasted marshmallows!

*Mrs Nicholson and Mrs McNaught*





## Old Girls' Reunion

It was lovely to see so many of our old girls at our reunion in September, including some who had left over 50 years ago! Everyone shared their precious memories with each other as well as with our Upper Sixth pupils who came to help on the night.



## Bonfire Night



It was lovely to welcome back our pupils, family, friends and visitors to our bonfire and fireworks display. A big thank you to Mr Keightley, Mr Jeffery, Mr Armstrong and Mr Byrne who were busy all day, building the bonfire and organising the fireworks. The Camellia Dining Room was filled with

excitement and laughter, with children getting their faces painted and waving their glow sticks. Food was served until 6.00pm, when the magnificent display of fireworks was set off. It was a lovely mild evening, just perfect for the best bonfire and fireworks display in Gosforth.



## Remembrance Day

The girls made poppies and wore them to commemorate Remembrance Day.



And finally...

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

