

Autumn
2025

A busy term
of learning and
discovery!

AUTUMN 2025

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Cover image:

Our amazing Three Kings from
BrightStart's 'Christmas with the Aliens'

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BOYS

belong here too!

It was a historic day at Westfield as we recently welcomed our first boy through the doors of Junior House.

This milestone marks a significant strategic development, building on the strong success of our Junior programme for girls and which is now open to boys.

Headmaster Mr Neil Walker commented:

"It's a truly historic moment for us, as we prepare to welcome more boys and it stands as a testament to our dedicated staff and governors who continually ensure Westfield remains an exceptional school. Our recent inspection report confirms what our families already know – Outstanding Education, Care and Opportunity for every child.

Our success places us proudly as an outstanding independent school in Gosforth."



Big Sister Little Sister

Our Big Sister Little Sister initiative continues to be a much-loved and valuable part of school life, offering the Lower 6 students the chance to develop leadership skills, take on responsibilities and act as positive role models for our Upper 3 pupils.

The programme ensures that every Upper 3 student has a familiar, friendly face to turn to as they navigate their transition into senior school, helping them feel supported and confident from their very first day.

At the start of term, the Lower 6 hosted a fantastic welcome party to celebrate the launch of the programme. The event was filled with balloons, colourful hats and an array of exciting prizes.

Throughout the afternoon, each Big Sister spent time with her Little Sister, offering guidance, reassurance and sharing personal experiences of life in Senior House.

The atmosphere was heart-warming and full of enthusiasm, reflecting the true spirit of Westfield.

It was wonderful to see such genuine connections forming, and we look forward to watching these relationships grow over the coming year.



Our Lower 6 Prefects with their Upper 3 Little Sisters



Upper and Lower 6 Prefect Team



ISI Inspection Highlights

Right at the very start of the Autumn Term we had a full ISI Inspection and were delighted to receive fantastic feedback from the Inspection Team. Here are some of their comments taken from the final inspection report:

“Leaders create an enriching educational experience that promotes the wellbeing of pupils”

“Pupils experience a wide range of subjects and learning experiences that prepare them well for future study and life beyond school.”

“Pupils develop leadership skills, contribute to the school community and take an active role in shaping school initiatives and events.”

“Senior leaders are knowledgeable and skilled.”

“Staff actively help pupils to value and show respect for diversity which creates a positive and inclusive school environment.”

“Pupils take responsibility for various aspects of school life.”

“High quality pastoral care ensures that pupils learn and play in a safe and supportive environment with their wellbeing prioritised.”

“Leaders prioritise the safety of pupils.”

You can read all the comments in our Official Highlights Report, as well as the Full Inspection Report on our website.

www.westfield.newcastle.sch.uk



Geography

Coastal Studies Upper 3 Trip to Cullernose Point

Upper 3 visited Cullernose Point near Craster to investigate coastal erosion processes, study rock types and develop their understanding of geological time. We are fortunate to have such close access to the Northumberland coast, enabling our pupils to experience the curriculum first hand.





Out and about with Bright Start

In EYFS, we have been very pleased to welcome our very first boy into Junior House with more due to start in January! The girls have been very kind and welcoming as always, showing their new friend where to hang up his coat and how to sit smartly on the carpet!

The children all enjoyed a lovely trip to Fun Little Foodies in Gosforth to make their own pizzas as well as a trip to the local park to look for signs of Autumn.

Miss McKale and Mrs Pocock have been very impressed with everyone's work this term - from name writing to reading Phase 3 reading books, they have all been super stars and made lovely progress in their learning!

In KS1 the girls have enjoyed lots of exciting trips to bring the curriculum to

life; they particularly enjoyed learning about 'The Great Fire of Gateshead' at the Discovery Museum and taking part in the 'How to be a Scientist' workshop at the Centre for Life. As part of their 'Changes Beyond Living Memory' topic, KS1 and KS2 also enjoyed a trip to Beamish! Mr Drake came along and particularly enjoyed looking in the sweet shop!

The residents of Eothen Care home enjoyed lots of lovely singing and signing sessions with KS1 this term, and big thanks must go to Natasha Storey for all of her help and support in organising this and teaching us all the signs!

Mrs Pocock



A bright and busy term in Prep

This term has been an especially busy and exciting one in Junior House. We began with a highly successful and very positive ISI inspection, and the momentum has continued with a wide range of enriching activities and visits.

Our pupils stepped back in time at Beamish Museum to explore local life in the past, and they have ventured to both the Life Science Centre and Gibside for hands-on learning experiences. Our Winter Spectacular Music Soirée was another standout moment, showcasing the talents and enthusiasm of our young performers.

As Christmas approached, the calendar grew even more festive. Our Parents' Christmas Afternoon was a wonderful occasion, complete with seasonal crafts, carols around the tree, and a very special visit from Santa. The Bright Start and Prep plays have also been a joy to watch, with pupils' hard work and creativity shining through.

It has truly been a vibrant and memorable term in Junior House, and we look forward to an exciting start to the new year.

Mr Drake



Carol singing
at Phillip Cussins house



Christmas Time Travellers

Prep children took audiences on a whimsical journey with "Who", - following Dr Who and Dr What as they share their extraordinary Christmas adventures through the eyes of time travellers, full of fun, laughter, and festive cheer.



Prep go Pond Dipping at Gibside





Round Square International Fundraising Day – Fri 21st November

Our annual Round Square fundraising event was once again a tremendous success, bringing together the whole school community in a vibrant celebration of global citizenship, compassion and creativity.

Pupils enjoyed a non-uniform day, with Junior House embracing the theme of Round Square Discovery Heroes, while Senior House dressed in the bold colours of the Kenyan flag — black, red and green.



This year's fundraising efforts focused on supporting the education of Vivian Muisyo at Starehe Girls' Centre in Nairobi, a cause that has become deeply meaningful to our school.

We were honoured to welcome two distinguished guests:

Mr David Kisiaky,
Chair of Starehe UK and Starehe Boys Centre alumnus.

Faith Wamocho,
Starehe Girls' School alumna and
Advocate of the High Court of Kenya.

David and Faith spoke powerfully about the transformative impact of their Starehe education. Their insights offered our pupils a valuable perspective on the global connections we help foster.

The afternoon was filled with a wide range of pupil-led activities, including chocolate coin drops, nail bars, face painting and bubble blowing. The creativity and enthusiasm behind each stall were evident, with pupils determined to raise as much money as possible for this important cause.

Fri 21st November

International Fundraising Day





A highlight for many was the highly competitive pillow fight between Mr Walker and Ms Knowles, which drew lots of laughter and applause.

We are extremely proud of our pupils' commitment, energy and generosity. In one afternoon we raised enough money to pay for Vivian's tuition and accommodation at the school for a year.

The pupils' efforts, coupled with parental support, will make a real difference to Vivian's future. The day showcased the true spirit of Round Square.

Mr Shieber



Well Done everyone!



Isabelle's Round Square Exchange to Seoul

As part of our Round Square exchange programme we were delighted to hear about Isabelle's adventures in Seoul during the summer holiday.

Isabelle shared how much she learnt about Korean culture and the school system, while enjoying the chance to meet new people. Although she found the food generally on the spicy side, she particularly loved tteokbokki, a popular Korean dish of rice cakes cooked in a spicy sauce. She described the temples and castles as "completely breath taking" and, while not a big fan of K-Pop herself, she recommended Seoul as a must-visit destination for those who are.

A truly enriching experience that reflects the spirit of our international exchange programme.



Macmillan Coffee Morning



We were delighted to host another successful fundraising event for our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Thank you to our whole school community, the staff, parents, pupils and former pupils, for baking and donating cakes and for joining us in the Camellia Dining Room.

Together we raised both 'funds' and 'awareness' for this worthwhile cause, and once again demonstrated the strength of the Westfield spirit.

WE RAISED ALMOST
£600
IN JUST ONE MORNING!





Westfield



Bonfire Night was a tremendous success, filled with laughter, excitement, and true Westfield spirit as we welcomed back former pupils and staff.

A special thank you goes to Mr Keightley and Mr Jeffrey for orchestrating the magnificent fireworks display, and to Mr Armstrong for all his work in building the bonfire.

It was a night to remember!

On
Friday 7th November,
we hosted our
Annual

Bonfire and Fireworks Party



PE and SPORT

BrightStart and Prep Annual Cross Country Competition at Mowden

Despite the torrential rain, the annual Cross Country Competition at Mowden went ahead with great success. Every runner showed fantastic courage and determination, embracing the challenge with resilience and enthusiasm.

What stood out most was the strength of teamwork - the way the girls encouraged and supported one another throughout the course was inspiring. Their commitment and camaraderie shone brightly, making the event a true celebration of perseverance and school spirit.

Mrs Nicholson



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Special mention goes to:

Ariana	Y3	for gymnastics
Islay	Y7	for gymnastics
Laila	Y9	for ballroom dancing
Jessica	Y10	for horse riding
Ava	Y10	for swimming
Tori	Y11	for horse riding
Tilly	Y11	for ballet
Mollie	Y12	for horse riding

The Quorn Pro CHALLENGE



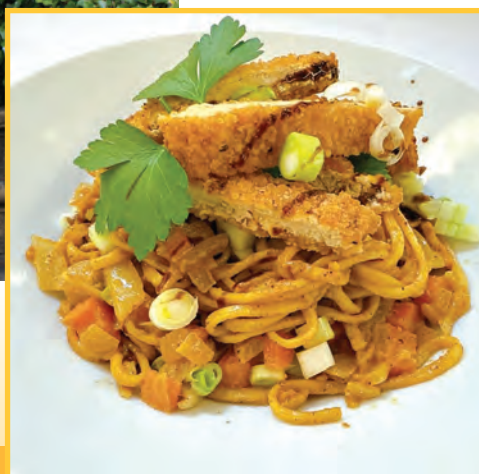
KS4 NATIONAL - RUNNER UP
Tori - Delighted with her achievement!

Well Done Tori!

CONGRATULATIONS to TORI, who has been officially recognised on a special shield and presented with her prize for her outstanding efforts in the Quorn Pro Challenge.

As a GCSE Food student, Tori achieved runner up in the KS4 National Competition, impressing judges with her delicious Katsu curry and noodle dish. Her success brought home a bag of Quorn goodies and £250 worth of kitchen equipment for the school.

We are incredibly proud of her achievement!



Winter Music Spectacular

A wonderful mix of budding talent and festive cheer!

This year's Winter Spectacular was, once again, a highlight in the musical life of the school, with many talented new performers making their debut on stage.

Mr Walker pointed out that we had representatives from nearly every year group in the school which is fantastic!

It was a truly lovely evening filled with festive cheer and everyone enjoyed testing their knowledge in the Christmas quiz created by Sixth Former, Poppy J.

A big thank you to all who participated and made the event so memorable!

Miss Masters



And finally,
Christmas is coming...



Christmas Family Afternoon

What a wonderful way to celebrate Christmas the Westfield way!

Mrs May organised a heart warming afternoon filled with traditional family activities.



"Christmas with the Aliens"

BrightStart children brought the magic of the season to life with "Christmas with the Aliens"

Thea heartwarming tale of three curious aliens who land on Earth to help everyone come together and celebrate the joy of Christmas.



Our little Angels
'Christmas with the Aliens'



Our amazing Three Kings
'Christmas with the Aliens'

Merry Christmas
...from WESTFIELD

