

SUMMER 2026

**Summer
2026**

Bright Days,
Bold Ideas, Big
Achievements



**A Term Full
of Flavour**

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**Westfield
in the Sun**

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This term's Upper 6 Leavers' assembly was filled with memories, impressions and reflections of their time at Westfield. The presentation concluded with a moving sequence of photographs charting their journeys through the school, some spanning 13 years. While my own time at Westfield has been shorter, these nine years as Head have nonetheless given me a rich and treasured collection of memories.

Looking back, it is remarkable to see how much has evolved. We have opened a new science block, refurbished Junior House following our move from Ashfield Towers, and more recently welcomed boys into the Junior House community. We have also taken the significant step of becoming a founding member of the RGS Family of Schools. Alongside these developments, we have navigated the challenges of Covid lockdowns, introduced 1:1 devices, served as the global pilot school for Heroes of Discovery, hosted our first Junior Round Square conference, and strengthened our reputation for community STEM outreach (particularly in Further Maths). The introduction of Forest and Beach School has further enriched our provision. While no Head can claim sole credit for such progress, it is a reflection of the dedication and innovation that the staff as a whole, teaching and non-teaching, bring to Westfield.

What has always defined Westfield for me is its spirit; an openness to challenge and a willingness to embrace new ideas. I was reminded of this on Westfield Day when we set ourselves the ambitious task of creating a whole-school photograph in the shape of a camellia. Bringing together around 200 pupils, including our Nursery, and capturing the moment so successfully in under an hour was no small feat. Yet, true to form, the Westfield community rose to the occasion, creating what I hope will remain a cherished memory for all involved.

As I prepare to hand over the role of Head, I do so with great confidence in the future of the school. This transition has been carefully planned, and I know that Mrs Quinn is more than ready to take up the baton and lead Westfield forward to further success.

Much has changed since 2017, when I arrived, and indeed since 1962 when those first girls stepped into Senior House, but what remains constant is the essence of the school. Visitors and Old Girls alike often remark that, despite all the developments, the "feel" of Westfield endures and I know that won't change. Westfield is a place that cares deeply for every individual within our community. It nurtures passions and enables each pupil to become the very best version of themselves. Above all, it is a school that develops strong, compassionate young people who go on to lead and contribute in meaningful ways.

I have every confidence that this spirit will continue to flourish under the leadership of Mrs Quinn and Mr Stanford, ensuring that Westfield's proud traditions not only endure but grow ever stronger in the years ahead.

Mr Walker

School NEWS



Introducing our new

Head Girl and Deputy



We are delighted to announce that Evie R. has been selected as Westfield's Head Girl for the 2026-2027 academic year. She will be supported by our Deputy Head Girl Coco D-W.

Evie has been at Westfield since Year 8 and pledges to try her best to represent the whole Westfield student body. We are all very excited to have her take over the leadership role from Charlotte S.

Westfield Day with a Blooming Twist!

Westfield Day is always a highlight in our school calendar; a chance to come together and celebrate everything that makes our community so uniquely special. From the joyful buzz of a shared BBQ lunch to the cherished tradition of cake-cutting by our youngest and oldest pupils, the day is filled with warmth, connection, and pride.

This year, however, brought an extra special moment to remember as we look forward to a new chapter for Westfield.

In a wonderful display of unity and creativity, the entire school gathered on the lawn to form a stunning, living version of Westfield's distinctive camellia logo. It was a truly memorable sight and one that perfectly captured the spirit of togetherness that defines the Westfield community.



Scan here to watch a very special film from the day, marking an exciting new phase in Westfield's history



A Special Visit from the GSA

Westfield were thrilled to host The Girls' Schools Association's (GSA) Chief Executive, Jeanette Cochrane FCCT as part of the GSA's Listening Tour across the UK.

As well as a brief tour of the school, Jeanette joined our pupils for lunch then had a discussion with some of our Upper 4 students who were glad to take a break from school exam revision to talk about their interests, ambitions and love of Westfield.

Mr Walker





Elite Recognition for Westfield Mathematicians

We are incredibly proud to celebrate our exceptional Westfield mathematicians who, this term, excelled in this year's National Final of the Archimedes Awards; a global competition attracting thousands of talented students worldwide.

Lisa, Poppy and Kirsten gained the prestigious title of Archimedes Fellow (Distinction). This is awarded only to the top 10–12% and recognises exceptional analytical thinking, precision and problem-solving ability.

Isabelle, Maha and Elva gained the honour of Archimedes Scholar (Merit) which reflects strong mathematical reasoning and the ability to tackle complex, unfamiliar problems with confidence and is awarded to the next 30–35% of national participants.

We are immensely proud of their dedication, resilience and passion for maths. Well done to all of you!



Following these tremendous results, Westfield has been recognised as an Accredited Archimedes Mathematical Thinking School

Nursery News

We are delighted to announce that from September 2026 our BrightStart Nursery will open 51 weeks of the year offering the option of full-time care for our families. This all year-round offer is also open to Reception children.

If you, or anyone you know, would like further information about how to take advantage of this opportunity please contact westfield@westfield.newcastle.sch.uk



The Westfield halls have been filled with talent, creativity, and inspiration this term, as students showcased their work in two stunning exhibitions.

IWD Art Competition

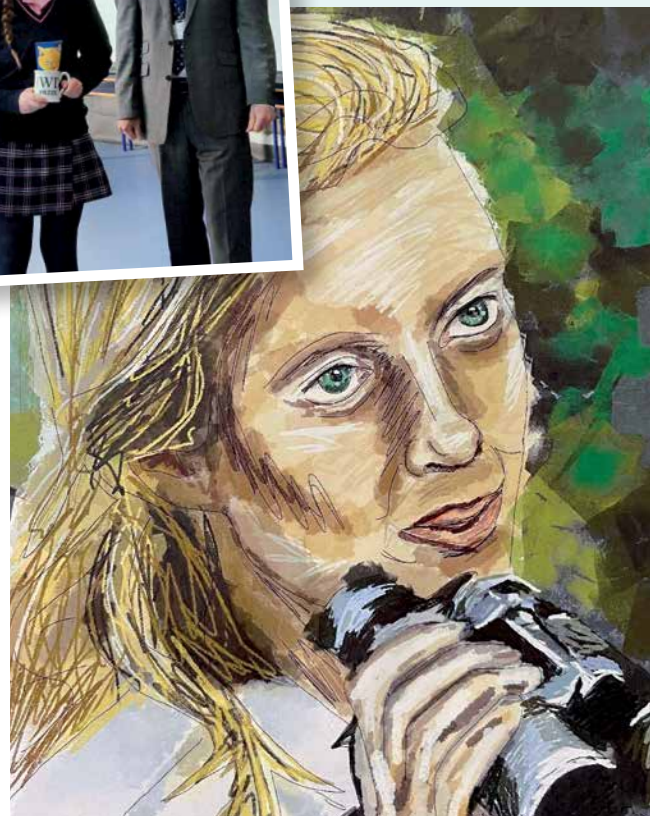
This year's International Women's Day Art Competition theme was inspired by Professor Michele Dougherty becoming the first female Astronomer Royal, encouraging students to celebrate her achievement or highlight another remarkable woman.

We received an incredible range of thoughtful and creative entries.

Congratulations to Charlotte A (Lower 5), who was named the 2026 winner for her powerful artwork honouring pioneering primatologist Jane Goodall.



Winner Charlotte A was presented with her IWD prize by Mr Walker





Art & Design Exhibition Wednesday 17th June

From striking paintings to innovative textile pieces, Westfield's annual GCSE and A-level Art Exhibition celebrated the creativity and technical skill of students working across Fine Art, Graphic Design and Textiles.

Head of Art, Mr Stone said it was the culmination of months of dedication.

"The girls have been working really hard and produced some fantastic stuff," he said. "It's been a pleasure to put the work up."

For Mr Stone, one of the most rewarding aspects of teaching art at Westfield is helping students develop their own creative voice.

"My ambition is for students to love and enjoy what they do, look forward to their lessons, work hard, and produce work they can feel proud of," he said.

"When the final exhibition goes up, you really see everything come together, the clarity of vision each student has becomes visible."

That individuality is evident throughout the exhibition, where each display reflects a unique perspective and creative journey.

Among the featured students is GCSE Textiles student Alex B, whose work explores themes of travel and natural disasters.

Her travel project culminated in texturally rich wall hanging inspired by hot air balloons, sunsets and landscapes, using embroidery and layered fabrics to create depth and movement.

For her second project, Alex chose to explore natural disasters, eventually focusing on forest fires and their relationship to climate change.

Her final piece of a dress scorched by flames pushed both her technical and design skills.

"I made the skirt and then I set it on fire!" she said. "That ended in disaster because I burnt a hole in the mannequin."



Alex B and her final GCSE piece



Alex sewed the charred fabric remnants onto a corset to create a powerful visual representation of destruction and resilience.

Researching forest fires also deepened her understanding of environmental issues, she explained.

"It made me think differently about climate change," she said. "I looked more closely at how it affects the planet and what the actual impacts are."

Mr Stone says this kind of personal engagement is exactly what makes studying art so valuable.

"It feels like students are finding direction within their own lives," he said.

"Their work becomes an honest representation of who they are and what their skills are."

Well done to all this year's GCSE and A Level Art students, a phenomenal display of your effort and dedication.

Junior House

Junior House Head's Reflections

It has been such a busy and exciting time in school, with so many lovely experiences for the children to enjoy, complementing their learning.

One real highlight has been **Bikeability**, where children have been building their confidence and independence on their bikes. It has been wonderful to see them developing such important life skills, as well as supporting one another and picking themselves up after a tumble!

Excitement reigned as we welcomed our **chicks!** Watching them hatch and grow has been a truly special experience for the BrightStart children. It has sparked curiosity, care and responsibility, with many thoughtful questions and lots of gentle cuddles along the way. We've never seen so many older children and staff be so excited to come down to Mrs Pocock's class!

We have also been making the most of our beautiful surroundings, with beach visits and a trip to **Seaton Delaval Hall** providing opportunities for outdoor exploration, teamwork and simply enjoying time together in the fresh air. These moments are so valuable in helping children connect with nature and each other.

It was a joy to welcome families to our BrightStart Summer Show – *There's a Sunflower in My Supper*. The children worked incredibly hard and performed with confidence and enthusiasm – as always bringing a smile to our faces in this 'udderly adorable MOOO-sical!'

It really has been a term full of memorable moments, and we are so proud of how the Junior House children have embraced each opportunity with enthusiasm, kindness and resilience. It is such a privilege to be part of.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support; it makes such a difference to everything we do.

Mr Drake

Bikeability



Hopetown Visit

As part of our History of Transport topic, KS1 visited Hopetown to learn about the important role the Stockton & Darlington Railway played in the history of the railways. We all agreed a highlight of the trip was 'Experiment', an immersive ride that took us time-travelling from 1825 into the future!

Mrs May





Maths in Action

Year 3 and Year 4 pupils took their learning beyond the classroom and into the real world, with a hands-on maths adventure at the local greengrocers!

As part of their KS2 Money topic, each child had to budget £2 to buy a healthy snack, calculate costs, and work out their change; putting their mental maths skills to the test in a real-life context. A brilliant example of learning brought to life!



Beach School

In the Summer Term, our Forest School programme, led by Mrs Nicholson, transforms into the Westfield Beach School.

At St Mary's Lighthouse, Years 1 and 2 studied rock pooling and the effects of the tide. They found a wide range of beach-life from limpets to crabs and anemones - and a lot of seaweed!

Using sand sculptures, Years 3 and 4 got creative at Longsands and learned about the high-tide mark and what might get left behind by the sea.

How lucky are our Junior House students, swapping their classrooms for the stunning Northumberland coastline!

Rearing our Chicks



Seaton Delaval Visit





Nursery Phonics Fun

Nursery have continued to learn about lots of new letters this term and have taken part in some very fun activities to get familiar with their sounds! For example, they had tasty toast in a tent with their teddy bears while learning about the 'T' sound and learned a song about a wiggly worm for the 'W' sound!



Allotment Visit

As part of BrightStart's science enrichment, we visited the allotments in Fenham to learn about growing our food. We were warmly welcomed by the allotment holders and helped to plant all sorts of delicious vegetables. We also heard from Hamid the beekeeper about his fiery-tempered bees, and visited an award-winning plot which has been designed to attract lots of pollinators.



Caterpillars

As part of our 'In the Garden' topic, the EYFS children were given some caterpillars to observe. The children enjoyed watching as the caterpillars grew into 'big fat caterpillars' just like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. It was fascinating to see the caterpillars transform into Chrysalis and then butterflies, which we released into our garden! The children decorated their own butterfly wings to wear and had great fun showing them off in our 'Butterfly Parade' at the end of the week.

Germination

One of our hardest 'Words of the Week' this term was **Germination**, but the children did a fantastic job at remembering this and really enjoyed planting and caring for their own cress seeds, which they took home over the weekend to watch the germination process!



Music

"We've had a vibrant and inspiring term in music, with pupils embracing opportunities like Choral Day and performing in four-part harmony. The Summer Soirée was a wonderful showcase of their dedication and progress, and it was a real pleasure to celebrate our Sixth Formers with some beautiful songs as they move on at Prize Giving."

Miss Masters

Choral Day

All of our Year 5 girls, along with several Senior House pupils, took part in a Choral Day held at Newcastle School for Boys. Joining pupils from a number of Gosforth schools and boys from NSB, the girls performed a range of songs, including Gary Barlow's *Sing*, in four-part harmony. The girls had a wonderful experience and rounded off the day with a fantastic concert for parents.



Summer Soirée What a Night to Remember!



The sun shone on the Camellia Dining Room for the annual Summer Soirée as students from Year 1 right through to Sixth Form showcased the breadth of musical talent at Westfield.

The programme featured an eclectic mix of styles, from Beethoven and Rossini to *Grease*, *Les Misérables*, Adele and Lewis Capaldi.

Student performances featured a range of instruments including the Def drum, piano, violin and the cello. All the impressive vocalists and the school ensembles left the audience with goosebumps.

The evening closed on an emotional high, with a moving finale from the Senior Choir and The Melodics, performing 'Running Up That Hill' and 'Cups', dedicated to our outgoing Upper 5 students.



Drama

KS3 Drama Club Shines on Stage

KS3 Drama Club delivered a superb production of *Ernie's Incredible Illucinations* by Alan Ayckbourn. The fully student led production told the story of a young boy, Ernie, whose vivid imagination causes his daydreams to manifest as real world events, much to the confusion of his parents and doctor. The performance was bursting with creativity, confidence, fun and energy, and a wonderful showcase of our students' talent and dedication.

Special credit goes to Billie and Coco, our Sixth Form directors, whose leadership, vision, and commitment helped bring the production to life. Their guidance and support were instrumental in creating such a polished and entertaining show.

To everyone involved, on stage and behind the scenes, your hard work, teamwork, and enthusiasm were clear for all to see. We are incredibly proud of you all. What a fantastic achievement!

"I am incredibly proud of our Sixth Formers, Billie and Coco, who stepped up to the challenge of directing 'Ernie's Incredible Illucinations'. They did a fantastic job of motivating the cast,

organising rehearsals and directing the whole show. Their enthusiasm and talent was matched only by that of the performers and tech crew who also shone. I hope that some of the cast will be inspired to run Key Stage 3 Drama Club themselves when they reach Lower Sixth. A huge congratulations to everyone involved!"

Mrs Forster



SUMMER SPORTS 2026

Westfield Girls' T1 Rugby Success

Our Year 9 students were delighted to accept the offer to form a team with RGS boys and compete in this year's T1 Rugby Festival in Newcastle.

T1 Rugby is a new, fast-paced non-contact version of the 15-a-side game. The format focuses on skill, teamwork, and movement, creating a safe and inclusive environment for players of all experience levels.

The RGS x Westfield team played against other teams from the area and are now through to the semi-finals, which will take place in Leeds on Friday 3rd July.

Good luck to Laila, Lily, Tallulah, Niamh, Olivia and Maeve, we can't wait to cheer you all on!



Senior House Sports Day

"A brilliant day packed with personal bests and record-breaking participation. Well done to all!"

Miss B

This year's Senior House Sports Day encompassed all that we love about Westfield – inclusivity, spirit, effort, team work and fun!



The body paints were out as our girls donned their house colours to compete in a full day of sporting activities.

We saw tremendous effort and PBs in traditional events such long jump, javelin, hurdles and high jump. Along with lots of laughs in the fun filled tug-of-war, sack race and wheelbarrow race.

The day was rounded off with a whole school water balloon fight and celebratory ice lollies on the lawn. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to this year's winning house Wansbeck.

Junior House Sports Day

From Nursery to Year 6, every child got involved in a wide range of events including running, skipping, hurdles, egg & spoon races, and even a buggy push for our youngest competitors.

It was a brilliant day full of energy, teamwork, and lots of smiles, with families cheering from the sidelines and enjoying well-earned refreshments afterwards. Well done Junior House and well done to Tweed for taking the win!





Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Awards

This year's Bronze DofE participants have had a busy and exciting term. In May, the teams took on a tough practice expedition in the Simonside Hills, showing resilience, teamwork and determination as they climbed the Beacon, crossed the Simonside Ridge and navigated part of St Oswald's Way before setting up their tents to practise their overnight camping skills.

Following school exam week in June, the group completed their two-day qualifying expedition, setting out from Housesteads Roman Fort on a long sweep southwards before camping near Melkridge for a windy, unsettled night at camp. The following day, they headed north, crossing Hadrian's Wall via Caw Gap, before reaching the Pennine Way and returning to Housesteads tired but successful. Their teamwork stood out throughout, and strong navigation skills saw them through.

Now, with the expedition complete, the girls are finishing their Volunteering, Skills and Physical sections to complete their awards. Good luck to you all!

Mr Walker

"On the expedition I not only learned new skills like reading a map, teamwork and setting up for camp, I also learned resilience, perseverance and patience. Even when things got hard as a team, we made sure to resolve them in the end and when the walk got tiring we still pushed and kept going helping each other. Overall, I learned new skills and learned things that would get me through in life."

Amelia I





Mud, Mayhem & Minor Heroics

By Robin R (Upper 3)

This half term, the brave (and slightly unsuspecting) students of Upper 3 and Lower 4 set off for what was billed as an “Adventure Day” at Broomley Grange. What followed was less of a gentle woodland stroll and more of a full-scale test of courage, teamwork... and our ability to hold ourselves up on a rope!

First up, the Tree Climb. Nothing quite says “good morning” like being strapped into a harness and told to scale a tree that suddenly looks much taller than it did from the ground. Some students bounded up with the confidence of seasoned squirrels, while others discovered muscles they didn’t know they had and possibly some they never want to use again. From the top, however, the views were spectacular (once you remembered to unclench your hands from the rope).

Next the Night Line tested our senses in a whole new way. Blindfolded and relying entirely on teamwork and trust, students carefully navigated their way along a rope trail. Some moved cautiously, others charged ahead with misplaced confidence, and a few simply hoped for the best. Communication was key... although it often sounded more like confused shouting than calm guidance.

Then came the Tunnels. If you’ve ever wondered what it feels like to be a human worm navigating the underground world, this was your chance. Crawling, wriggling, and occasionally getting stuck led to a mixture of laughter, determination, and the realisation that maybe that second helping of lunch wasn’t the best idea.



Teamwork on the Assault Course was where true legends were made. Balance beams were wobbled on, ropes were clung to for dear life, and teammates quickly learned the value of phrases like “I’ve got you!” and “Maybe don’t step there!” The level of encouragement was impressive, even if the coordination wasn’t always quite as strong.

And finally, the moment many will never forget, the Rope Swing.

A true test of bravery and grip strength. Some soared gracefully through the air like woodland Tarzans. Others... well, let’s just say the ground (and nearby puddles) had a very close relationship with them by the end. A few particularly dramatic splash landings ensured that certain students returned home *slightly* more waterlogged than when they arrived.

By the end of the day, we were muddy, tired, and possibly questioning our life choices, but also incredibly proud of what we had achieved. New skills were learned, fears were faced, and memories were definitely made, some of which may take a while to live down.

All in all, Broomley Grange delivered an unforgettable day of adventure, laughter, and just a hint of chaos.

Would we do it again?

Absolutely.

Adventure isn’t just something we talk about at Westfield, it’s something we live.

As a proud member of Round Square, our students are part of a global community of over 230 elected schools who are committed to values that go far beyond academic success. From leadership to service, environmentalism to internationalism, these ideals shape everyday life at Westfield and this term, it was all about **Adventure**.

For our Upper 3 and Lower 4 students, that spirit came to life at Broomley Grange, where challenge, teamwork and discovery took centre stage.

Here, Robin R (Upper 3) shares her firsthand account of an unforgettable Adventure Day.



A Term Full of Flavour



It's been a jam-packed term in Food & Nutrition for our Senior House students, bursting with creativity, challenge and seriously impressive skills in the kitchen!

Upper 4 students rose to the **Salmon Challenge**, transforming fresh fish into everything from sushi and salmon en croute, to tacos and even salmon muffins, showcasing confidence, teamwork and flair. Meanwhile, a hands-on **Sushi Masterclass** helped students sharpen their knife skills and master rolling techniques, producing dishes as beautiful as they were delicious.

Our GCSE students took a sweeter route to revision, baking **Viennese**

Whirls while linking every step to their exam knowledge, proving learning really can be hands-on (and tasty!).

And in the **Fusion Burger Challenge**, creativity took centre stage, with bold global flavours inspiring standout creations like the *Mex/Italian Fiesta Burger* and the *Surfin' Sushi Burger*.

From precision skills to imaginative cooking, it's been a term full of flavour, fun and fantastic achievement. Well done to all!



Surfin'
Sushi Burger



Mex/Italian
Fiesta Burger

Ps... Did you spot Westfield on the TV?!

Some of our students took part in Comic Relief's Funny for Money Dough Challenge and our photos made the live show!!!



Westfield in the Sun

**When the sun shines on Westfield,
we don't just admire it, we seize it!**

With temperatures hitting the high 20s this term, we abandoned the classrooms!

Lower 4 French students headed to the lawn to try their hand at Pétanque, embracing this traditional French game while confidently calling out their scores *en français*! A brilliant way to bring language learning to life. *Bravo!*

And in Drama, Lower 4 students indulged in some open-air theatre, exploring 'status' through scenes from *Pygmalion*, *The Queen and I*, and *Blood Brothers*.

Summer learning at its best!



And Finally... It's Farewell for Now!



Upper 5



There was magic in the air as our Upper 5 students marked their final day of school before they headed off on their GCSE study leave. They celebrated this momentous milestone with a special pizza lunch and the much-loved tradition of shirt signing.

You've worked hard, grown enormously, and we know you'll make both yourselves and Westfield proud. Well done Upper 5!

Upper 6

The much-anticipated Upper 6 Leavers' Day was packed with memories, emotion and tradition. The girls painted their signature hexagons, which are now displayed on the exterior walls as a permanent fingerprint of their time at Westfield. They delivered their final emotive assembly to the whole school and closed the day with the traditional 'Staff vs Upper 6' rounders match, in which, this year, the girls emerged victorious.

Some of the girls continued the tradition of wearing their Junior House summer dresses for their final day at school!

To our Upper 6: thank you for the joy, the laughter, the spirit and the legacy you leave behind. As you begin your next chapter, remember that you will always be part of our special Westfield community.

Don't be strangers!



Westfield
SCHOOL



Oakfield Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4HS Tel: 0191 255 3980 www.westfield.newcastle.sch.uk

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