



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



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## Steel Rhyme Visit Longcroft

**Steel Rhyme, the multi-talented groove, melody and song duo, treated pupils studying GCSE Music to a wonderful workshop prior to performing in the East Riding Festival of Words on Friday October 21st.**

Percussionist Gary Hammond, known for his work with the Beautiful South, owns over 1,000 instruments, and pupils got to play several of them as they improvised with him and composer Luke Carver Goss. The duo introduced a plethora of percussion instruments, from all corners of the globe, as well as an



amazing Fanini accordion and range of guitars which pupils experimented with.

Gary and Luke spoke about the importance of musicians listening to each other and respecting each other, how to produce the best sounds, how to accompany vocals to maximise powerful lyrics, and the importance of playing something outside your comfort zone. They also discussed what it was like to be a professional musician and gave tips on following a good career path.

Ms Carvill said, "Listening to our pupils perform was thrilling. Luke and Gary praised their talents, and the ease with which they adapted to unfamiliar instruments, producing some incredible sounds, and performing as soloists as well as an ensemble."



***A huge thank you to East Riding Libraries for supporting this event and Gary and Luke for sharing their expertise and experience. Our pupils were incredibly impressed.***





"I played some bongos and a guitar. There were so many types of instruments, from all over the world."

—El Ponton  
Year 10

"It was interesting to find out how to play different instruments, and fun improvising. Gary and Luke helped me understand how to make new sounds. I really enjoyed the workshop."

—Mary Anderson  
Year 10

## Reward Totals

So far this term our pupils have been awarded the following rewards for acting with Great Heart, Thought and Vision:

Acts of Great

HEART

20,995

THOUGHT

104,980

VISION

85,544

GRAND

TOTAL:

211,519





# Headteacher's Welcome

**First week of a new half term and our young people have settled quickly back in to school and their learning. Our Newsletter captures just some of the fabulous work they have been producing across the curriculum as well as of course the many additional events and activities recently taking place.**

Pupils and students have been full of tales this week about their half term break, and it has been lovely to hear several of them tell me about books they are currently enjoying. Reading plays such an important part in education at any age or stage, and at Longcroft we seek to foster a culture which promotes reading and all of the benefits it brings in our personal and academic development. Books and literature provide endless access to different experiences, ideas, cultures and perspectives that inform and challenge us, and develop our appreciation of the world as well as those we share it with.

Our library is a hub of activity and you will always find news of latest events in our Newsletters. Last week you will have read about our new author in residence, Vicky Foster, who will be working with us at Longcroft this half-term. Vicky is an award-winning writer, performer and poet who has broadcast extensively across the BBC and we are incredibly excited to have her with us. As part of First Story's Flagship Young Writers Programme at Longcroft, there are opportunities for the whole school to get involved with creative writing, including for example through this week's '6-word story' competition which you can read more about later in the Library News article.

As part of Black History Month, we also have the author Sabrina Pace-Humphreys visiting us to talk about her newly published autobiography *Black Sheep - A Story of Rural Racism, Identity and Hope*. This will provide our pupils and students with an insight in to Sabrina's personal experience and journey as a person and as an author, as well as the societal implications of her story and what we can learn from them. An award-winning business owner, public speaker, ultra-marathon runner and social activist, Sabrina has overcome some extraordinary challenges and is a fabulous role model for all of our young people and all in our community.

Please encourage reading at home and talk to your child about the opportunities available for them in school and how they can benefit from getting involved. We have a wide range of texts available for all ages and reading levels so do encourage them to regularly visit our library and explore as many as they can.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter.

**Mr Perry**  
**Headteacher**



## Important Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 9th November**

Friends of Longcroft School AGM  
6.30pm



## LOWER SCHOOL



### Mr Worthington writes:

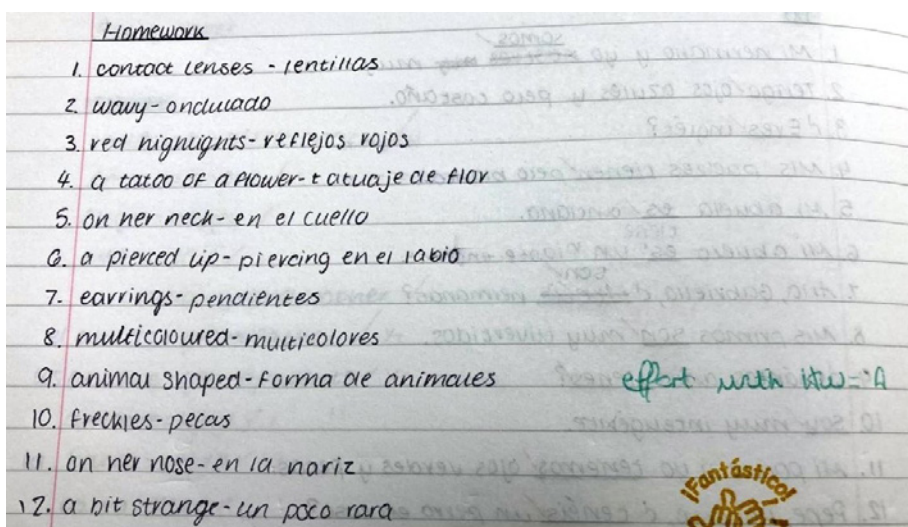
**Thank you for your support with attendance. We make no apologies in continuing to remind you how important attendance is, even more so after the disruption caused by the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.**

We were delighted with the response of our fantastic pupils to the 'Autumn Attendance Challenge'. All pupils who attended every day for the two weeks before half term received a Halloween Bun. I look forward to sharing our Attendance Competition for this next half-term in a future newsletter.

It is always lovely to walk around school and visit lessons where the pupils are engaged in their learning. This week I visited Year 9 Spanish lessons where the pupils were testing their vocabulary skills on each other.

I was impressed with the enthusiasm with which they were tackling their tasks and I hope that when given some choice next year, that most will decide to continue with a language. Simply put, a language will always be important no matter what you do. To universities it will demonstrate a broad education and for many courses it is a pre-requisite, especially those involving a year studying abroad.

It is not just the language itself but what the children learn about different cultures, people and places that are significant. This global perspective and cultural capital are hugely attractive to potential employers, as is the ability to communicate in a foreign language, even at a basic level.







There is much research into the economic benefits of having a second language and it could raise your salary by up to 20%. It really makes you stand out.

This half-term will see our Lower School pupils receiving their first Progress Updates for this academic year.

Progress Updates are a summary of the progress your child is making in each of their subjects.

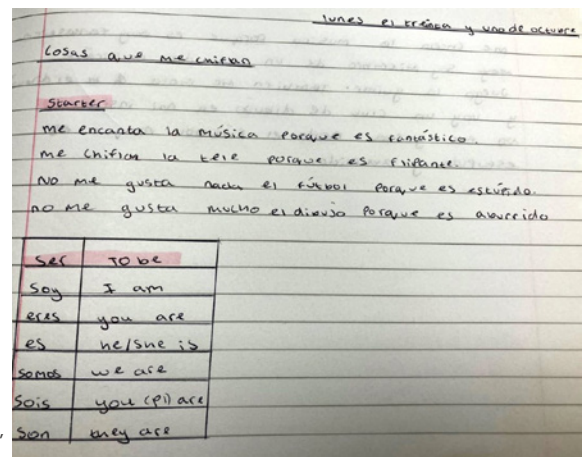
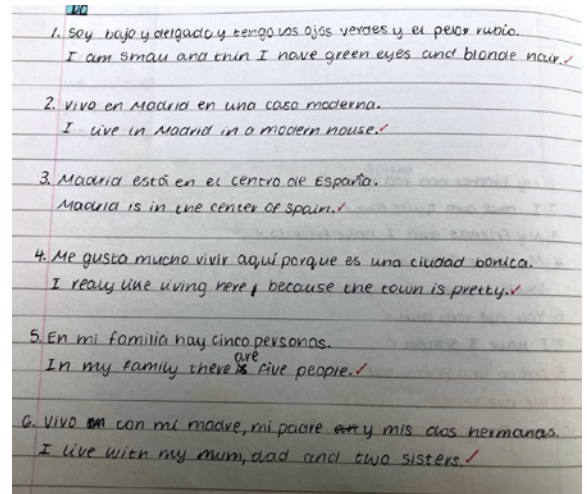
In addition to understanding how much progress they are making; Progress Updates also present our pupils with a summary of their 'Attitude to Learning' in each subject. A pupil's 'Attitude to Learning' score summarises a wide range of attributes, with the highest possible score rated 'Excellent' (A). Attitude to Learning encompasses all those skills and approaches that make accelerated progress possible, such as neat presentation of work, self-motivation, independent learning, participation in lessons, response to teachers' feedback and organisation. These attributes and skills, when employed by pupils regularly and consistently, ultimately lead to better-than-expected levels of progress.

I look forward to reading each pupil's Progress Update and congratulating individuals on their success.

On the Thursday before half-term the Year 7 netball team concluded a fantastic half-term of sport in their first matches together. Mrs Holt said, "What an impressive performance from the Year 7 girls' netball team! In the girls' first competitive games they played as though they'd been playing with each other for years! They came away with a 3-1 win against Woldgate School and a 5-4 win against The Market Weighton School. Not one of them can be singled out, as it was an impressive performance from all 8 players." Mrs Holt particularly enjoyed being very loudly serenaded all the way back to school!

Well done to every pupil in Years 7, 8 and 9 and keep up the great work over the next two months.

**Mr Worthington**  
Head of Lower School



UPPER  
SCHOOL**Mr Henderson writes:**

**With Mocks now only four weeks away, Year 11 pupils have started with a bang on GCSEPod. 2293 PODS have already been watched across a range of subjects. Teachers are helping pupils plan their revision by setting PODS for their subjects each week.**

Progress updates have come out this week which will allow pupils and their families to understand where extra focus is required in preparation for impending mock examinations. This extra focus can be achieved through well planned revision, the use of GCSEPod and making the most of intervention and support opportunities such as Period 6 (see info below). GCSEPods are now being set for additional homework by teachers across the curriculum and the programme includes a Check and Challenge feature where pupils gain diamonds based on how well they achieve on the tests. The results are stored and can help pupils plan which areas to return to in revision.

Our Top Podders to date are Karla, Edward, Danielle and Toby – a massive well done to you all. The top four have all spent more than 5 hours watching Pods.

*"I like using 'Check and Challenge' because it breaks down the revision into manageable chunks."* **Angus – Year 11**

*"For revision to do in the car or when you have a short amount of time, It's brilliant"* **Courtney and Lenny – Year 11**

*"It's just simple to watch a video, and it all goes in. It is really good for science; it explains and recaps in a good way."* **Katy – Year 11**

*"It is really good for giving all the basic information for every topic, so you can't miss any. It is easy to see which videos relate to each topic."* **Edward – Year 11**





## Pupil Time (Hrs.)

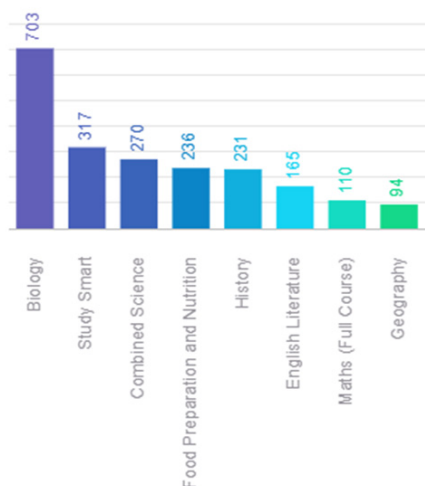
|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| Karla    | 06:30:16 |
| Edward   | 05:28:09 |
| Danielle | 05:22:02 |
| Toby     | 05:14:27 |
| Katy     | 04:25:39 |
| Soleman  | 04:06:48 |

The top pupils for Check and Challenge, scored by Diamonds collected are:

## Pupil Diamonds collected

|        |    |
|--------|----|
| Angus  | 83 |
| Phoebe | 50 |
| Edward | 25 |
| Jack   | 20 |
| Emma   | 17 |

The image below shows the number of PODS watched per subject. Biology is very popular right now. It is also fantastic to see that the Study Smart programme has been watched by so many; this will help pupils focus how they revise, not only with GCSE Pod, but other methods to get ready for their mocks.



Alongside the GSCEPod are the **Period 6 Revision Sessions**.

|          | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   |
|----------|---|--|--|
| Subjects | Maths Foundation<br>Mrs Wilson<br>Room 16<br>3.15-4pm | Food NEA Catch up<br>Ms George<br>A7<br>3.15-4pm | Maths Foundation<br>Mrs Wilson<br>Room 16<br>3.15-4pm  |
|          | Maths Higher<br>Mrs Low<br>Room 18<br>3.15-4pm        | RE<br>Mr Fox<br>C3<br>3.15-4pm                   | Further Maths<br>Mrs Low<br>Room 18<br>3.15-4pm        |
|          |   |  | Geography<br>Miss Brown/ Mr Davies Room C5<br>3.15-4pm |
|          |   |  | History<br>Mr Pearson<br>Room C1<br>3.15-4pm           |

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School







# SIXTH FORM



## Mr Chapman writes:

**Here in the Sixth Form, I believe it is more important than ever to provide students with choices for the future. I have been reviewing our curriculum and I am delighted that since September we have been offering a wider range of courses than ever before, in collaboration with our Woldgate centre.**

It has been the highlight of my week spending time in the Year 11 Canteen having conversations with pupils about their futures and fantastic that so many are choosing The East Yorkshire Sixth Form. I have also been into assemblies to discuss further with pupils how their choices for Post-16 need to be considered carefully to ensure they can access their ambitious futures. Below is a set of questions to consider when looking at course options.

### How to make the right decisions for post-16 qualifications

There are a lot of considerations to take into account when selecting post-16 qualifications and it should be a decision you put careful thought and time into.

### What type of qualification should I choose?

It is important to consider what type of qualification will suit you best. BTEC and Cambridge Technical qualifications are vocational, which means they are more directly linked to specific careers and industries. These qualifications are assessed through coursework which you complete as you learn, with some exams. A level qualifications are more



theoretical and enable an in-depth study of a particular subject. One of the fantastic things about our Sixth Form is that you can study either all A level or all BTEC qualifications, or you can study a combination of BTECs and A levels, giving you enormous flexibility in your choices.



## What subjects should I choose?

The first thing you should think about is whether you have a specific idea of what career or degree you wish to continue onto after the Sixth Form. For certain careers, such as medicine or engineering, there are particular subjects you will need to study to enable you to train in that profession. If you are unsure at this stage what career or degree you want to go onto, which is the case for most of our young people, then we would advise you to select subjects you find most interesting, that you enjoy and are good at, while aiming to keep some breadth in your subject choices to keep your options open longer term. I will be offering regular appointments to Year 11 pupils throughout this year to make sure they receive advice and guidance about their post-16 qualifications.

## What else should I be thinking about?

What else do you want to get out of your time in the Sixth Form during the next two years? Of course you will want to leave with fantastic qualifications, but you will also want to have plenty of other opportunities for development. We offer a huge range of enrichment opportunities, including our incredible expedition abroad which is a life-changing experience for our young people. You will also be given leadership, sporting, enterprise and super-curricular opportunities, such as becoming one of our Sixth Form Ambassadors or competing in the UK Mathematics Trust Challenge. These opportunities are about you growing as an individual, but also giving you the edge as you move on from the Sixth Form to your chosen career or degree.

The Sixth Form Team are available for discussions on courses and futures, and we encourage any prospective students and parents to get in touch. The new Prospectus has been issued and the Sixth Form Taster Day is on the 8th of November.

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form

To book on the Taster Day please use this code:







# SAFEGUARDING



**Mr Rogers writes:**

## Attendance

**At the end of last half term, we celebrated great attendance with spooky Halloween treats. We know just how important attending school is in enabling children to achieve well. Half termly treats help us to raise the importance of attending school regularly.**

We monitor pupils with attendance of 95% or under (equivalent to 10 missed school days over an academic year). 73% of pupils who have attendance over 95% or over achieve 5 or more GCSE's at grades 9–4, so it's vital that children are in school to learn. In addition to individual attendance targets, each of our year groups has an overall attendance target.

It can be tricky deciding whether to keep your child off school when they're unwell. At the end of this article we have some useful tips on how to assess whether your child is too unwell to be in school; please have a read and ensure that your child is in school whenever they are well enough to be. If your child becomes unwell at school the school will send your child home. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school each morning. Let us know that they won't be in and tell us the reason. There are two registration sessions in a school day so if you can, send them in later in the day if your child appears to improve. Every session counts!

### Is my child 'too ill' for school?

There are clear government guidelines for schools that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

The guidance on the next page is taken from the NHS website and includes information on common childhood illnesses where school is missed when it needn't be. It is vital to follow this, as school will unauthorise your child's absence if they feel they are well enough to be in school (this could lead to consequences for parents/ carers, which we would like to avoid!):



## Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

## Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a fever, they should stay at home until it goes away.

## Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly

## Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You should treat your child and send them into school.

**Thank you for your support in helping to raise attendance, if you need support or advice relating to your child's attendance, please contact your child's Care and Achievement Co-ordinator or our Attendance Officer Miss Carter.**

**Mr Rogers**

**Deputy Headteacher**

**Head of Care and Achievement**







## TEACHING &amp; LEARNING



## Mr Taylor writes:

Continuing our look at the Longcroft Learning Cycle, this week we look at the Prove phase – the last phase of the cycle.

Pupils in this phase have the opportunity to prove their learning. Write up an experiment, do independent problems or writing, take part in a speaking test, perform or present ideas to the class or another group, create a PowerPoint presentation or display, complete a piece of assessment work. The activity could be self, peer or teacher assessed. It is where we ensure pupils can **PROVE** that they have achieved the objectives of the lesson.

Opportunities for all pupils to demonstrate what they have learnt and achieved are present in a prove it task which demonstrates a high level of challenge.

Support is offered and used effectively through a range of resources.

Feedback is provided (teacher, self and peer assessment) enabling pupils to understand their strengths and weaknesses in achieving the purpose of learning.

**Mr Taylor**  
Head of Teaching and Practitioner Development

*Summarise the most complex of Shakespeare's archetypal villains:*

## Prove

- *In no more than 10 lines, write a summary of the character of Iago, using the following terms:*
- Machiavellian
- Archetype
- Hubris
- Hamartia
- Peripeteia.



## Infradian Rhythms

Tuesday, 01 November 2022

## PROVE

## FIND THE MISTAKES

Dement and Kleitman carried out research into sleep. They woke participants at the same time at night and asked them what they had been dreaming about. Sleep was measured using an ERP.

A second piece of research was that of Russell et al (1993). This involved three groups of women living separately. Blood taken from one group of women and applied to the lips of members of the other group. Regardless of living together, menstrual cycles synchronised with that of their 'blood donor'.

A third piece of research Penton-Voak et al (1999). It was found that menstrual cycle can influence mate choice. It was found that different faces were seen as attractive at different stages of the sleep cycle. When asked to select a face for a short term relationship, women tended to pick slightly masculine males faces. However, when the ovulation phase started, women tended to find feminised faces less attractive.



## IN FOCUS

**Ms George's pupils always enjoy their Food lessons and the subject is a popular GCSE option for our Upper School pupils.**

In Lower School pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 all spend time developing their knowledge and skills and complete a range of practical tasks. This week pupils in Year 8 were asked to demonstrate safe and hygienic practical skills to produce a quality dish and they were certainly up for the challenge! Ms George asked pupils, 'What makes a mean Chow Mein?' The most challenging task was to use at least three evenly cut vegetables and to ensure the dish was well-seasoned. Pupils needed to be able to test for 'readiness' and to work with little or no help from their teacher.

Mr Baker said, "The first thing I noticed was the smell, which drew me into the room. It was amazing! Pupils were working really hard – totally focused on their work. They had to identify the appropriate equipment and carry out practical tasks safely and hygienically. After completing their practical work, pupils evaluate the success of their dish through self and peer assessment, explaining how they achieved a good flavour and contributed to 'Five-a-day'."

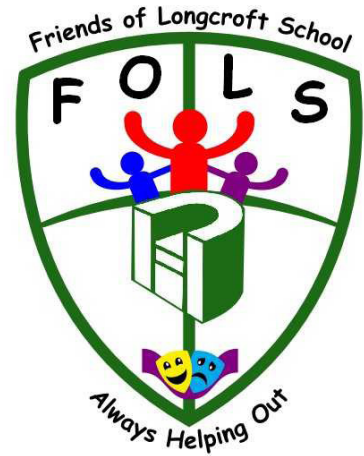
Mr Baker added, "The pupils should be very proud of their dishes. There were some very fortunate families who ate well that evening!"







# The Friends' Corner



## FOLS AGM — Next Wednesday

[fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net)

Charity Reg No. 515674

We will be holding this year's AGM on **Wednesday 9th November at 6.30pm**. Please join us at Longcroft School, for light refreshments and a run down of what we have been doing during the last 12 months.

We would like to invite all parents, grandparents, and carers, to join us and see what we do, even if you don't have the time to commit to help us, we would value your contribution at the AGM. If you would like to come along, please contact us on [fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net) and pop down. We hope to see you there!

## Don't miss the FOLS BIG Christmas Cash Draw

Anyone who is in the Cash Draw at the start of December will be entered into the Christmas draw, with the 1st prize of **£175**, 2nd prize of **£50** and 3rd prize of **£25**! So, at a cost of £12 per year, why not join and get the chance of winning one of these cash prizes?

Cash Draw numbers can be purchased through the School Parentpay app, or can be purchased direct from FOLS so you don't even need to be a parent! Members of staff, grandparents and our extended community can also join – just contact us at [fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net) for further information on how to pay.



In the build up to Christmas don't forget any purchases that you make can raise funds for FOLS. Use Amazon Smile or Easyfundraising when buying your festive gifts.

Be part of something bigger

**£16.9 million**  
donated to charity

Supporting your favourite charity is easy



**Choose your favourite charity**  
Thousands of local and national charitable organisations.



**Shop at [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)**  
Same products, same prices, same services as the Amazon you know.



**Amazon donates to your chosen charity**  
Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.



## Memory Lane

This week we feature Mr Smith's Year 9 tutor group, 9L, from 1999/2000.



### **Back row:**

G Holwell; R Northen;  
J Pardy; A Birt; M  
Whitehead; T Christie.

### **Middle row:**

Mr Smith; P Savage;  
L Medlin; S Vaughan;  
R Calvert; A Haworth;  
C Willoughby; T Edwards.

### **Front row:**

M Mudd; K Duroe; C Hoyle;  
K Rutt; E Herbert;  
V Martin; A Todd.



Follow us on Twitter to  
see more pictures from  
Memory Lane  
[@SchoolLongcroft](https://twitter.com/SchoolLongcroft)



Find us on Facebook  
Longcroft School &  
Sixth Form College





# Harry Demonstrates Practical Skills

**Year 10 pupil Harry Dawson is complementing his studies at Longcroft with a course in Construction at East Riding College, Beverley. Before half-term Harry completed his latest stretcher bond wall and passed his assessment.**

Harry's tutor Mr Hara said, "I am very proud of Harry's performance at this early stage of his bricklaying course. He has set out and constructed this wall to the standard he is working at including the achievement of gauge, level, face plane, plumb and setting out to industry standards. He has great manners and good attitude to all his work."

Mrs Fleming said, "I am very proud of Harry's achievement. He works hard and it is a pleasure to see the progress he is making."

Mr Baker said, "Harry has come a long way since he started at Longcroft in Year 7 and it is always a pleasure to discuss his work and hobbies with him. His wall looks amazing and I am delighted to see him doing so well."





## Footballers Enjoy Representing Longcroft

**Mrs Henderson has had a good turnout at girls' football training on Wednesdays.**

The girls played their first match before half term and put up a good effort against The Market Weighton School. Mrs Henderson said, "The girls are still learning to play as a team and time will gel those individual skills. We had two teams represent Longcroft on the evening - all the players enjoyed the matches and represented Longcroft in a positive manner."

Mrs Henderson added, "Well done to all who took part and thank you to our volunteer referees who are invaluable."

***Girls' football training takes place on Wednesdays after school— all are welcome!***







## LIBRARY NEWS

### The Six Word Story Competition 2022

Our First Story writing programme starts with an invitation to pupils and Sixth Form students across the school to write their very own six-word story. Writing a compelling story in just a few words is an exciting challenge. You need to think out of the box.

#### Examples

*For Sale: baby shoes, never worn.* – Ernest Hemingway

*Found true love. Married someone else.* – David Eggers

*To be, or not to be?* – William Shakespeare

*Lovely spring weather. Bubonic plague raging.* – Evelyn Waugh

*Alexa, where have my parents gone?* – Lucy-Jo Dalby

#### Tips

- Have a structure
- Be original
- Draw the reader in
- Choose your words carefully
- Take inspiration from your own life
- Edit

Please submit your entry to your English teacher or Ms Carvill or Mrs Clarke in the Library no later than Thursday 8th December. In-house prizes will be awarded, and the winning stories will enter the national competition.



## Care and Achievement Co-ordinators

Our Care and Achievement Co-ordinators work with specific year groups to ensure the welfare and progress of pupils and are the first point of contact for parents.

They support children to achieve academically by establishing a positive learning environment, visiting and working in lessons and supervising and supporting individuals and groups of pupils.

Our team, and their work mobile phone number which parents can use to contact them, are pictured below.



**Year 7**

**Mrs Brady**

**07342 342858**

[kay.brady@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:kay.brady@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Years 8 and 9**

**Mrs Newsam**

**07827 587483**

[zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Years 10 and 11**

**Mrs Ellis**

**07900 394085**

[annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net)