



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



*Merry Christmas*

& HAPPY NEW YEAR



A CELEBRATION OF OUR PUPILS'  
AND SIXTH FORM STUDENTS'  
ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT DURING 2022.

WITH BEST WISHES FOR  
CHRISTMAS AND  
THE NEW YEAR.



# Headteacher's Welcome



**This final edition of our newsletter for 2022 looks back at some of the opportunities and experiences our community have enjoyed over the Autumn Term. As we pause to reflect on these articles and images, we recognise how wonderfully they represent our values and principles at Longcroft.**

Each and every day we bear witness in our school to acts of Great Heart. We seek to celebrate and recognise the power of the 'little things'; the interactions, smiles, acts of support, care and kindness that can resonate and have an impact far greater than we could often imagine. It is paramount to us that every young person in our school is known, feels welcome and valued; and that as a community we create an environment and a culture that lives Great Heart in to being so that our school is an enjoyable and safe place to learn. Acts of charity are one way that this culture manifests itself and over the course of this term we have seen individual and collective action from across our school. From staff representation at national events such as the Great North Run, to the work of our Year 9 pupils for Children in Need and our advent appeal for families in crisis through the East Riding Food Bank, we are incredibly proud of our community in stepping up again and again to actively demonstrate their kindness and compassion.

There has been lots of activity this term designed to support preparation for life beyond school and the feedback on some of our new initiatives has been very positive. Our Sixth Form trip to the National Apprenticeship Show developed our students' understanding of what that particular route can offer and how at 18 there are very different opportunities to explore. Our careers events have been well received and the many contributors from across the region and beyond were effusive in their praise of our young people. Visiting authors have added a richness to our exploration of society and the challenges it can bring. It was a privilege to see the empathy and the interest shown by our young people in observing the stories of others, recognising the importance of having a sense of self and place in the world and showing Great Vision.

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It has been a hugely busy term in many ways, including with trips and visits. Some highlights included in the newsletter are Theatre experiences and our amazing Brilliant Club University visit. Participation in our sports and performing arts clubs, events and competitions continues to grow following the challenges of recent years, and we are keen to keep that trajectory in to the New Year. We are very proud of all those who performed in The Talent Show which simply blew us all away, and all of those who have achieved success with our sports teams this term and represented the school so well.



We would like all of our community to rest well this Christmas. After a busy term it is important to reset, recharge and return in the new year ready for learning and all of the opportunities that the Spring Term will bring. From all of us here at Longcroft, we wish you a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year. Enjoy the Newsletter and we'll see you in January!

**Mr Perry**  
Headteacher

## 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**

**36,759**

**THOUGHT**

**157,854**

**VISION**

**157,826**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**372,439**





# September

We began the Autumn Term having enjoyed Year 11 and Year 13's Results Days and celebrating Longcroft's best ever examination results. Mrs Barry and Mrs Brady welcomed our new Year 7 pupils to Longcroft while Head of Sixth Form Mr Chapman was delighted to see so many students choose to continue their studies in The East Yorkshire Sixth Form.



An important aspect of our work to support pupils' reading for pleasure, Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13-year-olds.

We were one again grateful to our amazing Friends of Longcroft School (FOLS) who make funds available every year for the Bookbuzz reading programme. The programme from Booktrust sees all our Year 7 pupils choose a free book from a list of 17 titles, each carefully selected by a panel of experts to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure.



We were proud to celebrate Care and Achievement Co-ordinator Mrs Newsam's wonderful achievement of finishing in 12,740th place in the Great North Run in an impressive time of 2:03:52.

The achievement was made all the more special as Mrs Newsam raised a fantastic £540 for Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (EDS).







## October

**We congratulated Year 8 pupil Lily Logan on being shortlisted as a finalist in the RSPCA Young Photographer Competition. In January we look forward to reporting on the results of this prestigious competition!**

We were delighted to celebrate Year 10 pupil Liam Roberts' success as he passed Trinity College London's Rock and Pop Drums examination at Grade 5 with Distinction.

Our Macmillan Coffee Morning, organised by Mrs Foster, raised over £150 for this fantastic charity.



We were proud to invite pupils in Years 10 and 11 and Sixth Form students along with their families to our second Careers Fair while our East Yorkshire Sixth Form students visited the National Apprenticeship Show in Harrogate where they discovered more about Apprenticeships across the region.







We were delighted to announce that award-winning writer, performer and poet Vicky Foster will be our new First Story Writer-in-Residence. First Story's Flagship Young Writers Programme provides weekly creative writing workshops for a core cohort, with opportunities for the whole school to expand their creative writing and we are grateful to FOLS who provide the funding to support this fantastic opportunity.



A visit from multi-talented groove, melody and song duo Steel Rhyme prior to their performance at the East Riding Festival of Words was a wonderful way to end the half-term. Gary Hammond, known for his work with the Beautiful South, and composer Luke Carver Goss introduced a plethora of percussion instruments from all corners of the globe and certainly impressed our GCSE Musicians.







## November

**Award-winning drama group The Riot Act performed for our Year 7 pupils in their assembly. Their energetic, entertaining and powerful performance covered topics including keeping each other safe, peer pressure and peer influencing.**

Year 11 pupils attended the Hull Truck Theatre for a special performance of John Godber's play Shakers.



Over 100 prospective students from Year 11 enjoyed a taste of life as a Sixth Form student at Longcroft. Students enjoyed our fantastic facilities and refreshments during break and lunchtime and spent their day with teachers of a range of subjects we offer in our Sixth Form.



Author Sabrina Pace-Humphreys visited our Library and provided an insight into her life, put into words in her autobiography 'Black Sheep – A Story of Rural Racism, Identity and Hope'. Her visit proved both memorable and inspiring.

Year 10 pupil Laura Campbell enjoyed success when she travelled to Blackpool to represent the North East in the International Dance Teachers' Association Nationwide Finals.

Year 9 pupils Annie, Rachel and Gracie-Mae raised £70 for Children in Need.







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Year 10 pupil Lewis Cunningham became the Daiwa Open Beach Championship (Sea Fishing) Junior Champion with a winning cod.

A group of Year 9 pupils embarked upon the Scholars Programme. A visit to Leeds University was followed by a series of tutorials working in school with a PHD tutor on the programme which is designed to introduce them to university-style teaching, and to stretch and challenge them academically.

We celebrated our Sixth Form students' success in the Senior UK Mathematics Trust Challenge.







## December

**Over 100 Year 11 pupils and Sixth Form students visited Hull Truck Theatre where they enjoyed an adaptation of Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'.**

We were delighted to contribute to the annual Beverley Minster Christmas Tree Festival – our pupils, Sixth Form students and staff from Design Technology and Art made a variety of beautiful decorations.

We teamed up with the East Yorkshire Foodbank to donate food parcels. Each form worked together to collect a full box of items including foods and toiletries as we supported this invaluable project which strives to prevent hunger in our local area.



Well done to our fabulous writers who entered the 6-Word Story Competition 2022. We had a record number of entries this year, over 200, making judging incredibly challenging. Our wonderful First Story writer in residence Vicky Foster was delighted by the amazing response and selected her top 6 stories, which she described as 'really strong – interesting images, metaphors, wordplay, and twists. They're all brilliant.'







# Talent Show Encapsulates the Longcroft Standard

**Longcroft's Talent Show was a wonderful celebration of our pupils' and Sixth Form students' expertise across the performing arts.**

Compered by Sixth Form students Caleb and Josh, an array of bands, dancers, singers and dramatists entertained an appreciative, enthusiastic capacity audience.

Ameerah-Grace said, "I loved being together, watching everyone else's performances and cheering them on."



Patrick said, "I enjoyed all of it. I thought everyone performed well." Sam added, "It was a great evening. Everyone enjoyed it and it gave us an opportunity to watch and support each other."

The judges were former students and exceptional performing artists in their own right Joanna Patmore and Joel Walker. Joanna, who left Longcroft in 2015 with A Levels in English Literature, Law, Music and Theatre Studies, is a graduate of Bristol Old Vic Theatre School with extensive experience as a performer including Northern Broadsides' UK tour of Shakespeare's 'As You Like It'. Joel earned A\* grades at A Level in both Music and Theatre Studies and is now studying a joint degree in these subjects at the University of Glasgow.







Josh, who jointly compered the evening, said: "It was a fantastic show. Everyone rehearsed regularly and put 100% effort into it. I enjoyed watching everyone put in great performances in front of their friends and families."

The judges complemented all 16 acts on their wonderful performances, and chose band 'Rose's Female Dogs' who performed Arctic Monkeys' debut single 'I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor' as the evening's winners.

**Congratulations to our performing arts team led by Mrs Harris, and everyone involved in an unforgettable evening.**







# Sporting Success

The Autumn Term has seen our PE Department organise an extensive range of sporting fixtures for all year groups across a wide variety of sports, and our teams have continued to represent Longcroft with pride.

Our Year 11 rugby team, made up of both experienced players and many who are new to the game, have impressed in their fixtures and enjoyed a hard-fought draw against local rivals Beverley Grammar School. Our Lower School rugby players took on Withernsea High School and certainly look to have the ability to continue the success enjoyed by older year groups in recent times.



Our netball teams have enjoyed great success with a number of impressive victories against opposition from across the East Riding including The Market Weighton School, Woldgate and Goole. Boys' and Girls' Football teams have enjoyed tournaments and fixtures with strong performances and some notable victories.







Our cross-country runners travelled to Cottingham High School to compete in the East Riding Schools' Championships while our Lower School badminton team were successful in the first round of the East Riding Schools' tournament held at Longcroft.

In addition to those who have played, our fantastic Longcroft Leaders have played a variety of key roles, organising, coaching and officiating at a range of events involving pupils from local primary schools and their peers.

Well done to everyone involved!







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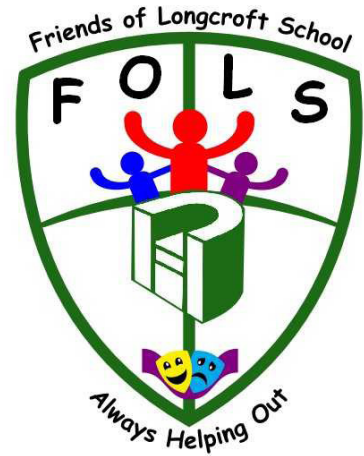
# NEWS LETTER







# The Friends' Corner



## Cash Draw Winners

We have now drawn the winners for the final months of the year, including the BIG Christmas Cash Draw, Congratulations to them all!

Our winner for the November draw is the parent of Belinda Brown who wins £15

Our Big Christmas Cash Draw winners for December are:

- 3rd Prize – Dawn McKie who wins £25
- 2nd Prize – Anna Matta who wins £50
- 1st Prize – Anna Sutcliffe who wins £175

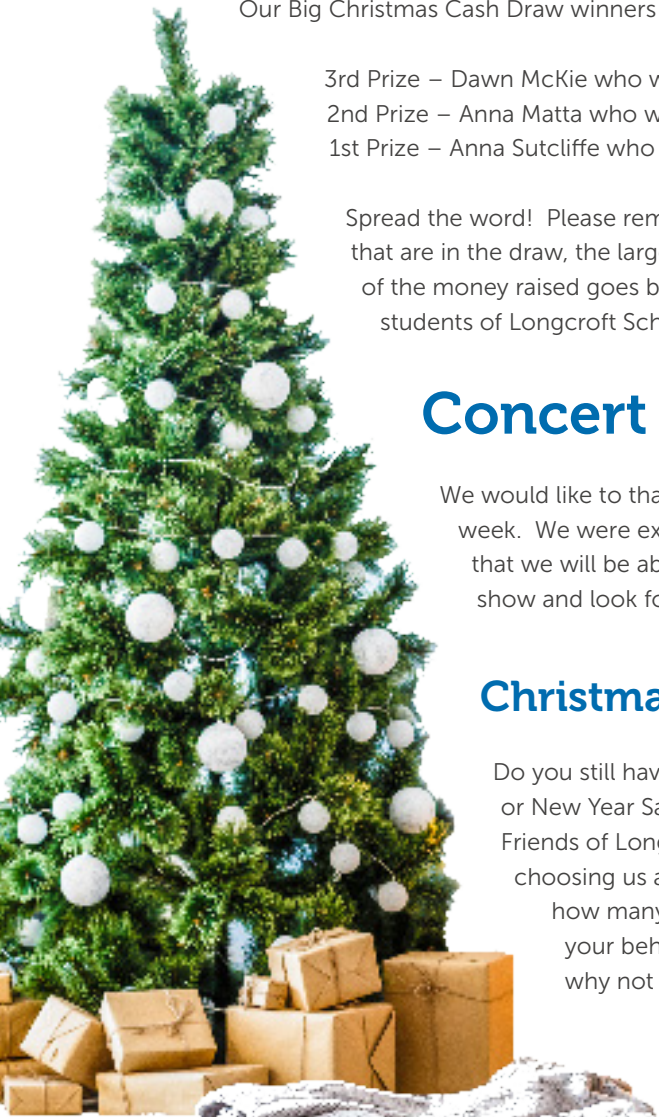
Spread the word! Please remember to continue to support us into the new year, as the more people that are in the draw, the larger the monthly prize fund will be. Remember that the remaining 50% of the money raised goes back into our fund to provide items and services that directly benefit the students of Longcroft School.

## Concert Refreshments

We would like to thank everyone who visited our refreshments stall at the Talent Show last week. We were excited to trial the use of our new card machine, and can now announce that we will be able to take card payments at future events. We hope you enjoyed the show and look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

## Christmas Shopping and Boxing Day Bargains!

Do you still have some presents to buy? Or plan on making a purchase in the Boxing Day or New Year Sales? Don't forget that if you are buying online that you can support the Friends of Longcroft School by using the Amazon Smile or Easyfundraising apps and choosing us as your selected charity. Once you have started to use them you will see how many retailers, travel companies, and even insurance companies, donate on your behalf, without costing you a penny. If you are spending the money anyway, why not make it count?







# LIBRARY NEWS

**Ms Carvill writes:**

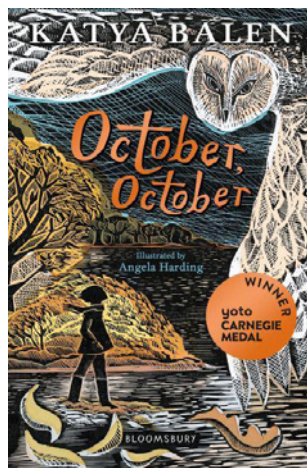
**2022 has been an incredible year for children's literature. Unsurprisingly, some amazing books have been published, including many future classics.**

In the library we've been fortunate to purchase a range of titles: books to enthuse our pupils and students in their reading development, support their wider learning, and utilise in our intervention programmes. Among them, the Winner of the 2022 Yoto Carnegie Medal, *October, October* by Katya Balen, which Year 8 pupils have listened to in their form groups with much enjoyment.

Pupils having reading intervention to develop their skills and confidence have also appreciated some new titles. *Tragedy at Sea* by David Long, and *The House of Clouds* by Lisa Thompson, both printed in dyslexia friendly formats, are exceptional quick reads.

In the publishing industry, graphic novels have proved immensely popular in 2022, and manga and children's comics have frequently topped bestseller lists. Alice Oseman's *Heartstopper* series of books, adapted by Netflix, received a huge boost in sales because of the media giant's production. Longcroft pupils have been queuing up to loan them.

The Christmas holidays are a fabulous time to sit back and relax with a good book. Do encourage your children to make time to read. It's so beneficial. Below are some prize-winning books from 2022, all highly recommended.



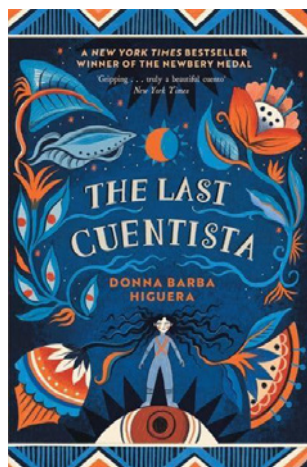
## Winner of the 2022 Yoto Carnegie Medal

***October, October* by Katya Balen, Angela Harding (illustrator)**

*October* is a girl with an incredible imagination. She lives off-grid with her dad in ancient woods. Her alternative lifestyle fuels her passion for found objects and she delights in weaving stories around them. Her world appears idyllic until on her eleventh birthday everything is turned upside down and she is forced to move to London. Will family relationships heal?

A lyrical novel which celebrates the beauty and power of nature. Superb.



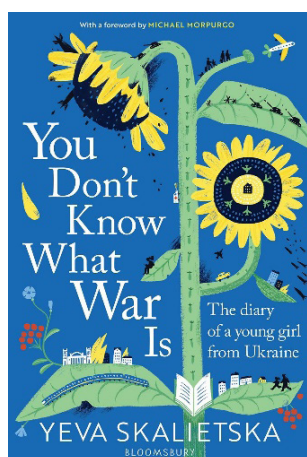


## Winner of the 2022 Newberry Medal

### The Last Cuentista by Donna Barbra Higuera

This dystopian novel tells the story of Petra Peña. Along with her family and a few hundred other people, Petra leaves Earth after a comet strikes the planet. Their mission is to continue the human race on a new planet, but as she awakens to her new world Petra discovers she is the only person with any memory of Earth. How will she keep their shared history alive?

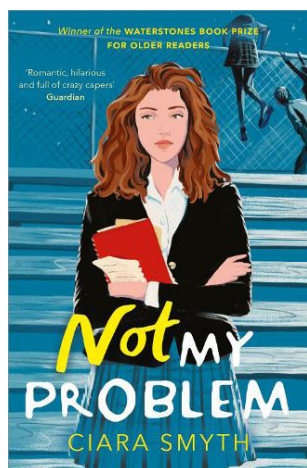
This impressive novel blends science fiction with Mexican folklore and speaks of the importance of storytelling. An excellent read.



## The Sunday Times Book of the Year

### You Don't Know What War Is: The Diary of a Young Girl from Ukraine by Yeva Skalietska

When 12-year-old Yeva woke up to the sounds of explosions in her hometown, Kharkiv, her world changed. Her diary records hour-by-hour what is happening as she and her grandmother flee Kharkiv and travel to Dublin. A moving account of the impact of war on a child. It's eloquent and unforgettable. A children's book for adults too!



## Waterstones Best Book for Older Readers Winner 2022

### Not My Problem by Ciara Smyth

This coming-of-age novel is awash with memorable teen characters. Aideen is the school 'fixer' but she certainly has a few problems of her own! Loneliness, unexpected love, friendship, and alcoholism are among the themes. There are some very funny moments and a wealth of witty one liners.

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

—How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss





## Looking ahead to 2023!

Applications for The East Yorkshire Sixth Form open today!

Follow this link to the application form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/dFA0w9WAjL>



LONGCROFT  
THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM

A place to  
**ENJOY  
LEARNING**







# *Ready for Christmas!*

WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED LOOKING BACK AT SOME OF THE  
MANY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUTUMN TERM.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH OUR  
COMMUNITY FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO A YEAR THAT WE CAN  
REFLECT ON WITH PRIDE.

WE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE, HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR  
AND LOOK FORWARD TO A WONDERFUL 2023!