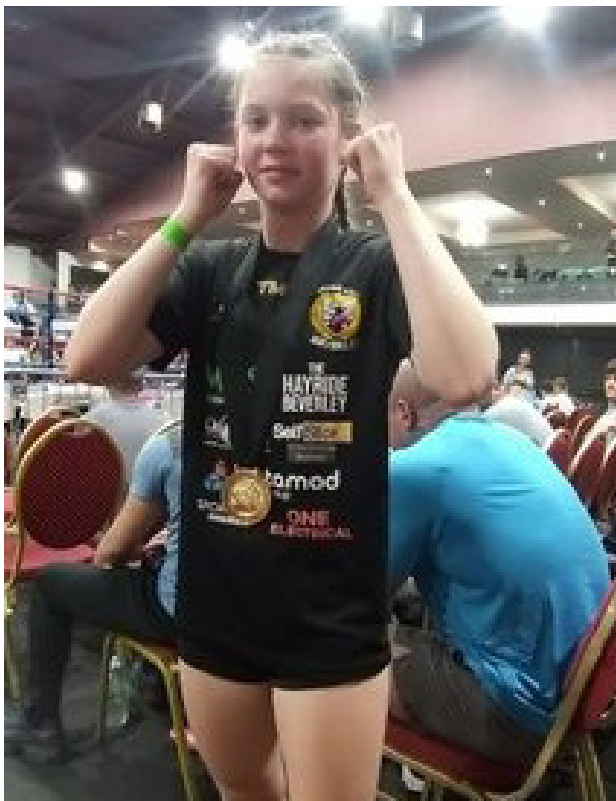




# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



**Year 8 pupil Luci Stewart is celebrating a gold medal winning performance at the prestigious Angel of the North Box Cup.**

Luci, a member of Beverley's Track Fitness and Boxing Club, said: "I've boxed in York and Bradford as well as at our shows in Beverley, and once we went to Glasgow."

She travelled to the North East's Rainton Arena to take on an Irish opponent over 3 x 90 second rounds. Luci explained, "I'd never seen the girl before. She was from Ireland, so she'd travelled a long way."

Luci said, "I won every round – it was a unanimous decision." She added, "There were loads of people there, and three different boxing rings. There were so many people! It was very busy."

## Luci's Golden Performance!

*"It felt amazing – I was so happy!"*

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Luci said, "I've been training loads and I've got better from training all the time. My fitness has got really good."

When asked about her victory, Luci explained: "It felt amazing – it was so good. I was so happy! When I was training I was nervous and winning it was amazing."

Looking to the future, Luci said: "I'll carry on doing my bouts and I'll probably do another Box Cup bout again. I'm not sure when I'm fighting next, but hopefully it will be soon!"

Mr Baker said, "The coaches at Track Fitness and Boxing Club do a fantastic job. They give young people a positive, constructive way to spend their time and develop their characters as well as their fitness and boxing skills. Luci's progress is remarkable. I remember speaking to her about her first bouts and her tremendous improvement is down to both her commitment and the dedication of her coaches."

He added, "All the boxers give great credit to their coaches – they can't speak highly enough of them and I'm proud that Jordan and Jolly are former Longcroft pupils who are doing so much for the community."

Luci was joined on the bill by former Longcroft pupil Tallulah Pulling, who also fought in Ring B. Tallulah, who is a great role model and inspiration for Luci, enjoyed a victory over her Billingham-based opponent to take gold in the Youth Female Final.

We look forward to following Luci's progress, along with the increasing number of current and former pupils who enjoy their boxing at Track Fitness and Boxing Club!



## 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**

**85,463**

**THOUGHT**

**378,405**

**VISION**

**326,659**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**790,527**



# Headteacher's Welcome

**The weather has provided a wonderful backdrop this week as we look ahead together to an event filled and exciting final half term of the year. There are many activities, visits and experiences planned, as well as various projects in each Year group for everyone to get involved with.**

Talking to our children about what they are most looking forward to, I have received many and varied responses. Some have recalled annual events such as our Sports Day or Performing Arts Evening, for others it's a specific trip such as our Paris or London residentials that they are most excited about. There is also plentiful anticipation for the end of year celebration to Flamingo Land from pupils and staff alike.

Several of those I have spoken with are preparing for one of our Duke of Edinburgh expeditions over the coming weeks; an important final step in completing their D of E Awards and we are incredibly proud of this year's cohorts and what they have achieved through the programme. These experiences all form part of the wider commitment to a holistic education at Longcroft and play a key role in the personal development of our young people. I look forward to sharing more on a similar theme through our Newsletters throughout this half term.

We have welcomed a number of external visitors to school again this week and it has given me great pride for others to see our pupils and students in action, demonstrating the value they place on their education and the way they live out our school values through their daily interactions. Scott Taylor, Hull FC prop and one of the most decorated players in the region's history was one of those who spent time in school alongside another former pupil Lewis Scott. You can read more in the featured article on page 21 but it was wonderful to hear both of them sharing their experience of Longcroft and the role it has played in their careers and lives. We wish Scott and the team the very best in this week's Challenge Cup fixture.

Last week, over 400 primary school children and 40 staff joined us at Longcroft to be a part of our community Sports / STEM day supported by the School Sports Partnership. Seeing all of the children spread across our playing fields enjoying a huge range of activities and games was phenomenal. Speaking to those involved, experiencing our specialist and state of the art teaching facilities was a highlight for many and the children's contributions throughout the various challenges and tasks were hugely impressive.

I do hope you enjoy this week's Newsletter and all that it celebrates about our young people.

**Mr D Perry**  
**Headteacher**



# LOWER SCHOOL



**Mr Worthington writes:**

Reflecting on art, it truly is something that surrounds us as humans. Art makes a significant contribution to our society through human innovation, imagination, and thought. A high-quality curriculum in art, craft and design, enables pupils to develop love of a subject that is both intellectually challenging and creatively demanding. Studying Art also helps to develop critical thinking and the ability to interpret the world around us. In my own spare time, I do like to visit galleries. Art helps you to imagine possibilities, to learn about history and explore different cultures and countries.



One of my favourite areas to visit in Longcroft School is the Art Department. It is awash with colour and creativity, and our teachers really do harness the best in our children's skills and imagination. Our Year 8 children are currently working on a project based on the works of the artist Andreas Preis. Preis is a German designer, illustrator & artist, born in 1984. As part of their project, the children have completed research on his work as well as developing their own skills on colour and tone.

Work featured is by Year 8 pupils including Lana Sheikh Debes, Poppy Cooper and Sam Al-Budri. It genuinely was a joy to watch the pupils working in their lesson.

## Amazing Art







## Tournament Success for AFC Tickton!

Congratulations to Year 9 pupils Lenny and George who played for AFC Tickton in the South Cave tournament last weekend. Their team finished the tournament as champions!

## Rewards Trip

We're excited to be in the position to reward our children in Lower School through our Flamingo Land trip at the end of term. From children that joined us as Year 7 in September to our older pupils spending their final weeks as Lower School children in Year 9, there really has been a buzz about the trip out to the North Yorkshire theme park and zoo. I'm looking forward to sharing photographs from the day with you in a future newsletter. The trip will be taking place on Monday 17th July, and additional information will be provided in due course.



**Mr Worthington**  
Head of Lower School



***Congratulations to our Lower School pupils on the number of ClassCharts rewards they are receiving each week. The pupils who earned the most rewards last week are listed below.***



## Year 7

Lily Curtis  
Kiara De Kock  
Lydia Chapman  
Liam Booth  
Lillie Wheeler  
Alex Matta  
Sienna Holmes  
Holly Ruston  
Sophia Brown  
Izzy Barwick

## Year 8

Luci Stewart  
Sam Al-Budri  
Ava Bryce  
Ben Carlyle-Smith  
Levi Petherbridge  
Lewis Pemberton  
Lexie Burke  
Kelsey Leskiewicz  
Ellie Mulvana  
Logan Munns

## Year 9

Gemma Schravessande  
Callum Tuke  
Charlotte Skilbeck  
Connie Baldwin  
Grace Crook  
Harry Richardson  
Freya Kelly  
Grace Murden  
Mathilda Smith  
Joel Hardy

Every Monday, a pupil who attended every single day in the previous week is chosen at random to receive a £5 Amazon voucher.

### Last week's winners were:

Year 7: Kiara De Kock  
Year 8: Isabelle Birch  
Year 9: Freya Kelly



UPPER  
SCHOOL**Mr Henderson writes:**

**Most Year 11 pupils have now completed all their exams and we will see them for a last assembly very soon. Good luck to those pupils with a few exams left, including Food, Design Technology, Statistics and Further Maths. A massive well-done to Year 11 - they have put in so much hard work. Pupils' focus and effort has been fantastic, both in the morning briefings before exams in the Theatre and in the exams themselves.**

GCSEPod still remains available for our Year 11 pupils and provides excellent transition units and work designed specifically for those moving from GCSE to A Levels.

Year 10 Mock Exams are coming up fast; these exams' main purpose will be to identify gaps in knowledge well in advance so pupils, parents and staff can plan to address these.

With this in mind every lesson and every week matters, all the way up to the exams next May and June. Revision guides have sold well. They can be ordered in school using ParentPay, and GCSEPod remains a fantastic resource. GCSEPod, for those still unfamiliar, provides short videos on different topics. It is a great revision resource with tangible outcomes – it improves GCSE grades. I recommend it unconditionally and feedback from pupils is incredibly positive. Videos can be downloaded to save on data use and the short 5-minute video format is especially useful for pupils who find themselves sitting down at a desk to revise arduous work. It can be used anywhere, and one pupil told me they would get through 5 videos just travelling to school on the bus.

Longcroft School usage remains good but we always strive to improve. Later this term we will be reflecting with our Year 10 pupils on their usage of GCSEPod and other strategies they are utilising to ensure effective learning and revision. It will



be vital for pupils to use it over the Summer Term to address weaker areas in subjects, so we hit the ground running in September. The more we do now the easier it will be later. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in this. Pupils are also being asked to access SENECA - Mrs Scott has been working hard to ensure all pupils can access this resource for GCSE learning.

## Harry Develops His Practical Skills

Year 10 pupil Harry is complementing his GCSE courses by developing practical skills in construction at East Riding College.

He is demonstrating outstanding skills, and his tutor said: "Plastering can be a bit messy, however he is doing a great job and seems very proud of himself."

Congratulations Harry!



## Girls in Plate Success!

Congratulations to our pupils from the AFC Tickton Falcons, sponsored by Wilberforce Barristers, who beat Hessle Rangers 4-3 in the East Riding Girls' League Under 15's Plate.

The girls emerged victorious following a tense first half which saw the Falcons score an early goal, only for Rangers to pin them back making the score 1-1 at half time.

Both sides scored penalties in the second half as well as a goal a piece from open play. The game was heading for 3-3 until the Falcons scored the winner in what was practically the final kick of the game!

Well done girls!

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School







## Year 10 Mocks

	Friday 23.06.23	Monday 26.06.23	Tuesday 27.06.23	Wednesday 28.06.23	Thursday 29.06.23	Friday 30.06.23	Friday 14.07.23
9.00am	French & Spanish Listening & Reading Only	Y10 English Lang 1h 45m	Y10 Biology	Y10 English Lit 1h 45m	Y10 Chemistry	Y10 Physics	Art Option B + C (In Art Rooms)
1.00pm	Y10 Option A	Y10 Maths P1	Y10 Maths P2	Y10 Option C	Y10 Maths P3	Y10 Option B	Art Option B + C (In Art Rooms)

Y10 Option A	Y10 Option B	Y10 Option C
10A01/Computing	10B01/Art	10C01/Art
10A02/French AM	10B02/Drama	10C02/Food
10A03/Geography	10B03/Food	10C03/Geography
10A04/History	10B04/Geography	10C04/History
10A05/RE	10B05/History	10C05/Music
10A06/Spanish	10B06/Product design	10C06/PE
10A07/Engineering	10B07/RE	10C07/PE
	10B08/IT	10C08/PE
		10C09/Statistics

The Art exam will be held over the full day on Friday 14th July.





*Congratulations to our Upper School pupils on the number of ClassCharts rewards they are receiving each week. The pupils who earned the most rewards last week are listed below.*



## Year 10

Samantha Thorpe

Ruby Garness

Eleanor Brown

Evie Barwick

Ella Thornton

James Gresswell

Jemma Garnham

Connor Baker

Heidi Jackson

George Penny

Grace Hook

Alex Goldberg

Lydia Curley

## Year 10 Over and Above Celebrations

**The following pupils have gone 'above and beyond' and will join those with the highest number of ClassCharts rewards at Hot Chocolate Friday!**

**Grace McKenzie, Mary Anderson and Alex Goldberg** - Exceptional effort in English! Really working hard to prepare for Mock exams. **Mr Deer**

**George Steele and Maisie Turner** - Working hard all the academic year. Neither of you have ever complained about any of the work we've done. Your smiles and politeness are appreciated. **Miss Meek**



Every Monday, a pupil who attended every single day in the previous week is chosen at random to receive a £5 voucher.

*Last week's winner was Amelia Newsam. Congratulations Amelia!*



LONGCROFT  
THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM



*Mr Chapman writes:*

## Book Club

Here in the Sixth Form we are always looking for ways to enrich our lives and our learning, so we are extremely excited to be starting a new book club. All participating students will read the same book, then at our meetings they will be able to talk about the book, analyse it and make great connections with the book's characters and each other.

Jess in Year 12 said "I'm so excited to be able to meet up with like-minded people who love reading. Book Club will give me the opportunity to make friends in both years of the Sixth Form and will help me stay engaged and excited about reading. I'm looking forward to reading a range of books from different genres, but I'm really excited about reading some empowering female fiction with strong characters!"

Ms Carvill said, "I'm really excited about the Sixth Form having a book club in the Library; especially one that will focus on contemporary fiction and create lots of lively debate. Reading is so important. It's the way we develop our understanding."

At university students will find they spend a huge amount of time in the library. They will need lots of skills to flourish: reading actively and engagingly, being critical, and questioning are imperative. A book club is a great way to develop those abilities."

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form

THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM  
BE AMBITIOUS





# EAST YORKSHIRE SIXTH FORM

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# LONGCROFT NEWS LETTER

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



### Mr Coupe writes:

**This week we look ahead to our Year 10 pupils undertaking their work experience. Work experience is an immensely valuable experience that will help pupils to further understand the world of work, develop important life skills and open their eyes to the range of employment opportunities available to them. We are very pleased to be able to reintroduce it as part of our Personal Development offer within school.**

Our Year 10 pupils are out on work experience during the week beginning 3rd July, with most pupils undertaking a five day-long placement. A small number of pupils are on the Paris trip at the start of that week, and so will do two days of work experience on their return. A bespoke document is created for each pupil and these are currently being distributed. This document sets out the full details of the placement, including the location, hours of work, main contact, job description, dress code and lunch arrangements. In addition, it includes a full Risk Assessment for the placement outlining any potential risks and the control measures that will be taken. As I'm sure you will appreciate, given the complexity of the task, it is important that we get this information out correctly!

Pupils have also been issued with a work experience logbook which prepares them for their placement, and they have been working through this with form tutors. It particularly highlights some vital instructions for pupils undertaking work experience, including the importance of the kinds of employability skills and attributes that employers look for in their employees, including:

- » Personal presentation
- » Enthusiasm and initiative
- » Communication and literacy
- » Time management and organisation
- » Numeracy



In addition, the logbook highlights skills that help pupils shine in their role job, such as:

- » Integrity (honesty)
- » Problem solving and creativity
- » Teamwork
- » Negotiation and decision making
- » IT

These are the attributes that will lead to a successful work experience placement.

Work experience can be such a rewarding experience for pupils, and we really hope that they get a lot out of their placements. To step outside the confines of school and experience the work place first hand is a major stage in a young person's growth into an adult. The situation can be daunting, but with positivity and a can-do attitude, pupils will be able to overcome their concerns and see how their own skills, attributes and abilities can be of great value in society. It is a privilege to be able to provide these experiences for our young people. I am sure it will be a time of immense personal growth for our Year 10 pupils, and I wish them every success.

**Mr A Coupe**

**Head of PSHE and Careers Education**





# SAFEGUARDING



*Mr Rogers writes:*

## Attendance Matters!

Our Attendance League continues with tutor groups now divided into two leagues based on pupils' attendance during the last half-term. Tutor groups with the highest attendance during that period are competing in the **Pizza League**. By improving their overall attendance this half-term, the other tutor groups have an opportunity to succeed in the **Sweet League**.

On the final day of the Summer Term, the winning form in the **Pizza League** will get pizzas delivered for lunch! The winning form of the **Sweet League** will get sweets for the whole form!

Tutor groups receive points each week as follows:

100% attendance = 4 points

<97% = 3 points

<96% = 2 points

<95% = 1 point

Last week, **10ESH** topped the Pizza League, followed closely by **10LSI** with **8DPE** in third place.

**8AHO**, with a percentage attendance of 97.78 also picked up what could prove to be a valuable three points.

### Sweet League

**9EDN** topped the Sweet League, with **8ARU** taking second place and **10SWL** third.

**Mr Rogers**

Deputy Headteacher

Head of Care and Achievement





## TEACHING &amp; LEARNING

**Mr Taylor writes:**

**Hello again. This week I will be exploring reading once more. Within school we are really starting to accelerate our plans to improve reading. The Accelerated Reading programme is now firmly established, with children choosing books to read based on their reading ages. They are then tested on these to check for comprehension etc.**

As our children get older, with lots of other activities competing for their time, how can you encourage them to make time for reading? It is so important that children keep reading, and see it as a valuable activity.

**Some of the reasons are outlined below:**

- » Reading for pleasure has many non-literacy benefits and can increase empathy, improve relationships with others, reduce the symptoms of depression and improve wellbeing throughout life (The Reading Agency 2015).
- » Reading for pleasure has social benefits as well and can make people feel more connected to the wider community. Reading increases a person's understanding of their own identity, improves empathy and gives them an insight into the world view of others (The Reading Agency 2015).
- » Pupils with more positive attitudes towards reading are more likely to read at or above the expected level for their age (Clark 2014).
- » There is a strong association between the amount of reading for pleasure pupils say they do and their reading achievement (Twist 2007).
- » Pupils who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).





## Here are some ideas to help engage your child with reading:

- » Read yourself! It doesn't matter what it is – pick up a newspaper or magazine, take a look at a cookery book, read a computer manual, enjoy some poetry or dive into a romance or detective novel. And get your children to join in – if you're cooking, could they read the recipe? If you're watching TV, can they read out the listings?
- » Give books as presents. And encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other – it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading.
- » Visit the local library together. It's always fun choosing new books to read, and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops – children love meeting their favourite authors. Jacqueline Wilson and Anthony Horowitz always have signing queues that are miles long!
- » Encourage children to carry a book at all times. That way, they'll never be bored (this is something you can do, too!)
- » Keep reading together. Just because your children are older, it doesn't mean you have to stop sharing stories – perhaps you could try the Harry Potter series or A Series of Unfortunate Events.

Don't panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let's be honest - we've all done it!

Any reading your child can do at home is going to be of benefit. Encourage them to be ambitious in their reading, to read texts that will challenge them.

Have a good weekend

**Mr Taylor**

**Head of Teaching and Practitioner Development**

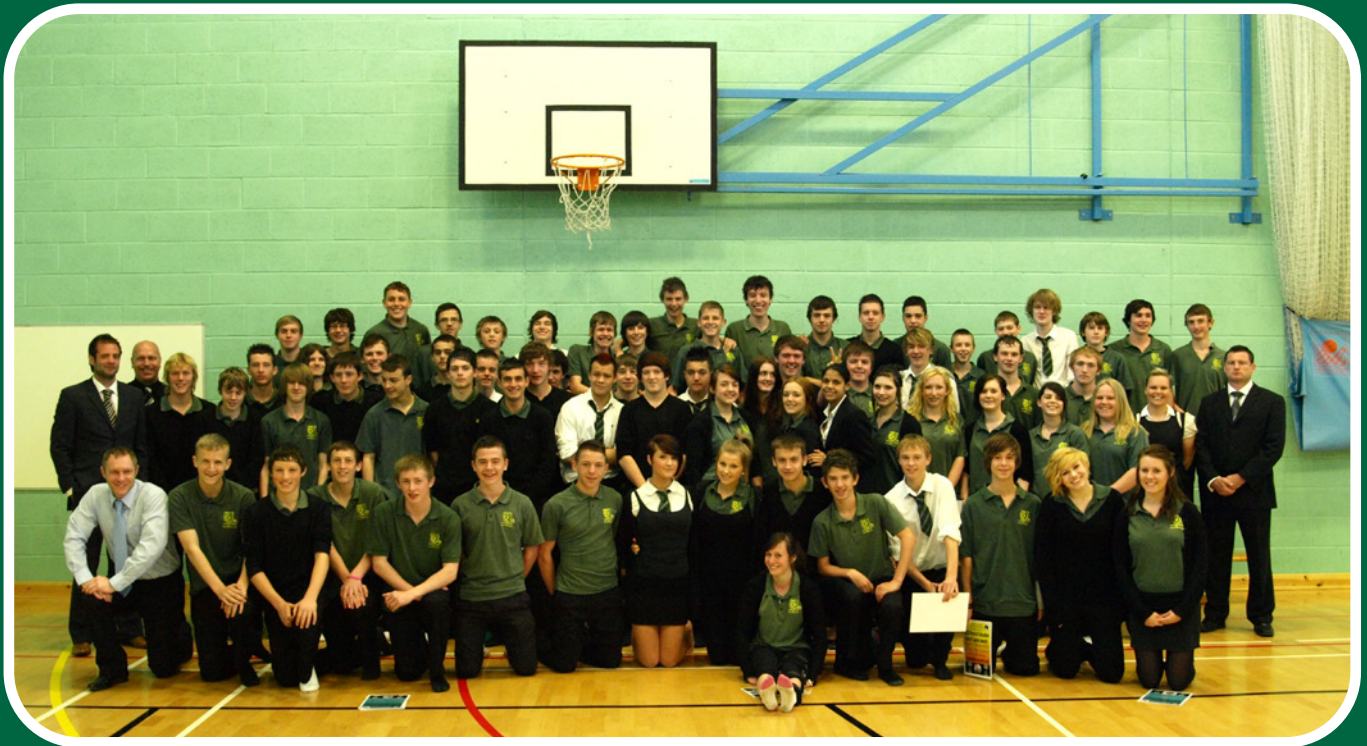




## Memory Lane

This week we take a trip back to 2011 and feature our Year 11 GCSE PE pupils who are pictured with their teachers Mr Cassidy, Mr Hackett, Mrs Jenkins, Mr King, Mrs Powell and Mr Taylor.

The occasion celebrated five years together – positive relationships were formed through PE and GCSE PE lessons and a range of extra-curricular activities and the PE team presented awards in a range of categories recognising excellence, consistency, effort and improvement in both practical and theory work.



Follow us on Twitter to  
see more pictures from  
Memory Lane

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Longcroft School &  
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**BEVERLEY & EAST RIDING LAWN  
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# Jack earns England call-up!

**We were proud to hear that former pupil Jack Charles, who this time last year was completing his GCSE's, preparing for the Prom and playing for Hull FC's Under 16 Scholarship team, has been selected in a 21-strong England Academy squad to face the French 'Espoirs' (Under 19s) in Saint-Gaudens on Saturday 8th July.**

Jack, who has represented Yorkshire in the first two games of this year's three-match Academy Origin series against Lancashire, impressed England coach Paul Anderson and to earn a place in his first season at this level.

Jack, who has already made the step up to Reserve-grade with Hull FC, will be joined by Hull FC team-mate Cobie Wainhouse and another former Beverley Braves player Louix Gorman who plays for Hull KR. Some of the players selected, from clubs including St Helens, Wigan Warriors, Leeds Rhinos, Warrington Wolves

and Wakefield Trinity, already have Super League experience. Jack Sinfield has made several appearances for Leeds Rhinos since making his debut last April while Warrington Wolves' coach Daryl Powell has praised promising forward Lucas Green following his impressive introduction into the first team.

Head Coach, Paul Anderson, said: "Travelling to the south of France to take on a slightly older French side in their own backyard will provide a stern test. All of the players making the trip have the potential to become elite performers on the domestic and international stage."

Jack said, "It's a dream come true. I was in total shock." He added, "It's just the start for me. I want to get better each training session and each game and I feel like I'm doing that."

Mr Baker said, "Jack thoroughly deserves this recognition. While very talented, he's always had an outstanding attitude – eating the right food, listening to advice, training hard and taking every opportunity to practise and work on aspects of his game. This is a fantastic opportunity to test his skills at a high level and another step towards a career as a Super League player. I'm sure Jack will relish the challenge and make the most of every aspect of the opportunity."







## Scott Taylor relives his years at Longcroft



**It was a pleasure to welcome former pupils Scott Taylor and Lewis Scott who returned to Longcroft on Tuesday and recalled memories of their schooldays.**

Lewis, who left the Sixth Form in 2016 and is now Hull FC's Media Manager, arranged the visit as part of a feature into Scott's longstanding relationship with Rugby League's historic Challenge Cup competition – a trophy he has lifted three times at Wembley during his years as a player with Wigan Warriors and Hull FC.

Scott recalled making the difficult decision to leave Longcroft during Year 12 to focus on his rugby career having been offered the opportunity to train with his first professional club Hull KR. Now in his testimonial year, Scott moved to Wigan Warriors where he first lifted the Challenge Cup in 2013. Ironically, as a life-long Hull FC supporter who cheered his team to victory over Leeds at Cardiff in 2005, the black and whites were Wigan's opposition on that day. Scott said, "When Hull played Warrington in the semi-final I actually hoped Warrington would win so that my family would be supporting me at Wembley in the final!" He added, "When we won, I was thinking to myself how good it would be to experience the feeling as a Hull FC player." Following a year at Salford, Scott was to find out when after joining Hull FC he was a key player in the club's 2016 win over Warrington – the first time Hull FC had lifted the cup at Wembley. They retained the trophy the following year against Scott's former club Wigan.

Scott enjoyed recalling happy memories of his years at Longcroft, which included a performance in the school production of the musical 'Carmen' in which he demonstrated the skills that earned him a Grade A in GCSE Drama. He spoke particularly warmly of his special and ongoing relationship with Mr Cassidy, himself a former



Hull FC player, highlighting the support provided both as a coach and a mentor.

Mr Baker said, "It is always a pleasure to catch up with former students and both Scott and Lewis continue to excel in their careers with Hull FC. They are outstanding role models and it makes me proud that they speak so warmly of their years at Longcroft."

Now in his 15th year as a professional player, Scott has won every domestic honour in the game and represented his country. We look forward to featuring a more extensive interview with Scott in a future Newsletter.



## LIBRARY NEWS



**Ms Carvill writes:**

## Refugee Week 2023 is 19–25 June, join us!

“Refugees are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children, with the same hopes and ambitions as us—except that a twist of fate has bound their lives to a global refugee crisis on an unprecedented scale.”

—Khaled Hosseini

**The theme for Refugee Week’s 25th anniversary is compassion. Compassion is about feeling sympathy for the suffering of another and having the desire to help them. It’s about action.**

This year Refugee Week celebrates what compassion looks like in action and its organisers are inviting everyone to show how the arts and culture can help widen our understanding of compassion. Anyone interested in marking Refugee Week can promote activities on the main festival website below.

<https://refugeeweek.org.uk/>

The website features a series of activities and events for schools, children, parents, and guardians to explore in order to connect with each other and their communities. It stresses the importance of ‘Simple Acts’: watching a film, listening and sharing, reading a book.

Books about refugees, fiction and non-fiction, help us comprehend the refugee experience through the eyes of individuals, and develop our compassion and empathy. They deepen our understanding far more than a news item in the media, or a distressing image that briefly shocks us, but is just one of many images self-preservation has taught us to become accustomed to. Books stay with us, they teach us ‘why’ and ‘how’, and most importantly they allow us to grow. Below are some favourites. Please encourage your children to read them. There is a large display in the library.

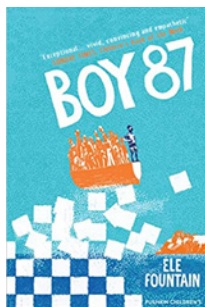






## Year 7 - Boy 87 by Ele Fountain

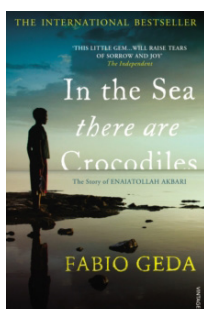
This is the story of two boys: Shif and his buddy Bini. Life changes abruptly when they are wrenched from their families by the military 'giffa' and sent to a remote desert prison, where they are helped to escape by their adult cellmates. So begins a terrifying journey to freedom.



The book fully illuminates the perilous nature of being a refugee, but ultimately, it is a story about the strength of the human spirit. Superb and edifying.

## Year 8 - In the Sea there are Crocodiles by Fabia Geda

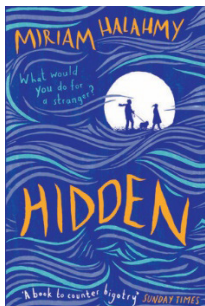
Enaiatollah Akbari's journey begins when his mother leaves him at a refugee camp in Pakistan, afraid that if he stays with her in Afghanistan he will die. She has no idea if she will ever see him again.



In his bid for a future free of war and persecution, Enaiatollah hides under lorries, travels in inflatable dinghies, and walks across mountains, where he meets all sorts of people: bad and good. This young boy's story is the story of thousands of people who, in desperation, take a similar journey every day. It makes you question why borders exist, and the unfairness of being born in a certain country at a certain time. Engaging and accessible. A must read.

## Year 9 - Hidden by Miriam Halahmy

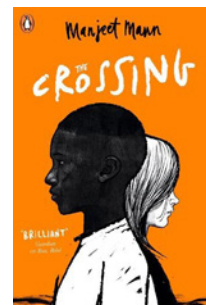
Samir is from Iraq, seeking refuge in England, and being bullied at school. Alex defends him and their friendship begins. Slowly, she begins to learn more about his world, so different from her own. When the new friends find a drowning man in the sea choices must be made. What is safe and what is right?



This is an important book that tackles some complex topics, but balanced against its seriousness is great warmth and optimism.

## Year 10 - The Crossing by Manjeet Mann

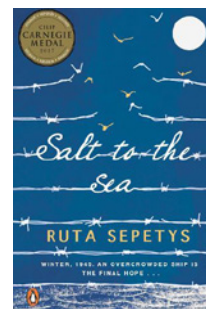
Sammy has fled Eritrea, to avoid being conscripted into an endless war. His dad is already dead for refusing to fight. Natalie's Mum has died, her brother has joined a far-right gang in Dover, and her world is disintegrating.



Written in intertwining verse, this is the story of two teenagers facing immense challenges. Their lives are very different, but they connect. Demanding and significant. Superb.

## Year 11 - Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

This heart-wrenching historical fiction is set in 1945, as the Second World War is ending. As the fearsome Russian army approach, a small group of people attempt to flee the terrifying threat of their rule.



Each chapter is told from a different character's perspective, providing insight into the ravages of war-torn lives. Winner of the CILIP Carnegie Medal 2017, this book is fabulously researched, brilliant, and tragic.

## Year 12 & 13 - Poetry

**Bless the Daughter Raised by the Voice in Her Head** by Warsan Shire

**I Was Not Born a Sad Poet** by Loraine Masiya Mponela

**Leaving Fingerprints** by Imtiaz Dharker

**Time is a Mother** by Ocean Vuong





# The Eco Poetry Competition 2023 Results

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."

— Robert Swan

Well done to all those pupils and students who submitted poems to the Eco Poetry Competition 2023. It's wonderful to know that so many of you care about our changing climate and in the future may help protect our planet.

One of the poem's below did not have a name on it. Please come to the library and tell me who you are. It is such a brilliant poem!

Prizes will be handed out in assembly this week.

## First Prize

### The Willows by Brenton McKie

The swaying of the trees as they rustled their leaves,  
was a gorgeous way to live.

The willows were beautiful with their long branches,  
lunging back and forth in the strong autumn winds.

The whole town praised these magnificent plants,  
as they brought joy to one and all.

Not only were they a beauty to look at,  
but they were also loved for their majestic branches,  
and their help to the environment.

They gave shelter from the weather to us and  
the creatures that live in these lands.

This is where they are, and this is where they will always be.

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."

— Robert Swan

## Second Prize

### The Earth (Anonymous)

I am the earth,  
The earth is me,  
Each blade of grass,  
Each heavy tree,  
You destroy them,  
Not me,  
If I go,  
We go,  
Will you take the risk?

## Third Prize

### Save the Earth

### by Saskia Swales and Evie Sugdon

People live on this earth,  
Not knowing how much our planet is worth.  
Humans everywhere,  
Breathe the air.  
We want to show them how much we care.  
People who live on this earth.  
Listen here, Listen now!  
We wonder how,  
People everywhere,  
Just don't care!



## 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**

**Miss Fox**

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**Years 8 and 9**

**Mrs Newsam**

**07827 587483**

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



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