



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



We are the Champions!

Our Year 7 football team continued their fantastic start to the season when they were crowned East Riding Champions following a 5 a side tournament at The Market Weighton School.

The team won all their five matches and proudly lifted the trophy. Head of PE Mr Martin said, "They were fantastic." Rosie said, "I enjoyed playing in the tournament - it was fun! I scored two goals." She added, "I've been playing for about five years, and I play right wing."

Goalkeeper Summer has been playing football since she was very young. She said, "We were all pleased we won." Lottie added, "I played in midfield and I scored a goal. I really enjoyed it." The victorious team members are pictured with their trophy!

Back row: Gabrielle; Summer; Scarlett; Rosie

Front row: Leah; Lottie; Frankie.

"It was amazing to win!"

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Headteacher's Welcome

Whilst the view from the window this week has been rather dreary at times, our fabulous young people have been anything but – brightening up our classrooms, technical and performance spaces with their enthusiasm and infectious appetite for learning.

I've seen lots of different opportunities this week for children to express their understanding and 'prove' their learning. From performances in Drama and Music, where every pupil has been actively involved and the standards have been very high, to explaining complex concepts in Science by constructing models and completing some fabulous practical work - the range of activity has been thoroughly impressive. There has been some great written work too. Poems in English produced by our Year 8 pupils were a highlight for me, as was the confidence and pride displayed by those keen to show me their excellent work.

We are now in the process of launching our work experience programme with Year 10 and are excited to be extending this offer to Year 12 from this academic year with further details to follow. It is a significant opportunity for many young people and a milestone in their personal development journey. Parents of Year 10 will be receiving relevant information and I encourage you to start thinking about placements early. If you require any further information or support, please do contact Mr Wilson or Mr Coupe who will be happy to offer their support at every stage of the process.

We are also about to launch our 'Year 11 Pledge'; a public reminder of our commitment to each of our young people and to ensuring they have every opportunity to succeed. Our Pledge aims to provide a framework, identifying 4 key areas through which we can share the wide offer of support and intervention that is available. These include academic intervention, care and wellbeing, celebrating achievements, and guidance/preparation for next steps.

Since the start of the year we have been delivering our GCSE and A-Level Mindset programmes, and currently we have a raft of targeted support for our exam cohorts as well as open sessions available at lunchtime and after school through Period 6. In addition, we have invested in providing access to national systems that can be used flexibly at home such as GCSE Pod. There is an online platform which will house relevant information about all areas of The Pledge and you will hear much more about the programme of support over the coming weeks and months. Mock exams are in just a few weeks, so please do encourage your child to get involved and to get revising.

There are some fabulous articles throughout this week's Newsletter so please enjoy reading all about our wonderful pupils and students.

Have a great week.

Mr D 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

28,278

THOUGHT

146,840

VISION

104,276

GRAND

TOTAL:

279,384





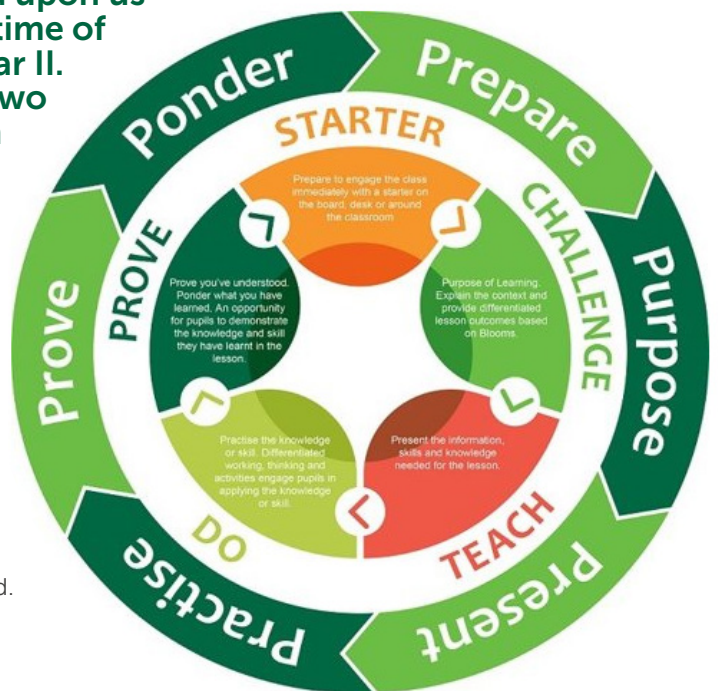
LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

One of the best things about life at Longcroft School is the shared community and values we have. It was heart-warming to see our children get involved in so many activities related to Remembrance, Armistice, and respecting all of those that have given their lives in conflict. Reflecting on my own upbringing, my grandfather would never talk about the first ten years of his life, being born in 1935; he always, rightly, impressed upon us the importance of the events around this time of year having lost his uncle during World War II. When I hear the Last Post playing, as our two pupils Anna and Emily did so beautifully in school last week, I reflect on those who gave so much for our freedoms.

I was proud to see so many of our young people as part of the parade from School Lane to the Minster at 10:30am on Sunday, following by the procession from the Minster to St Mary's Church at 11:55am. It was clear to see how much it meant to our children to be a part of a special, poignant event. Holly, taking part in her first parade, said she enjoyed the experience. As a follow up, being involved in the local sporting community, it pleased me to learn about our Longcroft sportspeople paying their respect in local fixtures this weekend, falling silent to commemorate our war deceased.





This week, I would like to revisit key features of the learning experiences of our pupils at Longcroft. Across the school, embedded into all of our lessons, is the Longcroft Learning Cycle. It's been a real pleasure to see the fantastic range of work our pupils have produced so far this term. The Longcroft Learning Cycle is a framework to provide a consistent and quality experience for the pupils. It has five elements to it, and each is denoted by an icon displayed on PowerPoint presentations and other documents used to deliver lessons. You should see reference to these if you look in your child's book.

Walking around the school, it is fantastic to see our children engaging with lessons that have high expectations for everybody to achieve and succeed. The framework also provides clarity of purpose for each stage of the lesson. To support learners, subjects are starting to provide children with Knowledge Organisers which further enhance the classroom experience.

Football teams enjoy success

Congratulations to our Year 7 and 8 football teams who took on several other East Riding schools in a tournament at The Market Weighton School.

While the Year 7 team were crowned East Riding champions and feature on the cover of our Newsletter this week, I also wanted to congratulate the Year 8 team. The girls played five matches, winning two, drawing two and losing just one. Their tremendous efforts saw the girls finish in third place – a very creditable result.

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**

Rosie Fitton
Toby Buckle
Elliott Pierce
Owen Harper
Finley Staples
Jake Redmond
Elspeth Collin
Leo Strickland
Joshua Dakin
Ashley Griffin

Year 8

Annabel Shepherd
Charlotte Sutcliffe
Lydia Chapman
Sophie Battye
Eddie Pickering
Lilly Pyle
Jasmine Stephenson
Reagan De Kock
Sarah Shrimpton
Neve Meagher

Year 9

Ben Carlyle-Smith
Lily Logan
Phoebe Haw
Aiden Clayton
Daisy Kelly
Evie Woad
Lily Mae Tierney
Ava Bryce
Millie Wisher
Cherry Curwood

Attendance Matters!

Each week we reflect on the importance of attendance at school by giving ClassCharts rewards for Great Vision to every pupil with 100% attendance the previous week. These pupils are then entered into a draw and the winner receives a £5 Amazon voucher.

Last week's winners were:

Year 7: Mahmoud Al Shaqran
Year 8: Martha Beaumont
Year 9: Alicia Hicks

UPPER
SCHOOL*Mr Henderson writes:*

This week has seen the first of our Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evenings with a fantastic number of parents taking the opportunity to meet their child's teachers in person. At such a critical time in each young person's education, it is so important that we are working together as home and school to provide support and ensure all pupils are able to secure their ambitious targets.

The second evening takes place next week.

Parental support has a marked impact on progress when there is clarity as to how this can be most effectively provided. Meetings cover the following aspects:

- » A comment on effort in class and towards homework and revision that teachers have set and an explanation of how parents can support their child to further improve in these regards.
- » A comment on grades achieved in Summer's mock exam and the distance of travel to the pupil's Target Grade or PU2 Predicted Grade and information regarding the Autumn mock exam papers.
- » Clearly identified target areas evidenced by mock examinations and through class assessments that the pupils need to improve.

The evenings also provide an opportunity to share information about any specific resources or guidance teachers have given pupils to support revision or that are available to them such as revision guides to loan or purchase from the library or online resources.

Teachers also highlighted specific interventions that pupils need to attend such as P6 or lunchtime sessions.



Remembrance

I was proud to witness Anna and Emily's emotional renditions of the Last Post and the Reveille either side of our two minutes of silence last Friday morning. Their performance was outstanding.

Anna said, "While I've played the trumpet for seven years, I've never played the Last Post before. Over the weekend we also played at the Cenotaph and the Ice Arena."

Emily added, "It was nerve-racking! I've been in CLB for ten years but that's the first time I've played the Last Post. When I finished, I felt relieved and proud."

A number of pupils were involved in Beverley's Remembrance Parade on Sunday, while many pupils involved in sporting fixtures observed the two-minute silence before their matches. Ollie, representing Beverley Town FC U15's was keen to support, holding the Hull 4 Heroes flag before his fixture at the weekend against Cottingham Rangers.



Work Experience

This week Year 10 pupils are starting the journey of Work Experience after an introduction by Mr Coupe. Pupils are receiving all the documentation they need to start considering future careers and what they might like to experience in the Summer Term. The vast majority of work experience placements are found by the pupils themselves, however we do have some placements available for those that are unable to do so. Mr Coupe specifically mentioned some Army placements – pupils should contact him if they are interested in what are always popular opportunities.

Mr Henderson
Head of Upper School



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

Amelia Purchon	Anika Matta
Samuel Smedley	Ella Curley
Elise Forster	Hollie Calder
Anna Bruton	Luke Hancock
Charlotte Skilbeck	Matthew Harris
Rachel Harris	

Year 11

Freddie Robinson	Millie Frank
Grace McKenzie	Evie Barwick
Amelia Newsam	Harry Hood
Rossi Moulson	
Rosie Sissons	
Tristan Carlo Pineda	
Ella Harris-Smith	

Each week Year 11 pupils who have been nominated by their teachers for going over and above expectations are invited to celebrate with Mr Cassidy on **Hot Chocolate Friday!**

Congratulations to this week's nominations:

Tyla Keenan - increasingly impressed with approach to lessons; focused, attentive and responsive. **Mr Charlesworth**

Connor Rushton - has massively improved his attitude to learning and commitment since Year 10. **Mr Charlesworth**

Laura Campbell - Stunning art/textile work created in response to the artist Robert Delaunay. Well done Laura for your tremendous effort and achievement with this piece of work. **Mrs Holmes**

Connor Baker - excellent work on his revision plan in French. **Mrs Barry**

Attendance Matters!

Each week we reflect on the importance of attendance at school by giving ClassCharts rewards for Great Vision to every pupil with 100% attendance the previous week. These pupils are then entered into a draw and the winner receives a £5 Amazon voucher.

Last week's winners were:

Year 10: Luke Hancock

Year 11: Arron Baker



Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

This week we catch up with Maddy, a Year 12 student who has joined our Sixth Form after having attended another local secondary school until the end of Year 11.

Maddy is studying Music, Criminology and History A Levels at Longcroft.

What made you choose Longcroft Sixth Form?

"My brother came here and did really well and I had heard really good things about the Sixth Form. I especially wanted to study Criminology."

How have you settled in to our Sixth Form?

"I have really enjoyed meeting new people, making new friends and meeting my new teachers. Everyone has been very welcoming and friendly towards me."

What are your impressions of the Sixth Form?

"The Longcroft Sixth Form is very good because I get lots of support in my subjects as the classes are relatively small. The facilities are really good and the Sixth Form area is a really good place to work in."

Have you been able to participate in any enrichment?

"Yes! I have been able to join the Orchestra on a Tuesday evening which is fun. I have been volunteering for paired reading where I help a Year 7 and a Year 9 pupil and I am coaching GCSE Badminton on a Friday."

What would you say to a Year 11 pupil who might be thinking about joining our Sixth Form?

"Definitely join if you want to do well and you know you'll work hard."



Maddy is pictured playing percussion for the East Riding Percussion Ensemble at Birmingham in 2022.

Mr Chapman
Head of Sixth Form



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Anti-Bullying Week

This year's theme is: Building a Bully-Free Future

At Longcroft we are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for our pupils and Sixth Form students. It is with great enthusiasm that we highlight this year's Anti-Bullying Week, organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This annual event is a crucial opportunity for us to come together as a community and reaffirm our commitment to creating a bully-free future for our children.

What is Anti-Bullying Week?

Anti-Bullying Week is a nationwide campaign organized by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, a coalition of organisations and individuals united against bullying. Our school is proud to participate actively.

The primary goal of Anti-Bullying Week is to raise awareness about the harmful effects of bullying and promote kindness, respect, and empathy among pupils, Sixth Form students and staff. It is a time when we can reflect on our actions, learn more about the different forms of bullying, and discuss strategies to prevent and address it.

Why is Anti-Bullying Week Important?

Bullying is a pervasive issue that affects young people in schools across the country. It can have devastating consequences on a child's mental and emotional well-being, academic performance, and overall development. By participating in Anti-Bullying Week, we aim to:

1. **Raise Awareness:** We want to ensure that all members of our school community are well-informed about what bullying is, how to recognise it, and its harmful impact. Knowledge is the first step in prevention.



2. **Promote Inclusivity:** Our school is a diverse and inclusive community. Anti-Bullying Week encourages us to celebrate our differences, foster understanding, and create an environment where everyone feels valued and respected.
3. **Empower Pupils and Sixth Form Students:** We want our young people to have the tools they need to stand up against bullying. This week will include assemblies and activities that empower young people to be active bystanders and support their peers.
4. **Strengthen Relationships:** Building positive relationships between pupils, Sixth Form students, parents, and school staff is essential in tackling bullying effectively. Anti-Bullying Week provides opportunities for open dialogue and collaboration.

How Can You Get Involved?

We believe that preventing bullying is a collective effort that involves pupils, Sixth Form students, parents, school staff and the wider community. Here's how you can get involved:

1. **Talk to Your Child:** Initiate conversations about bullying with your child. Ask them about their experiences and feelings. Be an active listener and provide guidance.
2. **Support Your Child:** If your child is facing bullying or knows someone who is, offer your support and guidance. Encourage them to speak up and seek help from a trusted adult.
3. **Promote Kindness:** Encourage acts of kindness and inclusivity at home. Teach your child the importance of treating others with respect and empathy.
4. **Report Incidents:** If you become aware of any bullying incidents within our school community, please report them promptly to the appropriate Care and Achievement Co-ordinator.

Anti-Bullying Week is a critical moment for us to come together as a community and take a stand against bullying. Together, we can create an environment where every young person feels safe, valued, and empowered to be their best selves.

Let us work hand in hand to build a bully-free future for our children. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement



Green Careers Week

On Thursday we invited Dave Rocket into school from Northern Gas Network to deliver a session and project to Year 7 around net zero carbon and renewable energy. This was linked to Green Careers Week and aimed to encourage pupils to think about opportunities in renewable energy.



The Year 7 pupils had to design their own net zero island, working in teams and managing different scenarios.

Gabrielle said, "It was educational - I found it fascinating. I learned about net zero."

Rosie added, "I did lots of work and I learned that we can have an impact on the future of our planet."

Head of Science Mrs Scott said, "I was delighted with the way in which the pupils engaged with the challenge. They produced some wonderful work."





Develop & Engage Primary Schools' Table Tennis Event

Longcroft hosted a table tennis event for pupils from our feeder primary schools to try the sport and gain experience as a team through the event. Eight teams participated from Cherry Burton, Molescroft, St John's, St Mary's and Swinemoor.

Mrs Henderson said, "Throughout the evening progress was evident in pupils' play and confidence." She added, "Well done to all who participated and thank you to the pupils from Longcroft who assisted on the evening with scoring games and timing the event, they did an amazing job as always."

Our Longcroft Leaders are pictured at the event.



Extra-curricular Opportunities

We are proud to offer an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities, a selection of which are listed here.

In addition, our **Homework Club** in A7 is open to all pupils each morning (8.15 – 8.40am) and after school until 4.15pm.

Monday

Film Society – Year 11 pupils and Sixth Form students meet to watch, discuss and explore different genres of film.

Tuesday

Dungeons & Dragons – an opportunity for pupils of all ages, Sixth Form students and staff to enjoy this fantasy table-top role-playing game.

Rugby – all year groups

Orchestra – open to all instrumentalists of all abilities

Wednesday

Netball – all year groups

Choir – an opportunity to prepare for Christmas performances.

Drama Club – in Room 65

Thursday

Girls' Football – all year groups

Hockey – all year groups

Production Rehearsals – opportunities for our cast and crew to rehearse for this year's production

Friday

Badminton – all year groups

Table Tennis – all year groups





Memory Lane

This week we return to 1984 and feature two 2nd Year tutor groups. Miss Middleton and Mrs Purves are pictured with their tutor groups.




LIBRARY NEWS

NONFICTION NOVEMBER



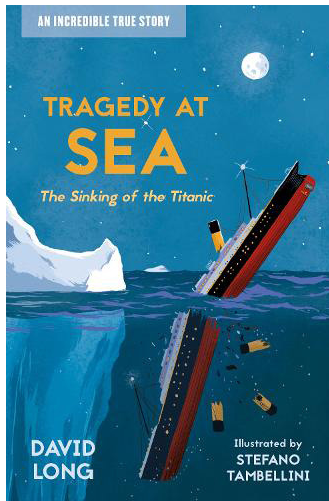
Ms Carvill writes:

Celebrating Non-Fiction November

This month marks Non-Fiction November, a time to celebrate all that is wonderful about factual books. In a survey conducted in 2022 by The Literacy Trust more than half of children and young people said they read non-fiction. Research shows that such readers are generally more motivated to read for educational purposes, more engaged with the world around them and better able to care for their own mental health. So why are factual books so valuable? Here are a few reasons:

- » They can be matched to interests and hobbies, which is a great motivator for reluctant readers.
- » They are packed with facts and true things, providing children with certainty.
- » They are far more reliable than the internet.
- » They are visually exciting
- » The text is varied and is often presented in chunks, which are easier for the less confident reader.
- » They are accessible and can be dipped in and out of.
- » They often contain elements of interactivity that add to the reading experience. E.g. quizzes, puzzles, challenging questions and things to do in the future.
- » They enhance language development and a wonder in the world.
- » They tackle important issues in society and increasingly reflect diversity in the wider world.

This year the theme for National Non-Fiction November is 'Wonderful Water'. We have a large collection of books in the Library, including many about nature, the environment and climate, a huge amount of history books, science, sports, maths, geography, philosophy and sociology books as well as books about hobbies. It's a very extensive range. Please encourage your children to investigate. Below are a few book suggestions.



Year 7 – Dyslexia – Friendly

Tragedy at Sea: The Sinking of the Titanic – (Incredible True Stories) by David Long

AR Book Level 6.7 – Colour Code – Yellow

This fact filled retelling of the Titanic's maiden voyage from Southampton in 1912 is brilliantly accessible and packed with fascinating illustrations and diagrams. The largest and most luxurious ocean liner in the world at the time, the 'Ship of Dreams', was claimed to be unsinkable. Budding historians and reluctant readers alike will be enthralled by one of the most famous maritime disasters of all time. Totally engaging.

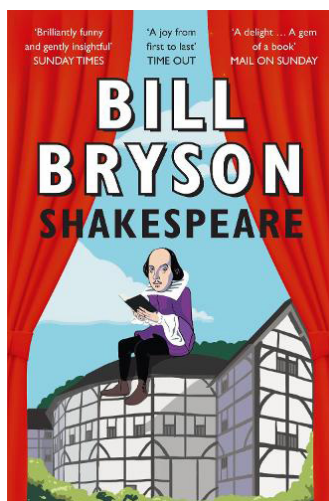
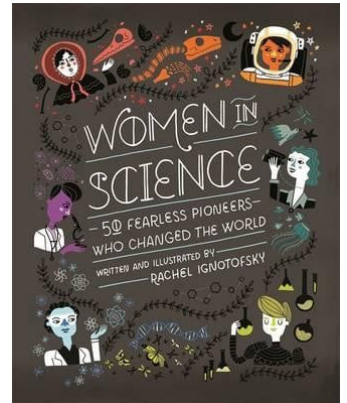
Year 8

Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World by Rachel Ignotofsky

AR Book Level 7.5 – Colour Code – Purple

This book is a true celebration of 50 of the intrepid women who made significant contributions in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and paved the way for future generations of women to become engineers, mathematicians, physicists, astronauts and more.

It contains some fabulous infographics and an illustrated scientific glossary. An inspiring and informative read.

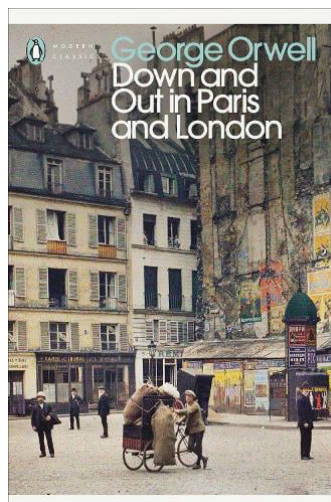


Year 9

Shakespeare: The World as a Stage by Bill Bryson

This compelling short biography of the great Bard himself is a true celebration of our most famous dramatist and poet. Bestselling author Bill Bryson explores the myths, truths and lies behind the man and his literary legacy and takes the reader on a fascinating journey through Elizabethan England; exploring Shakespeare's inventiveness with language and the characters and locations that inspired him.

A good book to read in advance of Shakespeare's plays and poetry.



Year 10

Down and Out in Paris and London by George Orwell

AR Book Level 7.0 – Colour Code – Purple

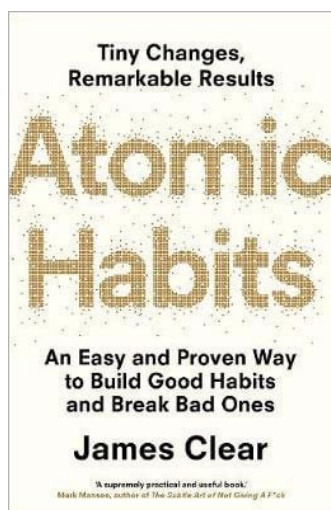
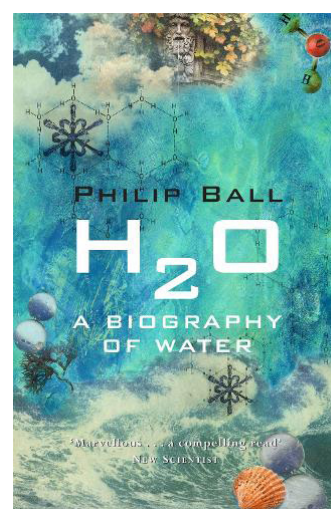
This extraordinary memoir, published in 1933, is a study of poverty and homelessness and explores the personal and political issues that create it. Superbly written, funny and honest it has inspired generations of readers and continues to do so. A book that transcends time; the work of a literary genius.

Year 11

H2O: A Biography of Water by Philip Ball

This is a fascinating book, that gives a new perspective on life and the substance that sustains it. Water. What is it and why is it such a scientific mystery despite its prevalence?

Ball's book takes us on a fascinating journey through time and history, from folklore to the cutting edge. Offbeat, witty, and intelligent. A drink of water will never taste the same!



Year 12

Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones by James Clear

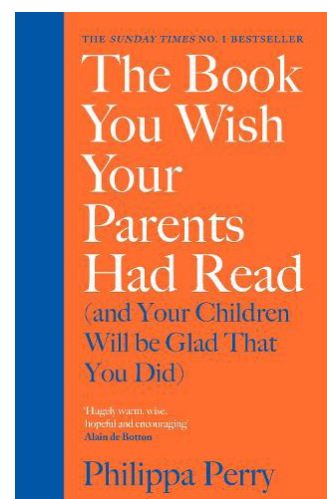
James Clear is one of the world's leading experts on habit formation, and this remarkable book teaches you the best ways to form good habits, break bad ones, and develop the necessary behaviours to achieve.

This is a superb book for sixth formers as they embark on their adult lives and want to achieve personal goals. Truly accessible.

Year 13

The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read by Philippa Perry

This Sunday Times bestseller is a book that everyone should read and relevant for all relationships in life. It's the perfect guide to parent-child relationships, and what pitfalls to avoid and how to be an effective communicator. Perry's realistic approach is full of sensible advice and explores the importance of understanding our own childhood in order to break negative cycles. Excellent.





The First Story Six-Word Story Competition 2023

The Six Word Story Competition is back. It's one of our most popular competitions and last year we had a record amount of entries. Can you write an original story in just six words? Can you win the national First Story Competition 2023?

It might sound easy, but it's not. In fact, writing a compelling story in just a few words can be incredibly challenging. You need to think out of the box. Here are a few tips:

Six-word stories don't have to be serious, they can be funny, scary, mysterious or whatever genre you like. Consider key elements in your story: character, plot, problem.

A good way to start is to write your story in a short paragraph. Once you're satisfied that you've come up with something original you can begin editing; cut out anything unnecessary. Editing can be tricky. You'll need to engage in some mental gymnastics.

Think about punctuation. It can really help convey meaning without needing extra words. Colons are great, you can use speech marks too. Remember, you can have more than one sentence as well. Below are some examples:

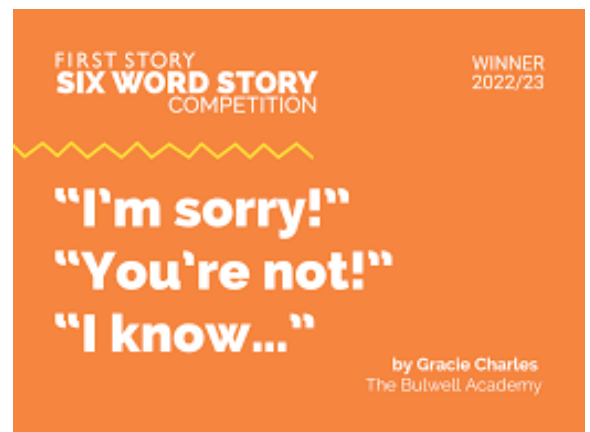
Alexa, where did my parents go?

Brought roses home. Keys didn't fit.

Christmas came around....so did bailiffs

As usual, we will have an inhouse competition open to all year groups, with three winners being put forward for the national competition.

Please bring you entries to the Library by Friday 8th December. Prizes will include Goodie Bags, books, Online Publication, Classcharts and sweets.



"The first draft is just you telling yourself the story."

– Terry Practchett



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

07342 342858

vicky.fox@longcroft.eriding.net



Years 8 and 9

Mrs Newsam

07827 587483

zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 10

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Miss Harsley

07810 416081

katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net



Sixth Form

Miss Taylor

01482 862171 ext. 1338

emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net