

# LONGCROFT

-SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

# NEWS LETTER



"I am happy that these writers are our future."

First Story Writer-in-Residence John Berkavitch

## **Contents**

Headteacher's Welcome

**Lower School** 

**Upper School** 

Sixth Form

Safeguarding

Personal Development

**Primary School Athletics** 

Extra-curricular Opportunities

**Memory Lane** 

**Library News** 

# Orlaith's Work Published!

Congratulations to Year 10 pupil Orlaith who has seen her work from the First Story Summer Residential published in a stunning Anthology – 'Emerging Adults'.

The residential at Lumb Bank saw sixteen students from First Story programmes all over England come together to write for a week. The students' work has been collated and published as 'Emerging Adults' – a celebration of their hard work, talent and creativity. Three of Orlaith's poems are included in the Anthology, copies of which are available in our Library -'Blossoms', 'Secret' and 'Rivers' Run'.

#### Secret

If only you
Had kept
Someone like me.
I thought you would like
To have a
New secret.
Oh, but
If only I
Had kept
Someone like you.
I would like
To have stayed an
Oath.

England's leading creative writing charity for young people, First Story has been changing lives through writing for fifteen years, providing platforms for young writers to be read and heard. Orlaith is now one of our First Story's Ambassadors, which means that this year she can attend workshops again and help to support younger pupils.

Ali Johnson, First Story Programme and Partnerships Manager (Yorkshire), explained: "The Summer Residential is an opportunity for students who have shown great potential during the First Story Young Writers Programme to develop their confidence, creativity and writing skills in idyllic setting in West Yorkshire. This year, we selected sixteen keen young writers to attend the five-day trip to Arvon's Lumb Bank."

Ali added, "We were joined by experienced First Story Writers-in-Residence Cecilia Knapp, John Berkavitch and, as our guest on Wednesday, Testament."

Writer-in-Residence Cecilia Knapp described the first day of the residential: "Here's the scene: an old barn set on the lip of a valley in West Yorkshire, twinkling with fairy

lights and lamps. The longest, squishiest, deepest red sofa I've ever seen and several other sofas and chairs configured in a horseshoe shape. Sixteen young writers huddled on the furniture, facing myself and co-tutor John, and looking incredibly nervous."

Cecelia explained: "Flash-forward to Friday and there wasn't a shred of trepidation in the air. In fact, there was the total opposite: genuine sadness that our time together was coming to an end and residual pride from Thursday night's inspiring showcase."

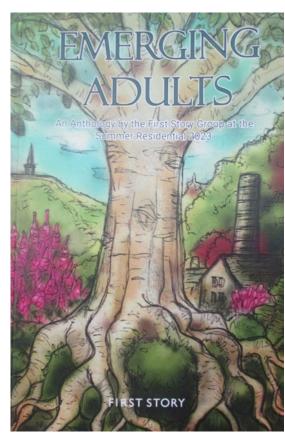
Orlaith said, "I'm really excited to have my work in the Anthology."

She added, "It was great to be part of a residential writing community. I'm really proud we were able to come together to create Emerging Adults."

Ms Carvill co-ordinates our work with First Story. She said, "Emerging Adults is a fabulous collection of work by 16 talented young people from across the country. Well done to Orlaith for being one of them."

In the Anthology's Foreword Writer-in-Residence John Berkavitch comments: "I am happy that these writers are our future."

We are incredibly proud of Orlaith's success, that her talent and commitment have been recognised and that her work will be read and enjoyed by an increasingly wide audience through the wonderful opportunities created by First Story.



# **Reward Totals**

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

**HEART** 



Acts of Great

33,618

**THOUGHT** 179,449

**VISION** 127,381

**GRAND TOTAL:** 340,448



# Headteacher's Welcome

As we enter the advent period, the Christian tradition speaks of hope and joy; themes that are unfailingly reflected in all that our amazing young people bring to our Longcroft community each and every day.

This week has provided the opportunity to showcase the incredible work of our pupils in the creative and performing arts. I always look forward to visiting lessons in our art and performance spaces and am never disappointed when I do. There are many striking features of these areas in our school. They are vivid and engaging spaces full of colour, sound, creativity and collaboration. Pupils and students are often excited to share their work, participate and have a go, whatever their level of experience.

Developing a technical knowledge and understanding of art, music and drama is important and leads to excellent performances and pieces of work. Many examples were celebrated through our first Performing Arts Evening of the year on Thursday to a capacity audience, and there will be a full feature in our Newsletter next week on a wonderful night for our school. Beyond the application of technical knowledge however there is so much more. The rich and carefully considered curriculum provides a depth of cultural exposure to different forms of music, performance and art, including their origins and history, and the evolution that has brought about the fusion that is explored through more contemporary forms and examples. Through our arts offer young people grow in confidence and demonstrate tremendous respect and encouragement for each other, as they also develop their social and cultural capital.

A broad and balanced curriculum that values and promotes these domains serves to nurture an understanding of self and place in a complex but ever more interconnected world. It enables our young people to explore important issues and fosters empathy, compassion and tolerance – directly reflecting our Longcroft values of Great Heart, Thought and Vision.

We know that for many families across the country and within our own community, this Christmas period will be particularly challenging again this year. In a wonderful demonstration of Great Heart, our Sixth Form Ambassadors in conjunction with the Student Council will be leading our now annual charity campaign to collect donations for the East Yorkshire Foodbank. This local organisation is part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. They are founded with the conviction that no one in our community should have to face going hungry and provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. Please see the article later in this Newsletter which explains how you can help, and please do support if you are able.

I wish you all a hopeful and joyful advent.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter.

Mr D Perry Headteacher





At Longcroft we create a positive and motivated atmosphere, within which pupils can take pride in their achievements. We believe that through formal recognition of achievement, a positive attitude to learning or community mindedness, pupils should be rewarded. Our ClassCharts rewards are designed promote a positive ethos through a culture of praise; we celebrate acts of Great Heart, Great Thought and Great Vision.

Praise and encouragement are integral in developing self-confidence and self-esteem that leads to further personal development. It is very important for us to motivate and encourage pupils by recognising their effort and achievement. ClassCharts is also a live tracking online application to ensure parents are kept informed of their son or daughter's progress and achievements. This can help to prompt conversations about their day, what they learnt and what they achieved.

Everyone likes to have their hard work and effort recognised and rewarded; it helps to build resilience, determination and ambition, and it inspires others to work hard and achieve. We go beyond issuing daily ClassCharts rewards to ensure that outstanding achievements are recognised and rewarded. Pupils with the highest number of rewards in each year group are celebrated here in our weekly Newsletter, and







pupils with the highest number of each type of reward are also celebrated. Pupils receive certificates each week in recognition of this. All reward points can be used in our Friday Rewards Shop at the Finance Office. This helps our pupils to equate dedication, determination and hard work with reward, and also encourages our pupils to practise their understanding of saving and budgeting. We are always looking for ways to celebrate and reward our pupils for their efforts and achievements, and our School Council discuss new ideas regularly; I look forward to sharing these with you in the future.

I enjoyed catching up with Amelia, Holly and Leo from Mrs Scott's form; Dexter, Rosie and Elspeth from Miss Woodhead's form as well as Mr Charlesworth's tutor group including Owen, Harry and Imogen. All pupils can expect to receive their certificates this week.

**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

Spencer Uzzell Ashley Griffin

Harry Gee

Leonid Vaskov

Owen Harper

Ben Taylor

Jake Redmond

Tymofii Merkulov

Joshua Welham

Erin Williams

#### Year 8

Lydia Chapman

Alfie Robinson

Caitlin Groves

Charlotte Sutcliffe

Amelie Wharton

Neve Meagher

Alex Matta

James Shiels

Izzy Barwick

Ollie Bayes

#### Year 9

Mason David

Harry Rogers

Evie Woad

Phoebe Haw

Emily Moon

Maisie Foster

Ben Carlvle-Smith

Sienna Robinson

Sadie Colclough

Gracie Pawson

### **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: Ashley Griffin

Year 8: Kiara De Kock

Year 9: Amelia Thompson

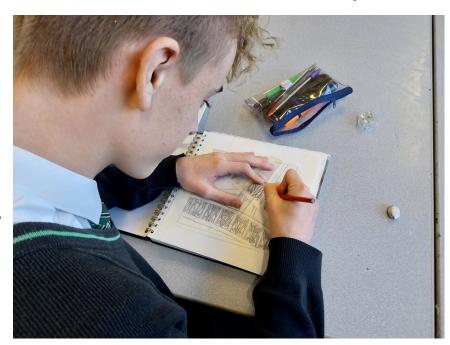




This week has seen the first Form-time intervention sessions taking place on Friday. These twice weekly sessions in either Maths, English or Science will allow a focus for the Mocks but in the long term, the extra learning needed by pupils to meet or exceed their targets. Based on Mock outcomes from Year 10, they will be

re-visited after the Year 11
December Mocks as well as starting Phase Two of Form intervention starting in the new year. More subjects will be added to the intervention Form-time for two extra sessions a week. This will leave time for fortnightly assemblies and GCSE mindset sessions.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to see many lessons this week, observing learning, being amazed at the depth of work and discussing with teachers how the pupils are progressing. Here are some of the highlights.





Outstanding work by Heidi and Imogen who constantly push themselves and each other to work at least at target grade in Mrs Low's Maths class.

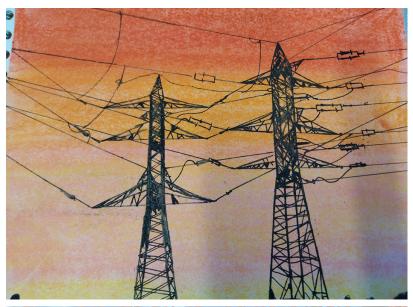
In Mr Deer's class pupils were reading Stave 3 of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens and discussing the ideas about the change in empathy shown by Scrooge and the reasons behind these. Mr Deer and I were extremely impressed with contributions by Isobel, Sam, Katy and Elise.

In my next visit I chatted to Ella who was working on an Art project whilst we discussed her future plans and how Art would fit into these. Alesha had created an amazing picture where she had shown mastery in the art of perspective drawing in pylon wires. Travis was completing a detailed study of metal work in the Eiffel Tower.

In Food, I was able to try a lovely piece of pancake made by Effie and watch Lily making sausage and mash. Macie was completing a thin crust salami pizza which looked delicious. Ms George was really impressed with Lizzie who had made amazing quality pasta which she was turning into tagliatelle. The pupils could discuss their recipes, and this project was to increase fibre levels in meals.

Model making was occurring in Design Technology using double sided corrugated cardboard on a brief of storage ideas. Pupils were developing ideas such a fishing box by Jayden, also game storage boxes and garden lights. Mr Dyson was impressed with Laura's design and detail on a sewing box.

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

Erin Meagher Joe Dawson
Isabel Buckle Ella Curley
Anika Matta Hailey De Kock
Amelia Purchon Annie Mason
Jasmine Lambert Lily Pepper

#### Year 11

Kripa Gurung Rossi Moulson Samantha Thorpe Tyla Keenan Heidi Jackson Luke Kitching James Bucknall Laura Campbell Ruby Stanway Lewis Allenby Lydia Curley

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:

**Alesha Duncan-Dove** for showing a positive attitude, a "can do approach", determination and resilience. **Mr Pearson** 

**Rossi Moulson** for my SENECA completion shout out please. **Mrs Scott** 

**Chantal Levey** for tremendous PYLON work in Art. You went over and above with your media experimentation and achieved two outstanding pieces of work. Very well done. **Mrs Holmes** 

Carmel Woodall, Sarah Warburton, Jemma Garnham, Rossi Moulson and Samantha Thorpe for consistent hard work in English. Mrs Smith

# 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: Katie Booth

Year 11: Ashton Blakebrough







#### Musicians' Golden Performance

Congratulations to Jasmine, Maddy and Katie, who is in Year 11 – our members of

the East Riding Music Hub Senior Wind Band who were in action at the National **Concert Band Festival in** Northampton. The band achieved a fantastic Gold award performance!

Maddy, who plays clarinet, has been a member of the band for four years. She said, "It's fun - I get to play with lots of different people and help musicians develop their skills. We rehearse every fortnight. We're hoping to get through to the next stage in Manchester "









#### **Ambassadors Appointed**

This week, in the Sixth Form, we elected our Ambassadors. These are our senior students in Year 12 who represent the Sixth Form at various events, speak for the student voice and meet with me half termly to discuss key items such as Sixth Form life, lessons, studying, careers and enrichment.

The following students spoke about their vision for the Sixth Form and presented to the whole of the Sixth Form. They were very nervous but did brilliantly.

This year the students are **Edward Brown**, **Emilia Czerwony** and **Edward Smedley**.

#### **Emilia**

**What do you study:** Psychology, Spanish, Sociology and Biology

What were the features of your speech: I tried to come across in a friendly way while giving some suggested improvements to the Sixth Form such as adding a quiet reflection space for everyone to relax and help their mental health.

Why do you think your fellow students voted for you: I think I am an approachable person so people feel comfortable confiding in me. I am also very resilient and will persevere with any problem to see it through.

What is your ambition as an ambassador: I want the Sixth Form to be a happy and comfortable place for everyone. I want everyone to enjoy school. I want to help improve our Sixth Form for everyone!

#### **Edward B**

**What do you study:** Law, Theatre Studies, Biology and Geography

What were the features of your speech: I talked about my past experiences and personal struggles so that people would hopefully feel they could reach out to me and that they would feel comfortable with me speaking on their behalf.

Why do you think your fellow students voted for you: I think I am a very fair and approachable person that people can feel comfortable with. I hope people know that I will speak up for everyone.

What is your ambition as an ambassador: I want to make the Sixth Form a better place for everyone, and to make the overall lifestyle of the Sixth Form well known through the school to help promote what the Sixth Form can become.

#### **Edward S**

What do you study: Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Maths

What were the features of your speech: I focused on the 3 main qualities I can bring as an ambassador; reliability, promise and commitment!

Why do you think your fellow students voted for you: I come across in a very professional manner, so people feel that I am able to get the job done. At the same time, I try to remain approachable so that people feel they can talk to me.

What is your ambition as an ambassador: I want to make the Sixth Form a better place to be with focus on extra curriculars and clubs so that people feel there is a community outside of lessons.

I am very much looking forward to working with Edward, Emilia and Edward, who I am sure will prove to be excellent ambassadors for our Sixth Form!

Mr Chapman Head of Sixth Form













## **Christmas Foodbank Appeal 2023**

Each winter season we support a local charity who work with local families needed some extra help. This provides an opportunity for us to support our local community at this time of year.

We have again teamed up with the East Riding Food Bank to prepare food parcels.

Each form will work together to, where possible, create a full box of essentially required items.

The forms have been given the task to organize themselves to create a full box. We have suggested that they may want to choose to follow a reverse advent calendar.

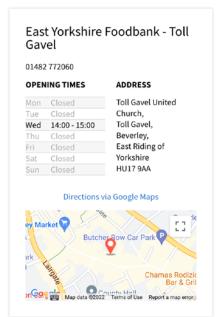
However, we don't have 24 days left – we are donating all items on Monday 11th December (which gives us two weeks to do this).

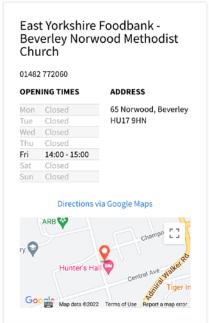
No-one should feel pressure to donate and we all can only do what we can.

If you think you can help support this cause your donations are very much appreciated and will be collected and donated directly to the Beverley food bank.

For information about East Yorkshire Food Bank visit https://eastyorkshire.foodbank. org.uk/

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement









Welcome to another Personal Development Update. In this update I would like to share details of the recent work that we have been doing to prepare our pupils for their next steps beyond their time at Longcroft.

Typically, although our Careers programme runs throughout the year, the autumn term is a key moment in my role as Curriculum Leader for Personal Development, in which my main focus on careers. This year has been no different in that regard as we work to support our pupils in making the all-important choices about their future options.

In recent weeks, we have initiated a number of careers projects for Year 11 pupils as well as those in other years. Firstly, this year we are moving away from remotely delivered individual advice and guidance for all Year 11 pupils, and are instead working with a local company, GP Careers Consultants, who will provide individual careers appointments for all our Year 11 pupils and any Sixth Form students who need that support. Our advisor from GP Careers Consultants is a fully-trained independent advisor who meets with the pupil, discusses their plans and gives them tailored advice about their next steps.

We have also recently launched our plans for Year 10 Work Experience, with all Year 10 pupils now avidly seeking a placement with local businesses and industry. The pupils in Year 10 will be out on Work Experience from 1st to 5th July. Some pupils have already returned details of their placement to school, but we are always open to any further offers of placements. Please do get in touch if you feel you could offer a placement for one of our pupils. In addition to Year 10, for the first time this year, we will be organising Year 12 Work Experience, with more details to follow soon!



This term has also seen two trips out of school related to Careers. As highlighted in a previous edition of our Newsletter we took a number of Year 11 pupils to Howdens last half term. In addition, last week a number of pupils from Year 10, Year 12 and Year 13 went to visit Bishop Burton College for the East Riding Apprenticeship Fair. This included a range of exhibitors from local education colleges and apprenticeship providers, as well as local, regional and national employers of apprentices. The event allowed our pupils to have very informative conversations with the organisations involved in delivering apprenticeships meaning they can make their future decisions with a far better understanding of the options available to them.

Finally, we are very busy putting the final plans in place for our Careers Fair which will take place this coming Thursday on 7th December 2023. The first stage of the fair will take place during Period 5 of the school day where we will show our Year 9 and 10 pupils around a selection of the stalls and provide the opportunity for initial discussions with our exhibitors. The second and main stage will take place after school as normal and is available to all pupils in Years 9 to 13 and their parents/carers.

The evening will be centred around a range of stalls and representatives from local education providers including apprenticeship organisations who will be ready to speak with parents/carers and pupils about their future options. We will have representatives from East Riding College, Bishop Burton College, Armed Forces, Hull University, HETA, East Yorkshire Sixth Form, HBTC and many more. In addition, a range of employers will be present including Swift Leisure, NHS, Siemens Mobility Group, Ebtech Energy, Beverley Racecourse and East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The main event will take place from 4.15pm to 7.00pm. If you are the parent of a pupil in Years 9-13, and wish to book a place, please do so via the QR code below and choose your expected arrival time. Whichever time you choose to arrive, you are welcome to stay at the event for as long as you wish, but the event will close at 7:00pm to allow exhibitors to travel home.













# **Primary Schools' Sports Hall Athletics**

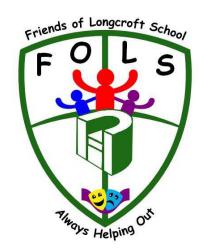
We were once again delighted to welcome many of our future pupils to Longcroft when we hosted a Sports Hall Athletics competition last week.

Our School Sports Co-ordinator Mrs Henderson said, "It was such a competitive and exciting event. Pupils competed in track and field events throughout the evening with all results contributing to their team's points. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, especially the track relays."

Mrs Henderson added, "Well done to the schools who competed - Cherry Burton, Molescroft, St John's and St Mary's. Congratulations to Molescroft on a convincing win - they now go through to the East Riding final next year to represent the Longcroft cluster of schools. As always, a big thank you to the fantastic Longcroft Leaders; it is an intense evening recording results and all our leaders did a great job as always."



# The Friends' Corner



## **Cash Draw Winners**

fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

Congratulations to November's Cash Draw Winner:

Parents of Mathilda Smith

They have kindly re donated their winnings back to the FOLS.

Thank you so much for your generosity.





# Raise Money, With Easyfundraising.com

Easyfundraising.com is an easy way to help support Friends of Longcroft School. Simply download the app and register choosing us as your selected charity. They have a huge list of retailers and businesses who will donate on your behalf, without it costing you a penny. Just remember every time you are shopping on line, booking a holiday or even renewing insurance to go through easyfundraising.com - it couldn't be easier to help us support our school.



# 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**







# Memory Lane

This week we feature two First Year tutor groups from 1979/80. Mrs Atkinson and Mr Usher are pictured with their tutor groups.









# FIRST STORY

"Our future depends on stories. As the world advances, literature has the ability to ground us—in our humanness, our imaginations, and our enlightenment."

Pawan Mishra

This month marks the beginning of another journey with First Story for Longcroft. Over the next few terms pupils and students from across year groups will be working with our inspiring writer in residence, Vicky Foster, to create our fourth anthology.



Vicky is a writer, performer, and poet and has led numerous workshops. She's a fabulous role model for our children. Her first audio drama, Bathwater, won the Imision Award at the 2020 BBC Audio Drama Awards. She has performed regularly on radio, and at events, and has been praised for her poetry collections. Her first novel is due out shortly.

To work with a professional writer and get work in print when you are still at school is a special opportunity, combining deep, social, and emotional learning with raised self-esteem. Students are encouraged to find their own voices, write the stories they want to tell, and experiment with language. It's amazing to watch them grow in confidence as their writing skills develop and they feel free to articulate their ideas and give each other feedback

Throughout the programme the whole school benefits. Termly competitions and events, including the Young Writers Festival, all boost the profile and value of creative writing.



Students who complete the First Story programme can apply for exceptional development opportunities. Last summer Orlaith Brown won a fully funded place on the Arvon residential course. A new anthology, **Emerging Adults**, which features her writing was showcased this week with a virtual launch on Thursday. Orlaith is one of our First Story Ambassadors, which means that this year she can attend workshops again and help to support younger pupils.

Copies of **Emerging Adults** are available in the Library. These can be loaned alongside previous Longcroft anthologies. Below is one of Orlaith's poems from the anthology.

#### Rivers' Run

Rivers snake in and out of view,
Following the green army
Of trees. Windmills wave
In the distance, fans rotate
Like ballerinas.
Glowing fields of wheat
Emerge through summer,
Meet their demise in autumn.
Melodies of bird song
Harmonise with the rushing river.
Giants of redwoods,
Fairies of falling leaves,
Everything gathers around the
Rivers' run.

#### Reminder - The Six Word Story Competition Deadline

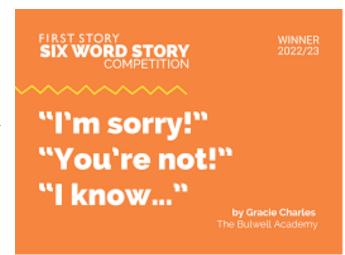
Alexa, where did my parents go?

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 or give them to your English teacher by Friday 8th December. Prizes will include Goodie Bags, books, online publication, ClassCharts rewards and sweets.





## **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



07810 416081 katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net



Sixth Form **Miss Taylor** 01482 862171 ext. 1338 emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net