



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Performers are Joyful and Triumphant

Our performing artists treated a capacity audience to a wonderful Performance Evening filled with a fabulous range of music and drama. Our Musical Theatre Ensemble opened the evening with songs from hit musical 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie'.

Instrumentalists' performances included 'War is Over', 'Mary had a Baby', 'Fairytale of New York' and 'I Dreamed a Dream', and Year 12 student Phoebe performed a beautiful solo – "Prelude".

Drama pieces included a devised performance from Year 9 pupils and monologues from Year 10 pupils studying GCSE Drama.

Joe Dawson treated the audience to a solo performance of Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds song 'Dead in the Water' before returning to the stage with our much celebrated band – Room 64.

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Year 7 pupils performed 'Disney Dazzle' – a range of songs from Disney films, including 'Part of My World' and 'Under the Sea' from 'The Little Mermaid'. Melody has been singing since she was five years old, and dancing since she was two. She said, "I love performing – it makes me happy." Owen, who is also in Year 7, said, "I like singing because I find it relaxing and it's a good way to enjoy yourself." He added, "I enjoyed the evening because it was nice to have my parents watch me."

*"It was nice to have my parents watching me perform."
Owen (Year 7)*

A fabulous rendition of Slade's 'I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day' provided a fitting finale, bringing the curtain down on an unforgettable evening and welcoming in the festive season!

The evening would not have been possible without our team of performing arts teachers who do a wonderful job of inspiring our pupils and preparing them to perform - Mrs Harris, Mr Thomson and Mr Chapman.

Thank you to our fantastic Friends of Longcroft School who gave up their time to provide refreshments and raised an amazing £300 towards our Reading Room.





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

37,333

THOUGHT

195,358

VISION

137,584

GRAND

TOTAL:

370,275





Headteacher's Welcome

What a wonderful week of celebration it has been; and there is so much more to come as we continue to recognise the many achievements of our young people over the final days of this important term.

Earlier this week I had the privilege of attending a glorious Carol Service at the Beverley Minster, which was held to raise money and awareness for Macmillan Cancer Support. It was a truly exceptional evening with a range of performers and some heartily sung carols; but an absolute highlight was our Longcroft choir. Our young people shone brightly under the church lights and on what was a beautiful stage, both aesthetically and in terms of the acoustics. I was full of pride to see the children sing so well, and be received so enthusiastically by the packed congregation.

This followed a busy period for our performing artists, after our Celebration Evening last Thursday when a capacity audience filled our theatre. As noted in last week's Newsletter, the quality and range of performances was quite exceptional and included bands, instrumental pieces, solos, choirs, challenging drama pieces and more. The whole evening was incredibly uplifting and a great celebration of our school, our values and our children.

A huge well done to all involved in both events! You can read more about them throughout this week's articles.

Over the last term, pupils across the school have been receiving unprecedented levels of rewards for the positive acts of Great Heart, Thought and Vision they display each and every day. We expect to hit over 400,000 before the term is complete!!.. and to be on track for the ambitious target I set of 1,200,000 by the end of this academic year. We have had a queue of young people excited to be using their reward credits to purchase items from our shop, including the queue jump pass which remains particularly popular for those that enjoy the range of food available in our school canteens.

Whilst we are nearing the end of the term, there are still 10 incredibly valuable days to go with much learning planned. There is also however many more opportunities in the final week to celebrate together. We have rewards assemblies, trips and events scheduled at various points for different Year Groups and our seasonal well-being day to look forward to for our Sixth Form packed full of activities.

This week's Newsletter reflects so much more that has been taking place in school over recent days so please do enjoy reading the various articles and contributions. Have a great week.

Mr D Perry
Headteacher



LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

This term we have celebrated successes with pupils related to their academic achievements and efforts in lessons. We recognise that success looks different for each individual, but have high expectations for all pupils in terms of effort.

At Longcroft we encourage resilience and organisational skills through rewarding Great Vision. We do this by encouraging the pupils to demonstrate readiness for the future by developing the skills and qualities that will lead to success in life beyond school.

In a classroom, this looks like good organisation and a willingness to work independently. Around school we actively promote careers, pathways beyond education and, this week in assembly we are talking to the children about employability skills. Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential. Going to school is directly linked to improved performance in lessons which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop friendships, social skills, team values, life skills and cultural awareness as well as career pathways referred to above.



This week, we are celebrating with pupils who have achieved high attendance this term. As well as those who have achieved the long-term goal of 100% attendance for the year, we are rewarding children who have been in consecutively for the last fortnight. We acknowledge that it is not always possible for a child to achieve 100% for various different reasons, but we are keen to encourage that the children attend every day possible.

Well done to all pupils with 100% attendance listed below. As well as our fortnight attendance challenge that took place last half-term, on a weekly basis there is a £5 Amazon Voucher competition for those with 100% attendance in the previous week.



Year 7

Holly Abel

Carlos Aparicio Dans

Oliver Barley

Finley Barrett

Annmariya Binoy

Elias Chapman

Olivia Chilcott

Henry Coates

Joshua Dakin

Beth Dawson

Sophie Day

Max Dixon

Sophia Dixon

Fletcher Dolan

Melody Drage

Rosie Fitton

Dexter Forsyth

Finley Hall

Oscar Harling

George Hogg

Isabelle Johnson

Henry Konieczko-Hansom

Ada Lawrence

Oscar Lawson

Emmi Lister

Tymofii Merkulov

Megan Morley-Smith

Shanice Munaku

Dylan O'Connell

Millie Oliver

Summer Oliver

Ella Page

Oscar Purchon

Olivia Radley

Flynn Robson

Ryan Russell

Isaac Savage

Lily Smedley

Ava Spink

Mia Spruce-Wan

Leo Strickland

Benjamin Taylor

Emily Thomson

Max van den Ban

Amalie Wade

Jack Wallis

Alexander Waterson

Joshua Welham

Year 8

Isla Addinall

Jamie Baker

Will Balmforth

Izzy Barwick

Sophie Battye

Hailey Berango

Jenson Blakey

Lydia Chapman

Ava Curley

Lily Curtis

Harry Dixon

Madilyn Duff

Ruben Gabell

Luke Hiles

Max Lister

Patrick Marham

Alex Matta

Neve Meagher

Holly Ruston

Sarah Shrimpton

Bella Stoney

Amy Thornton

Year 9

Ben Carlyle-Smith

Ollie Davies

Maisie Foster

Zach Gault-Wear

Ava Moore

Charlie Moses

Ellie Mulvana

Logan Munns

Gracie Pawson

Sienna Robinson

Benjamin Smedley

Melody Smith

Millie Wisher

Evie Woad

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 9

Mason David
Harry Rogers
Evie Woad
Phoebe Haw
Emily Moon
Maisie Foster
Ben Carlyle-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 9: Cameron Pierce



UPPER
SCHOOL**Mr Henderson writes:**

Not many people have ever run a marathon, but when you listen to people who have they talk about the hours and hours of training and preparation they put in to getting ready for the big day.

In many ways the summer GCSE examinations are something of a marathon that pupils need to prepare for. In the same way a marathon runner cannot just wake up and run a marathon successfully, pupils cannot just arrive at their examinations with minimal preparation. Pupils have been preparing for 11 years for these examinations, building up knowledge and skills along the way. It is now time to focus on the big day, ensuring the final part of their preparation, the last 6 months builds and consolidates the effort over such a long time. Mocks can be seen as the time checks, are we still improving and practising what is required to be at our best on the big day.

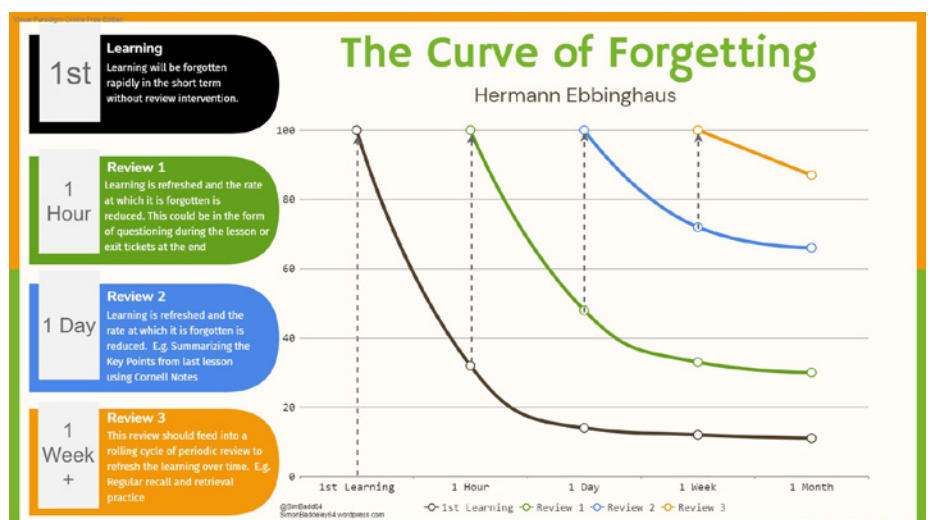
The Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve is a way of helping pupils to see that some revision each day is far better than cramming the night before.

This image best shows the forgetting curve: There is an especially useful article from Mind Tools, for those who have not heard of the forgetting curve.

<https://www.mindtools.com/a9wjrw/ebbinghauss-forgetting-curve>

Which brings me to GCSEPod. As I have said before, GCSEPod is an excellent and proven strategy to complement other revision. Last year there was a very clear correlation to those meeting and exceeding target grades with continued and regular use of GCSEPod.

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	Lydia Spratt
Elise Forster	Hayden Berango
Ella Curley	Ashie Elliott
Joe Dawson	Toby Robertson
Anika Matta	Sophie Flanagan
Charlotte Skilbeck	

Year 11

Louie Lakey	Alex Ryan
Lydia Curley	Tristan Carlos Pineda
Ella Harris-Smith	Lewis Kitchin
Seth Hamson	Alissia d'Andilly
Libby Wood	Imogen Capes
George Steele	

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:

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Congratulations to this week's nominations:

Liv Langdon and **Hannah Woodhouse** for outstanding attitude to their homework over several weeks. Completed revision HW booklets with diligence which I am sure will prepare them well for their forthcoming mocks. **Mr Haworth**

Fin Addinall for a significant improvement in work ethic and attitude in Geography. **Mr Haworth**

Maddie Braithwaite le Pine for improving attendance in Drama. **Mr Thomson**

Ruby Garness for SENECA work. **Mrs Scott**

Alex Ryan showed superb knowledge of the Cold War that he applied to explain McCarthyism in 1950s America to the class. **Mr Pearson**

Isobele Horner for great heart and shows care towards her fellow pupils. Also very helpful in class.

Jaidyn Foster for great work on modelling his design ideas in the last few weeks. **Mr Dyson**

Attendance Matters!

Last week's winners were:

Year 10: Daniel Parkinson

Year 11: Liam Roberts

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O Christmas Tree!

We are proud of our contribution to this year's Christmas Tree Festival – one of 125 beautifully decorated trees displayed in Beverley Minster's stunning medieval building this month.

Each tree is sponsored by a different local charity, organisation, school or business. As they are free to decorate their own tree as they wish, every fir tree looks unique once it's been dressed and lit with beautiful fairy lights.

Pupils working in Design Technology with Mr Dyson created decorations, and Mrs Block and Mrs Spruce-Wan visited the Minster to decorate the tree.

The Festival, an annual event which this year runs until Sunday 10th December, is a wonderful and unmissable feature of the local festive calendar. Entry to the Christmas Tree Festival is just £5 with accompanied children under 18 allowed in for free. Visitors can pay by card or cash on the door.

Set amongst the trees during the evenings are a number of carol concerts. We were delighted that our pupils performed at the annual Macmillan Carol Concert on Tuesday. Year 7 pupil Melody said, "We performed 'Christmas Bells', 'Silent Night' and 'Mary's Boy Child'. I loved performing in a beautiful setting like the Minster."



In addition to Tuesday's wonderful evening, Carols by Candlelight led by the Minster choir takes place on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th of December and on the evening of Sunday, the 10th Britten's Ceremony of Carols is performed.

For more details, and to buy tickets, visit: <https://beverleyminster.org.uk/christmas-tree-festival-2023/>



Year 7 Football

Longcroft's Year 7 footballers took part in the East Riding Schools' 7 a side tournament last week in both the boys' and girls' categories.



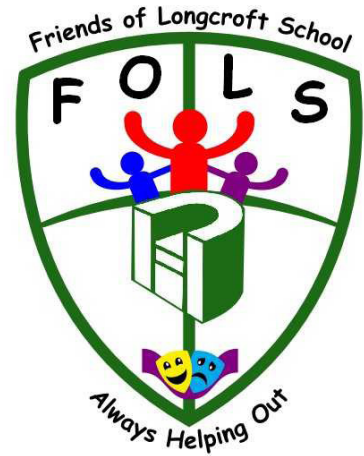
It was a very cold morning at Soccer Sensations but both teams played well - they had some tough games in their pools. The girls qualified from their pool games to play in the semi-final where they performed well but lost to Howden who became the overall tournament champions.

Mr Cassidy, said "All the players performed well and displayed some good football skills, but most importantly they enjoyed the event."

Oscar said, "It's a good place to play, but we didn't play particularly well." He added, "I'm enjoying playing for the school team."



The Friends' Corner



Thank you!

fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

The FOLS would like to say a massive thank you to all the volunteers who supported the Refreshment Stall at last week's School Christmas Concert.

Special thanks to:

Stuarts of Driffield for their generous raffle prize

and

McDonalds in Beverley for their generous raffle prizes and donated refreshments

Thanks to everyone's efforts we managed to raise £300 towards the Reading Room project.





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 feature two tutor groups from 1980s. Miss Wlodarczyck, Mr Hansom and Miss Simons are pictured with 5(I) and Mr Caswell is pictured with 3AN.





LIBRARY NEWS



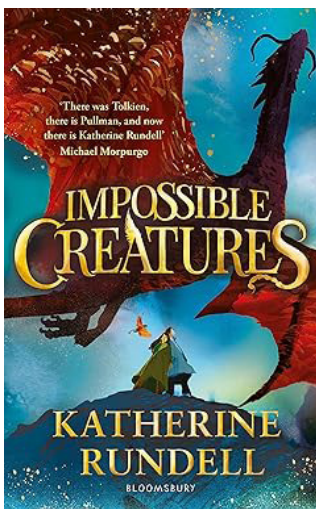
Ms Carvill writes:

"Books matter."

Lisa Lucas, executive director of the National Book Foundation

Every year thousands of new children's books are published in the UK. It's a huge market and projected to increase over the next five years. For those writers who find themselves on bestseller lists and winning prizes, being an author can be extremely lucrative. Their publishing deals are likely to improve as are sales-boosting opportunities, like book tours, increased publicity, and a raised profile amongst foreign publishers.

As Christmas approaches and the holiday beckons it's the perfect time to buy or borrow a good book. Below are a selection of prize-winning novels from 2023.

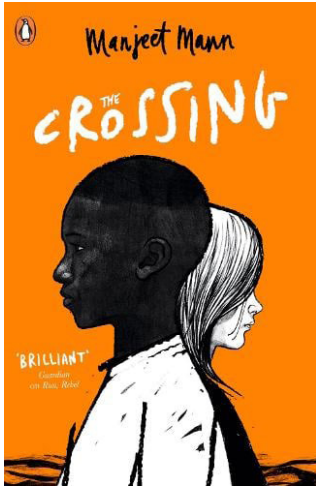


Waterstones Book of the Year 2023

Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell – Reading Age 11+

Awaiting AR

This fabulous fantasy tells the tale of a brave boy and a hunted girl and is set in a magical land called the Archipelago; populated by all manner of mythical beasts. It's an epic adventure that's been described as 'as close to perfect as fiction gets' and a 'masterclass in page turning storytelling'. It is destined to become a classic. Poignant and profound.



UKLA Book Award 2023

The Crossing by Manjeet Mann – Reading Age 12-17

AR - 3.6 – Green

This powerful verse novel has two narrators. Natalie's world is falling apart. Her mum has just died, and her brother is full of rage and hate. Sammy has fled from Eritrea in search of a new life, but the future might not be as welcoming as he'd hoped. A twist of fate brings them together and allows them some hope, but is it enough to repair a damaged world?

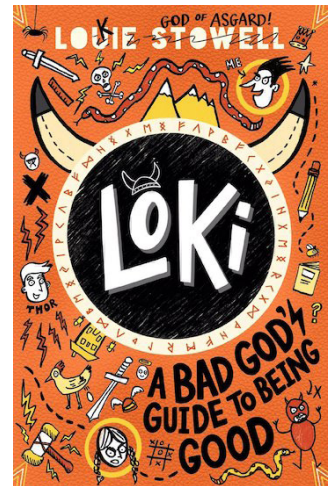
An emotional read. Truly life-affirming.

Reading Zone Children's Book Award 2023

Loki, A Bad Guide to Being Good by Louie Stowell – Reading Age 9+

AR – BL 4.9 – Blue

This amusing diary style story will delight fans of Diary of a Wimpy Kid, and Tom Gates with its comic strip doodles and wit. God Loki is furious to be trapped in the body of a very weedy eleven-year-old boy, but that's what happens after one trick too many. Banished to live on Earth he is forbidden from using his magical powers. Will he survive and will he ever learn to tell good from evil? Great fun.



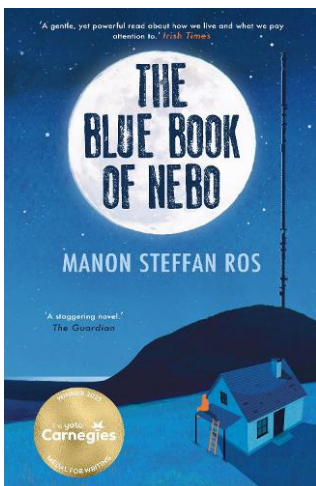
Yoto Carnegie Medal 2023

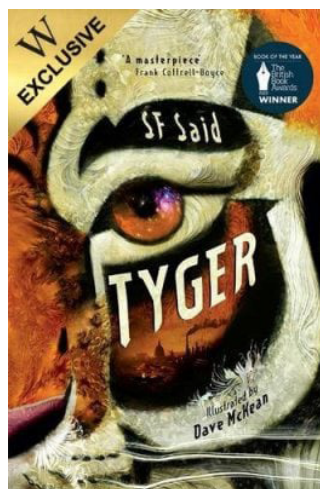
The Blue Book of Nebo by Manon Steffan Ross – Reading Age 13+/YA

AR – BL 5.4 – Red

This emotional novel explores the human capacity to cope in the aftermath of a global disaster. Dylan was 6 when The End came in 2018 and now he is 14 and must face adult responsibilities. He and his mother, Rowena, live on an isolated hilltop in Wales. They have survived in a post-apocalyptic world, but they have secrets which they jot down, in turn, in the Blue Book of Nebo.

Be aware the book contains descriptions of death, including that of a young child, and some implied sexual content. A sensitive and thoughtful slim read.





British Book Awards Children's Fiction Book of the Year 2023

Tyger by S F Said – Reading Age 9-12

AR-BL 5.0 - Red

This spectacular book tells the story of a world on the verge of destruction and a magical animal that just might be able to rescue it. Adam finds a mysterious, mythical tyger on a rubbish dump in London, and it's in grave danger. Can Adam and his friend Zadie rescue it and use their powers before the world is destroyed?

The myths and legends of history are cleverly woven into this superb tale. Envisage a world where slavery was never abolished. Highly imaginative and thought provoking. Excellent.

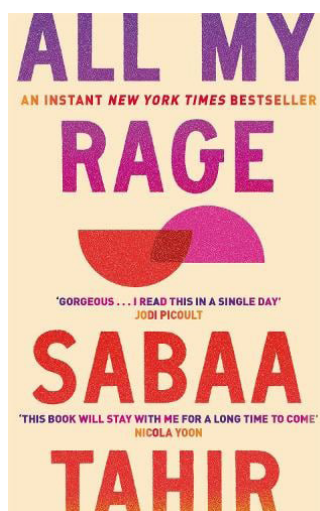
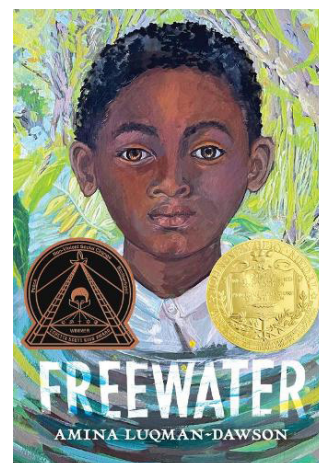
Newberry & Coretta Scott King Award 2023

Freewater by Amina Lugman-Dawson- Reading Age 10+

AR – 4.6 – Blue

This page-turning tale begins with the harrowing flight of two enslaved children from a plantation, who have unwillingly left their dear mother behind. Homer and Ada are eventually welcomed into a safe community with its own system of beliefs and traditions, and a complex relationship with the swamp. Will they ever be reunited with their mother?

An inspiring story of survival , courage, friendship and hope.



Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults.

All My Rage by Sabaa Tahir – Reading Age YA

No AR

This tender tale of young love, deep regret, and forgiveness is breathtaking. It takes you on a journey from Pakistan to the USA as a newly married couple hope for a fresh start after a tragedy. Their child, Salahudin, becomes best friends with Noor, both outcasts in their small Californian town, but The Fight threatens to destroy their relationship and suddenly everything is spiralling out of control. Impossible to put down.

“Generally, literary prizes are significant not for who the winner is but the discussion they create around books.”

Richard Flanagan – prize winning author



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

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katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net



Sixth Form

Miss Taylor

01482 862171 ext. 1338

emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net