



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER

"A brilliant event – I had a chance to talk to so many people!"

Pupils Look to the Future!

Our third annual Careers Fair built on the success of previous events with over 30 employers, training providers, colleges and universities joining us to support our pupils and Sixth Form students by offering an insight into potential opportunities.

Mr Coupe, who organised the event, said: "I was delighted with this year's event. We welcomed a record number of providers and their feedback was excellent - so many took the time to praise our pupils and Sixth Form students. By starting in the afternoon we ensured pupils in Years 9 and 10 were all able to take advantage of the opportunity to attend, and they were extremely positive. A number of Year 11 pupils and Sixth Form students attended during the evening. It was a pleasure to receive so much positive feedback from parents and providers. I am already looking forward to next year's event!"

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Several guests were former Longcroft students, and it was a pleasure to see them discussing both their current careers and the part their years at Longcroft played in their journey.

Pupils and Sixth Form students found the event both informative and valuable. Year 10 pupil Callum said, "It was good. I was interested in talking to the man from the Royal Navy. I'm probably going to go to college when I leave school – I'd like to do a construction course."

Year 11 pupil Ruby said, "It was very interesting and there were some careers I hadn't considered. I also found out how to get into some jobs and the qualifications I will need. I'll be staying in the Sixth Form, and that will allow me to think more about my options."

Thank you to the following providers who were represented at the event. We are already planning further opportunities for this academic year, and looking forward to next year's Careers Fair!

East Riding College

LogOnMoveOn

RAF

Bishop Burton

Humber Energy Skills Training Academy

HETA

University of Hull

CB Solutions

Hull College

Army

Navy

The East Yorkshire Sixth Form

York St John University

KCOM

CHCP (City Health Care Partnership)

Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust

Beverley Racecourse

Ebtech Energy Systems

Skills Hull & East Riding

Choose Care

SEND Supported Internships

HBTC

Reds10

Faculty of Health Science at the University of Hull

Siemens Mobility Goole

National Horseracing College

Humberside Fire & Rescue

BAE Systems



LONGCROFT

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NEWS LETTER



We view effective careers education and information, advice and guidance as essential in allowing pupils to make suitable educational and employment decisions and to minimise the potential costs associated with uninformed and unsuccessful choices. This event is a key aspect of a wider programme, which includes work experience in Year 10 and Year 12, as well as one-to-one interviews with an independent careers advisor. Pupils and students also receive careers education throughout a newly developed curriculum that flows from Year 7 right the way through to Year 13.

Mr Coupe concluded, "It is so important that young people are aware of the opportunities available to them. It was wonderful to see a number of former Longcroft students, representing their companies with pride and discussing their own journey since their days at our school. I want to thank all our guests for giving up their time to inform and inspire our young people."





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

39,666

THOUGHT

205,973

VISION

145,232

GRAND

TOTAL:

388,204





Headteacher's Welcome

As we move towards the Christmas break, there is much to look forward to and be excited for. This has been a term of many achievements for our community and we will be celebrating them whole-heartedly over the final week of term.

It seems some time ago now that we welcomed a team of Ofsted Inspectors into our school back in November. It was a great opportunity to share our school and the progress we have made since previous visits, notably through working with the Wonder Learning Partnership Trust, who amongst many other things have provided me with the opportunity of becoming part of the Longcroft journey. We are expecting a release of the final report in the coming days and I will be writing to parents so that we can formally share the outcome at the earliest opportunity.

There has also been lots of activity over this term designed to support pupils and students in considering their options for the future and preparing them for life beyond school. We have had our trip to the Regional Apprenticeship Show, a flagship event for providers who are supporting young people into a vast array of jobs across a range of sectors, the extension of our work experience programme to Year 12 as well as Year 10, and our Independent Advice and Guidance (IAG) provider in school to begin our cycle of one-one meetings. This week, we delivered an exceptional careers fair with over 30 providers from further and higher education, employers and apprenticeship providers. You can read more in this week's headline article but we have again received superb feedback about our pupils and students, so a huge well done to all who attended.

Watching our young people enjoying various clubs and competitive fixtures this half term has been a complete joy. One highlight this week has been our Year 7 girls football team who comprehensively dispatched Hornsea School in their most recent fixture. Performances have been exceptional, with teams achieving positive results across the board. What has been most impressive however, is the way in which our young people conduct themselves in representing our school and community.

One of the aims for the curriculum and school experience we offer at Longcroft is to develop strength of character – the ability for us to behave at all times in a way that is consistent with our values. That has been abundantly evident in our teams' many successes, which are always celebrated with grace and humility. Our pupils are proud of their achievements but respectful of their opponents and those dedicated staff who make opportunities possible. To quote the American Sportswriter Grantland Rice, sometimes 'it's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game'.

We aim to make this final week one packed full of success and celebration and encourage all of our young people not to miss a moment!

Mr D Perry
Headteacher



CHRISTMAS OPEN KITCHEN

25 December 2023

12.00 to 14.00

Beverley Masonic Hall, Trinity Lane, Beverley

No questions, no eligibility requirements; if you want to join us for Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings, mince pies, a cup of something warm please come and see us.

Games, movies and activities.

A cuppa and a conversation.

Gifts for all of the children.

**Provided by
Your Local Freemasons**





LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

At Longcroft we know and care for every child as an individual. We have spent the term in school helping the children to settle into routines to help with education, but also have completed a series of baseline assessments to inform our practice and support pupils further. This includes our Star Reading baseline assessment which gives us, as a school, insights needed to guide literacy growth.

Literacy plays a vital role in transforming pupils into socially engaged citizens. Literacy is one of life's real tools to open doors, access information and to get to wherever a person needs to be. We continue to further raise the profile of good literacy for all of our children through our Accelerated Reader programme, and other literacy targeted strategies such as Bookbuzz which we featured in our newsletter earlier in the year. We also encourage reading for pleasure; reflecting on the magic of reading, stories can make us disappear into another world, travel through time and even transform us into someone else entirely. Personally, I enjoy spending time on an



evening with a book; this month I've just finished the gripping novel of *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath, having previously completed the non-fiction work *Carnage* by Nick Cave and Seán O'Hagan. For me, reading offers release and insight in ways that very few other activities can do.

Pupils are enjoying borrowing from the vast range of texts we have available in our school library. Beth is currently reading *Flip* by Martyn Bedford and said "It's so good, it's a book that I keep wanting to pick up and see what happens next!" Leah is currently reading books from the crime and mystery genre saying her current text is a "real page turner". Chloe is also enjoying her latest book that she has selected from the library.

A child's ability to understand a text largely depends on their ability to understand the language used. Research suggests that as a pupil progresses through school, they need to be adding at least 3,000 words to their vocabulary per year if they are to keep





up with challenging texts across the curriculum. As a school, we know literacy is vital. Our children's literacy experiences and outcomes promote the development of critical and creative thinking as well as competence in listening and talking, reading, writing and the personal, interpersonal and team-working skills which are so important in life and in the world of work.

I am so pleased to see that we have had some fantastic effort with our school Accelerated Reader programme from our children who have been getting stuck in, making excellent progress and continuing to improve

their literacy skills. Our Star Reading assessments further highlight the skills each pupil needs to focus on to meet or exceed expected standards, and this informs our Accelerated Reader strategy. Accelerated Reader, which is our library programme to introduce pupils to aspirational new texts pitched at their reading age, is also in full flow and I look forward to providing an update about our thriving library and how we are supporting young people to enjoy reading as an activity. Children visit the library as part of their tutor-time routines throughout the course of a three-week cycle. Our school library is open before school, at breaktime, during lunchtime as well as after school.



Year 7 Girls Enjoy a Convincing Win Over Hornsea

The Year 7 girls' football team travelled to Hornsea on a very wet, cold Thursday evening. They played a 9 a side game, and Mrs Henderson said: "The girls did well, persevering through the weather conditions and secured a convincing win. Well done to all who played – they showed great attacking play and covered defensively when needed."

Luci Shows Steel in Sheffield

Sheffield's famous Brammall Lane has hosted world class footballers, cricketers and rugby league players over the years – Sheffield United's men's team are currently fighting for Premier League survival and their women's team which plays in the Championship includes former Longcroft student Sophie Haywood.

Last week boxer Luci, who is in Year 9 and represents Beverley's Track Fitness and Boxing Club, enjoyed her latest success via a split decision at the stadium in a bout against a well-supported local opponent.

Luci said, Replace with: "I really enjoyed it. It was a fantastic place to box and there was a big crowd. It was great to win!"

Congratulations to Luci and to everyone at Track Fitness and Boxing Club on another success!

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

Beth Dawson
Owen Harper
Dylan O'Connell
Max Dixon
Elizabeth Dale
Amelia High
Max van den Ban
George Hogg
Oliver Albrow
Lottie Skinner

Year 8

Alfie Robinson
Isla Addinall
Henrik-Bror Berntsson
Neve Meagher
Scarlett Wood
Jake Hara
Isabelle Chant
Poppy Woolfitt
Lily Curtis
Charlotte Sutcliffe

Year 9

Sienna Robinson
Millie Wisher
Charlotte Burnett
Mason David
Gracie Pawson
Xavier Jenny
Ben Carlyle-Smith
Jack Allport
Lexie Burke
Lily Logan

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: Mia Spruce Wan

Year 8: Max Pollard

Year 9: Ollie Davies

UPPER
SCHOOL**Mr Henderson writes:**

This is a very busy fortnight at the end of the first term for our Upper School pupils. Year 11 have been in their mock exams, and great focus and effort has been evident. It has been fantastic to see pupils grow in confidence as a result of their hard work, emerging from examinations with a sense of real progress and achievement.

The intention of the mock exams is twofold. Firstly, to ensure pupils understand the expectations of the course they are studying, demonstrating evidence of their learning. The second is to allow pupils to see their progress and areas in which they can make most progress in the real exams. In the spring term, reflection on their learning and mocks is key to be successful in the final push, pupils will be carrying on with the GCSE mindset in form time to enable this.

Year 10 pupils have the first of the drop-down days for two of their option choices over the last couple of weeks. Pupils have spent this last Wednesday in their subject all day to allow time to complete extended pieces of work and learning.

In Drama, pupils have been focusing on exploring the work, *Blood Brothers*, for their written exam. In RE, Revd Becky Lumley, Vicar of St Mary's Church was speaking and taking questions from pupils on the topics of Marriage and Family, and the belief system of Christianity.

In Art pupils have been working on the completion of their Sunflower coursework including the use of mixed media work. Mrs Holmes has been extremely impressed by the work of Mathilda, Elise, Erin, Nancy, Chloe and Aneena. Some of their work is below.

Next week, pupils will enjoy their second dropdown day in the subjects of Art, Food, PE, RE and Music, where I know Mrs Harris will be working on one of the 8 set pieces *Killer Queen* in the morning and then on pupils' performances in the afternoon.

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	Toby Robertson
Lydia Spratt	Matthew Harris
Anika Matta	Grace Murden
Emilia Fisher	Isabel Buckle
Joe Dawson	Daniel Parkinson

Year 11

Evie Baker	Megan Ulph
Seth Harley	Imogen Capes
Ruby Stanway	Harry Hood
Grace McKenzie	Leo Gamble
Freddie Robinson	
River Tupper	

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: Daniel Parkinson

Year 11: Olivia Langdon





LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM



Mr Chapman writes:

Here in the Sixth Form, we believe it is more important than ever to provide pupils with choices for the future. We have been reviewing our curriculum and we are delighted that in September we will be offering a wider range of courses than ever before, in collaboration with our Woldgate School campus.

Our Sixth Form website is accessible through the school website – this shows subjects and their learning journeys (what students will study and when) for each course. <https://www.longcroftschoo.co.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form&pid=47>

It has been the highlight of my week spending time in the Year 11 canteen having conversations with pupils about their futures and fantastic to hear that so many are choosing The East Yorkshire Sixth Form. I have also been into assembly to discuss further with students how their choices for KS5 need to be considered carefully to ensure they can access their ambitious futures. Our Sixth Form also had a stall at the fabulous careers event this last week.

Below is a set of questions to consider when looking at course options.

How to make the right decisions for post-16 qualifications

There are a lot of considerations to take into account when selecting post-16 qualifications and it should be a decision you put careful thought and time into.

What type of qualification should I choose?

It is important to consider what type of qualification will suit you best. BTEC qualifications are vocational, which means they are more directly linked to specific careers and industries. These qualifications are assessed mainly through coursework which you complete as you learn, with some exams. A Level qualifications are more theoretical and enable an in-depth study of a particular subject. One of the fantastic things about our Sixth Form is that you can study either A Level or BTEC qualifications, or you can study a combination of BTECs and A Levels, giving you enormous flexibility in your choices.





Which subjects should I choose?

The first thing you should think about is whether you have a specific idea of what career or degree you wish to continue onto after the Sixth Form. For certain careers, such as medicine or engineering, there are particular subjects you will need to study to enable you to train in that profession. If you are unsure at this stage what career or degree you want to go onto, which is the case for most of our young people, then we would advise you to select subjects you find most interesting, that you enjoy and are good at, while aiming to keep some breadth in your subject choices to keep your options open longer term. We will be offering regular appointments to Year 11 students throughout this year to make sure they receive independent advice and guidance about their post-16 qualifications.

What else should I be thinking about?

What else do you want to get out of the Sixth Form during the next two years? Of course, you will want to leave with fantastic qualifications, but you will also want to have plenty of other opportunities for development. We offer a huge range of enrichment opportunities, including our incredible expedition abroad which is a life-changing experience for our young people. You will also be given leadership, sporting, enterprise and super-curricular opportunities, such as becoming one of our Sixth Form Student Leaders or competing in the UK Maths Trust Challenge. These opportunities are about you growing as an individual, but also giving you the edge as you move on from the Sixth Form to your chosen career or degree.

Mr Chapman
Head of Sixth Form



You're Invited



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

**APPLY TO EYSF
@ LONGCROFT
TODAY!**



The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.

**Scan the QR code to
take part**



www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition





SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to Year 9 pupil Maisie Middlemiss – the winner of this year's Christmas Card competition.

Maisie said, "I enjoy doing art. I chose the design because I link baubles to Christmas." She added, "I was really pleased to win. I'm going to wait until after Christmas to spend the voucher."

Maisie's design will feature on our School Christmas Card.



She will also receive a £20 Amazon voucher.

Thank you to everyone who entered – I thoroughly enjoyed the festive challenge of choosing a winner!

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement





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 take the opportunity to return to the 1970's and feature Mrs Nichols, our Site and Premises Manager who has retired after 15 years' tremendous service as a highly skilled and totally committed member of staff.

Known in her schooldays as Janette Armishaw, she is pictured as a Lower School pupil in Science teacher Mr Fletcher's tutor group and as a member of Miss Dewar's East Riding Cup winning hockey team.

Mr Baker said,
"It has been a pleasure to work with someone who cares so deeply about our school. Having spent many years in America working for the Hard Rock Café chain, Mrs Nichols brought her understanding of high standards and



excellent communication and relationships when she returned to Longcroft as a member of staff. She has been pivotal in developing our relationship with various community organisations and clubs, including AFC Tickton, and played a key role in project managing our New Build, which has transformed life at Longcroft for

pupils and staff alike. Anyone who visits the school cannot be anything other than impressed by our wonderful facilities and Mrs Nichols has taken great pride in transforming our buildings and site. She has also worked as a valuable member of our Governing Body. We will certainly miss her energy and infectious enthusiasm."

We wish our valued colleague well for the next stage of her life and know she will continue to follow the fortunes of our school, to which she has given such outstanding service.




LIBRARY NEWS

Ms Carvill writes:

The SIX WORD STORY Results

Well done to all our amazing writers at Longcroft. Once again, we had a record number of entries for our Six Word Story Competition. Three stories selected by our writer in residence Vicky Foster,, and English and Library teams, will go forward to the First Story National Competition in partnership with Penguin Random House. They are:

Sock revolution plotted; drawers staged rebellion. Chris McGlone 7ASC

Screams came from inside the coffin. Amelia Dale 10EDN

Dancer on TikTok. Comments crush him. Shanice Munaku 7ASC

Prizes will be handed out this week for our three inhouse winners. The First Story winner and shortlisted entries will be announced after Christmas, and will receive a goody bag of First Story treats and Penguin books.

We were overwhelmed by the inventiveness of your writing. Please don't be disappointed if you didn't win this time. Judging creative writing is incredibly hard and is subjective. Below are some more examples of your amazing stories. ClassCharts will be awarded. Please keep writing.

Young pilot's last message, "Roger out." Mason David 9ARU

Can you hear them? Your bloodline. Patrick Marham 8SGE

Trapped in a bubble; it won't pop. Amelia Dale 10EDN

Meaning of impossible: life without you. James Shiels 8GTA



Eat. Sleep. Repeat. Eat, sleep, repeat. Ollie Davies 9ARU

One slip, one son, no independence. Mia Spruce-Wan 7EFX

Trees felled, our limp daisy chains. Orlaith Brown 10EDN

Outside was beautiful; it felt wrong. Amaia Booth 7EFX

Mum! Grandad ran over it again. Lottie Skinner 7EFX

Trees can not move. You can! Patrick Marham 8SGE

Went to work. Got in. Slept. Xavier Jenney 9JHL

We poison fish; fish poison us. Isaac Savage 7CMT

Dog, cat, horse, lion. All gone! Millie Wisher 9ARU

Essays torn. Papers crushed. Homework eaten? Chris McGlone 7ASC

"Writing is the only thing that, when I do it,
I don't feel I should be doing something else."

– Gloria Steinem

Paying Tribute to Benjamin Zephaniah – Poet and Pioneer



"I think poetry should be alive. You should be able to dance it."

Many teachers and students were shocked to hear of the untimely death of British poet, writer, musician, actor, and activist Benjamin Zephaniah, last week.

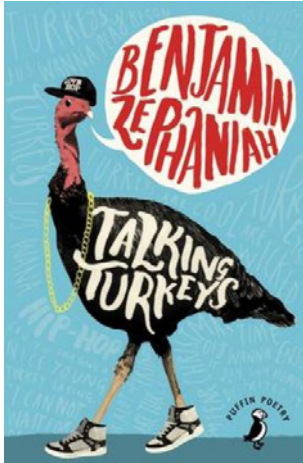
Zephaniah's written work, which appeared on the national curriculum, often responded to historical and current events, and challenged injustices in society. He was one of Britain's most prolific literary voices, who believed in taking poetry everywhere and to everyone. For many he was the 'people's laureate'.

He began performing poetry in his early teens and went on to release several collections including *Talking Turkeys*, *Inna Liverpool* and *School's Out: Poems Not for School*. He wrote several novels including *Refugee Boy*, about political asylum, and *Face* about a boy who suffers facial injuries after an accident. Most recently he found fame with a new audience, appearing on the TV series *Peaky Blinders*.



Zephaniah left school at 14. He was dyslexic, something not diagnosed until he was 21. He never let his dyslexia dampen his literary ambitions and has been an inspiration to many who face the same challenge. Zephaniah was clever, creative, and had self-belief.

We have a large collection of works by Benjamin Zephaniah in the Library. Below are some favourites. Please encourage your children to read them.

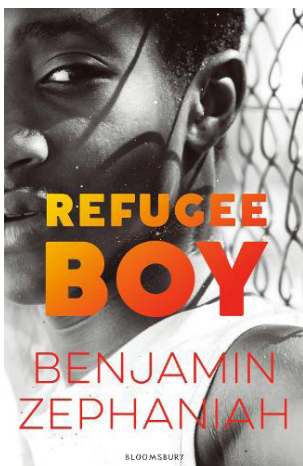
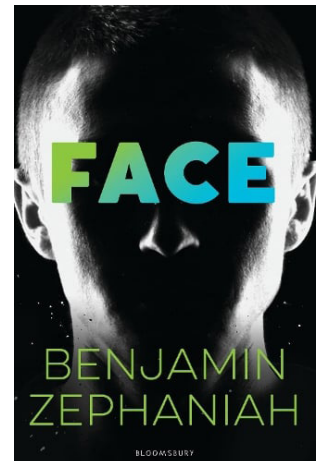


Talking Turkeys – Reading Age 9-11 – No AR

This ground-breaking collection of children's poetry is fun, thought provoking, and straight talking. Themes include revolutions, racism, love, animal rights, and heroes. A wonderful introduction to the power of poetry. It is performance poetry at its best! A wonderful read.

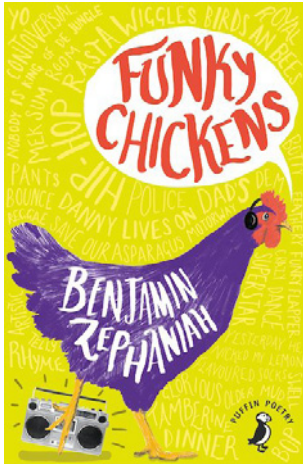
Face – Reading Age 11-15 years – AR 5.3 Red

Martin is great fun, ultra cool and popular. He has it all, but one night he makes a bad decision and suddenly everything changes: his life and looks. Left badly scarred in a car accident he must learn the true meaning of friendship, courage, and discrimination. A compelling read.



Refugee Boy – Reading Age 12+ – AR 5.6 Red

Alem's father is Ethiopian, his mother Eritrean, and their countries are at war. Alem is not safe in either. A holiday in London with his dad brings excitement and relief, but when his father goes, he finds himself alone in a country he knows nothing about. What seems like parental betrayal is in fact an act of love. Hilarious and heartbreaking. A brilliant read about a young refugee.



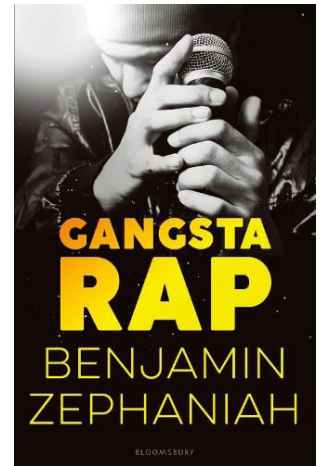
Funky Chickens – Reading Age 9-11 – No AR

This joyful and fun collection of children's poetry is designed to get young minds thinking. It covers a wide range of topics: the schoolboy who is hopelessly in love with the girl who sits next to him, and then decides he prefers her friend the next day, animal cruelty, prejudice, starvation and so much more. Imaginative and rich. A delight to read.

Gangsta Rap – Reading Age 13-17/YA - AR 5.8 – Red

This superbly written novel follows the story of three boys who just can't fit in. Ray finds himself permanently excluded from school and his home life is trouble, trouble, trouble too, but he and his pals have talent and if they can direct it, they might just shine.

Zephaniah draws on his own experiences of school and the music business. A passionate exploration of the rap scene. Brilliant dialogue.



"Rap comes from the oral tradition. The oral tradition gives voice to those who would've otherwise been voiceless."

Benjamin Zephaniah



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

07423 261292

emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net