



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS

LETTER

It's Official!

As we take the opportunity to reflect on a wonderful 2023, we are proud and delighted to confirm that our status as a 'Good' provider has been secured following the recent Section 5 Ofsted Inspection of Longcroft School and Sixth Form College.

Inspectors were hugely complimentary about our school and effusive in their recognition of the journey the school has travelled since previous inspections. They acknowledged the hard work of our dedicated staff, and the profound impact that the Wonder Learning Partnership has had in driving rapid improvements, having been commissioned by the local authority to support the school in 2019.

Over recent years the school has been transformed, not least physically, with significant investment to reconstruct the site and provide state of the art facilities, unparalleled in the region; progress that has been matched with increasingly high standards of teaching and pastoral care.

Mr Perry said, "This judgement is an important milestone for our community, a recognition of our incredible young people and their many achievements, supported by our committed staff and wonderful families. It will provide a platform for further growth and development."

Looking ahead to 2024 and beyond, he added, "Our focus, remains on providing a truly exceptional, world class education for the children it is our privilege to serve – quite simply, each and every one of them deserve nothing less."



"Pupils enjoy coming to school and are happy and safe."



'Pupils enjoy coming to school and are happy and safe'

A curriculum that is **'ambitious, broad and well-sequenced'**

'Pupils have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities and enrichment' are engaged in those opportunities and **'feel a sense of pride in their achievements'**

'Leaders have high expectations of pupils' behaviour'

'Pupils behave well at Longcroft'

'Attendance that is consistently above national comparisons'

'Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported'

'Teachers know their pupils/students extremely well'

'Developing a love of reading is a priority for the school'

Sixth Form students **'enjoy the provision and value the positive relationships that they have with teachers'** ... **'Students receive a personalised experience in the sixth form'** ... **'they are 'known and supported as individuals'**

'Pupils/Students are ambitious for their futures.'

'Leaders' are ambitious for the school and its pupils' and 'there is capacity and ambition at all leadership levels to improve the school further'.

This is a hugely exciting time for Longcroft School.



**A celebration of our pupils'
and Sixth Form students'
achievements this term.**

**Thank you for your support
during 2023.**

**With best wishes for Christmas
and the New Year.**



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

41,559

THOUGHT

216,150

VISION

153,434

GRAND

TOTAL:

411,143

Congratulations to our 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

Elliott Pierce
Ava Spink
Alanah Wardman
Elias Chapman
Josh Flockton
Lily Smedley
Oscar Purchon
Imogen Trolle
Leonid Vaskov
Harry Gee

Year 8

Charlie Woofitt
Daisy Stokes
Hermione Read
Rhys Cargill
Amy Thornton
Kamila Canniffe
Livvi Amphlett
Scarlett Wood
Charlotte Sutcliffe
Neve Meagher

Year 9

Sadie Colclough
Mollie Rawson
Sienna Robinson
Ben Carlyle-Smith
Aimee Clarkson
Maisie Monaghan
Xavier Jenney
Millie Wisher
Ben Smedley
Levi Petherbridge
Alicia Hicks

Year 10

Daniel Parkinson
Matthew Harris
Harry Hart
Cal Skinner
George Tatton
Emilia Fisher
Aneena Seby
Erin Meagher
Emily Stevens
Thomas Marriott

Year 11

Grace McKenzie
Evie Baker
Summer Mulvana
Ruby Stanway
Travis Clark
Megan Ulph
Ella Harris-Smith
Connor Rushton
Mary Anderson
Liam Roberts
Natasha Sharpe

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: Josh Flockton

Year 8: Lila Garniss

Year 9: Stan Kerridge

Year 10: Harry Hart

Year 11: Connor Baker



Headteacher's Welcome

This final edition of our Newsletter for 2023 looks back at some of the opportunities and experiences our community have enjoyed over the Autumn Term. As we pause to reflect on these articles and images, we recognise how wonderfully they represent our values at Longcroft and the kind of school we strive to be.

Each and every day we bear witness in our school to acts of Great Heart. We seek to celebrate and recognise the power of the 'little things'; the interactions, smiles, acts of support, care and kindness that can often impact in far greater ways than we could imagine. It is paramount to us that every young person in our school is known, feels welcome and valued; and that as a community we create an environment and a culture that lives Great Heart into being so that our school is an enjoyable and safe place to learn. Acts of charity are one way that this culture manifests itself and over the course of this term we have seen individual and collective action from across our school. From the stunning photograph by Gemma G which featured in this year's national Help for Heroes Calendar campaign, to the work of our Year 9 pupils for Children in Need and our advent appeal for families in crisis through the East Riding Food Bank; we are incredibly proud of our community, who step up again and again to actively demonstrate their kindness, care and compassion.

There has been lots of activity this term designed to support preparation for life beyond school and the feedback on some of our newer initiatives has been very positive. Our trip to the Regional Apprenticeship Show for example, has helped to develop our students' understanding of what that particular route can now offer and the many different opportunities they might explore. Projects like our Women into Manufacturing and Engineering programme saw some amazing work at Howden's and has been a great success. Our 'Futures' events have been really well received, including our now well-established Careers Fair which was brilliantly attended. Throughout the programme, the many contributors we have encountered across the region and beyond have been effusive in their praise of our young people. Visiting authors and the award-winning illustrator Kingsley Nebechi have added a richness to our exploration of society and

the challenges it can bring. It is always a privilege to see the empathy and interest shown by our young people in observing the stories and experiences of others, recognising the importance of having a sense of self and place in the world and showing Great Vision.

It has been a term of many achievements, not least the amazing outcomes produced by our pupils and students again in the summer, reflected through our national news coverage. After being named as 'one of the most improved schools in the country' by the Department for Education last year, outcomes have continued to rise. Our recognition as a 'Good' school by Ofsted this term providing further validation of our work in service of our fabulous children, and I could not be prouder of the way that they have represented our community throughout.

That representation of our school is not limited to inspection visits or examination metrics. Our children demonstrate their joys and talents each and every day; engaging with our curriculum, being part of our clubs and teams, getting involved in student leadership, completing external programmes or projects, and performing in music and drama events, ensembles and competitions – there are a myriad of ways to get involved in the rich life of our school. We've done the best we can to capture just some of what has been taking place in this end of term edition of our Newsletter.

We would like all of our community to rest well this Christmas. After a busy term it is important to reset, recharge and return in the new year ready for learning and embracing all of the opportunities that the Spring Term will bring. From all of us here at Longcroft, we wish you a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year. Enjoy the Newsletter and we'll see you in January!

Mr D Perry
Headteacher



September

We began the Autumn Term having proudly celebrated the achievements of Year 11 and Year 13 on their respective Results Days.

We were delighted to share Year 11's Results Day with the nation as ITV presenter and news correspondent for Good Morning Britain Katy Rickitt joined our celebration. Katy praised the achievements of an "incredible bunch of young people".

Pupils spoke of their pride in their achievements and their appreciation of the support they received. Katy said, "I'm very happy. I got everything I wanted and will stay on to do A Levels in Art, Theatre Studies, Sociology and English Literature. I've really enjoyed my time here. It's a really good school." Edward added, "There's been an amazingly supportive atmosphere here and I have really enjoyed my time at Longcroft." Emily said, "It's been really good - I've a lot of great memories. Amazing teachers - I couldn't have wished for better!"

We were delighted with the outcomes our Year 13 students achieved this summer in their A levels and Level 3 BTEC courses. Head of Sixth Form Mr Chapman explained, "Bucking the typical Results Day challenges, all of our students were able to successfully enter either their first or second choice university. No student had to go into clearing as they successfully met the criteria of their offers from Universities including Bristol, Manchester and Hull."





We were delighted to welcome our new **Year 7** pupils as they began their years at Longcroft.



Mr Coupe and Mrs Hirons had the pleasure of taking 15 Year 11 pupils to Howdens Joinery factory in Howden.

This event was part of the **Women into Manufacturing and Engineering (WiME) Raising Aspirations programme**, which seeks to help female pupils to feel more comfortable considering a career in the science, technology, engineering and maths sectors.



An important aspect of our work to support pupils' reading for pleasure, **Bookbuzz** is a reading programme

from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13-year-olds. Year 7 pupils enjoyed receiving the free book they chose as part of the BookBuzz scheme.





We are grateful to our amazing Friends of Longcroft School (FOLS) who volunteer their time to raise money which can be used to fund initiatives such as this one. It was a pleasure to welcome former Longcroft student Becky Chapman, now a member of FOLS, who visited our Library to help Ms Carvill present pupils in Miss Woodhead's tutor group with their books.

We were delighted to congratulate former pupils **Harrison Adams** and **Luke Foreman** on taking their first steps towards their rugby careers by signing Academy contracts with Hull KR.

Both Harrison and Luke represented Longcroft throughout their five years with us and also played for the Hull KR Scholarship team.

It was a pleasure welcome record numbers to our **Year 6 Open Evening** and to receive so many lovely messages from families who visited Longcroft, many of whom complimented the Lower School pupils who were tour guides on the evening. Head of Lower School Mr Worthington said, "I was incredibly proud of them!"

As part of our Open Evening, we ran a Prize Draw for all of those who completed our pupil passport, visiting each department on the night and collecting a stamp. It was great to celebrate with our winner, Layla, who visited us on the final Friday before half-term.





October

Talented artist **Gemma Garnham**, who is in Year 11, saw her creative skills recognised by one of our nation's most high-profile charities - her stunning photograph features in a beautiful calendar which will raise invaluable funds for Help for Heroes - the leading Armed Forces and veterans' charity in the UK.

All profits support Help for Heroes in providing vital support for veterans and their families.

The calendar, along with a range of other items, can be purchased via the Help for Heroes website: <https://shop.helpforheroes.org.uk/collections/calendars-and-diaries/products/2024-veteran-photography-calendar-stock-item#>



Hull FC were honoured to welcome Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales to the club's new-look Centre of Excellence to celebrate inclusivity in Rugby League and we were proud that **Jack Charles**, who captained our rugby team throughout his years at Longcroft, was chosen to represent the club and meet the Princess.

Her Royal Highness, who is patron of the Rugby Football League, visited the University of Hull, where Hull FC's Centre of Excellence is based, becoming the first member of the Royal Family to visit the club.

Award-winning graphic designer and illustrator **Kingsley Nebechi** visited Longcroft as part of our Black History Month celebrations to talk to GCSE and A level Artists about what it means to be a creative.

Kingsley showed examples of his work, including some wonderfully drafted drawings, and explained how they evolved into the vibrant sophisticated photoshop images he's known for.





Year 8 pupil Charlie finished second in his karting event, holding onto fourth position in the **National Championship**. This meant that Charlie qualified to compete in December's 2023 Rotax Max Challenge Grand Finals in Sakhir, Bahrain.

Our Year 11 Geography classes completed their fieldwork in **Dalby Forest** and pupils came back with many stories including a lost welly and the other filled with beak water. Pupils recognised the value of the experience and how it would help them answer specific questions in the summer's exams. Mia said, "I thought the Dalby Forest trip was amazing."



Our cross country runners took part in the **East Riding Schools' Championships** at Cottingham High School. As always, we enjoyed some excellent results and a number of Longcroft's runners, listed below, qualified to represent the East Riding. Year 7 pupil Megan finished in first place and was crowned East Riding Champion.



A number of our Sixth Form students took the **UK Maths Trust Senior Challenge**. The UK Maths Trust is the leading charity that advances the education of young people in maths and their challenges form a valued part of our enrichment programme, which offers opportunities for students to broaden their horizons and challenge themselves academically. The most successful students in the UKMT Challenges earn the opportunity to progress beyond

the initial stage. A follow-on round to the Senior Maths Challenge, the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo is a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice challenge. Entry is by invitation based on a qualifying SMC score, and we were proud that Year 12 student Tyler achieved the required standard.

17 year-old Former pupil **Owen Bruton** earned a call-up to the Great Britain Under-20 ice hockey squad for December's World Championships.





November

We are proud of our links to the armed forces, particularly through DST Leconfield, and remembrance is an important aspect of our calendar. We were delighted to celebrate the career of former Longcroft student **Lt. Col. David Groce MBE** - Commanding Officer of 7 Regiment, The Royal Logistic Corps.

Year 10 pupils Anna and Emily performed emotional renditions of the Last Post and the Reveille either side of our two minutes of silence to mark **Remembrance**.



Several of our Lower School pupils were involved in **Track Fitness and Boxing Club's** latest show at Beverley Leisure Centre. Max and Rosie did well in their skills bouts and Luci and Oscar won their bouts,





Dave Rocket from Northern Gas Network delivered 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.

Award-winning drama group **The Riot Act** returned to Longcroft and performed for our Year 7 pupils. Their energetic, entertaining and powerful performance covered topics including keeping each other safe, peer pressure and peer influencing.

Our band, **Room 64**, helped the people of Beverley get into the festive spirit when they performed at Flemingate's Christmas lights switch-on.



Motorcyclist **Arnie** competed in Andalucia in Spain. He said, "I was competing against people from different countries, some people from England and others for Europe. It was a really thrilling experience. In the Saturday race, it was great to be tested against international opposition".



Our **Sixth Form chess team** took on Hornsea School and Language College. Our group of budding 'Grand Masters' Alex, Edward, Tyler and Xavier visited the 6th Form centre at HSLC to play several rounds of chess.



December

Year 10 pupil **Orlaith** saw 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'.



Year 12 students Jasmine and Maddy, and Katie who is in Year 11 – our members of the **East Riding Music Hub Senior Wind Band** were in action at the National Concert Band Festival in Northampton. The band achieved a fantastic Gold award performance!

We once again teamed up with the **East Yorkshire Food Bank** to prepare food parcels. For information about the food bank visit <https://eastyorkshire.foodbank.org.uk/>





Our performing artists treated a capacity audience to a wonderful **Performance Evening** filled with a fabulous range of music and drama.

We were proud to contribute to this year's **Beverley Minster Christmas Tree Festival** – one of 125 beautifully decorated trees displayed in Beverley Minster's stunning medieval building. Pupils working in Design Technology with Mr Dyson created decorations, and Mrs Block and Mrs Spruce-Wan visited the Minster to decorate the tree.

Set amongst the trees during the evenings were a number of carol concerts. We were delighted that our pupils performed at the annual **Macmillan Carol Concert**. 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."

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.

Year 9 pupil Maisie Middlemiss was the winner of this year's **Christmas Card competition**. Maisie's design features on our School Christmas Card.



Well done to our fabulous writers who entered the **Six-Word Story Competition 2023**. Our fantastic First Story writer in residence Vicky Foster was delighted by the amazing response and worked with Ms Carvill, Mrs Clarke and members of our English team to select the top 3 stories which will be entered in 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



Sporting Success

The Autumn Term has once again seen our PE Department organise an extensive range of sporting fixtures and opportunities for all year groups across a wide variety of sports including football, netball and rugby, and our teams have continued to represent Longcroft with pride.

Our Year 7 girls' football team enjoyed a fantastic start to their years at Longcroft and were crowned East Riding Champions following a 5 a side tournament at The Market Weighton School.

Year 7 pupil Megan was crowned East Riding Schools' Champion in cross country.

In addition to those who have played, our fantastic Longcroft Leaders have played a variety of key roles, organising, coaching and officiating at a range of events involving pupils from local primary schools and their peers.



Well done to everyone involved!





LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS LETTER





Memory Lane

This week we return to the 1975 and feature two Lower School tutor groups. English teacher Mr Gardham and History teacher Mr Stephenson are pictured with their tutor groups.





LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

"It struck him that how you spent Christmas was a message to the world about where you were in life."

Nick Hornby, *About A Boy*

Happy Christmas to all our pupils, students, parents and staff and very best wishes for the New Year. Thank you for all the support you have shown to the library during 2023. Christmas is a fabulous time to relax and read. Below you'll find some festive favourites.

Accelerated Reader Quiz Competition

Congratulations to 7ASC who passed more quizzes than any other form in Year 7, 8, or 9. Well done particularly to Henry Coates, Fletcher Dolan, Amelia High, Chris McGlone, and Jack Orwin for their efforts, and commitment to reading.

In Year 8 Ms Thomas's form passed the most quizzes, and in Year 9 Miss Rushby's. Prizes and ClassCharts will be handed out this week to forms and individuals.





The Miracle on Ebenezer Street by Catherine Doyle

AR 4.9 – Yellow

Reading Age 8-13

This sensitive reimagining of A Christmas Carol is set now. George's dad has become obsessed with work since George's mum died three years ago, and Christmas is banned. Will dad be able to mend his Scroogelike ways? Perhaps a little magic and some time travel to the past, present, and future might just help.

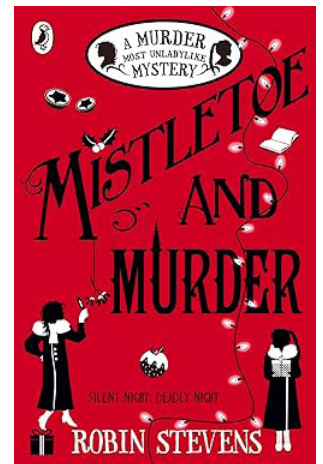
Mistletoe and Murder

AR 5.0 - Red

Reading Age 10-12

Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are in snowy Cambridge for Christmas. They can't wait to explore the cosy tea-rooms and wonderful libraries, but two days before Christmas there is an awful accident, or rather a murder! Can the girls use their cunning to find the killer?

Great fun.

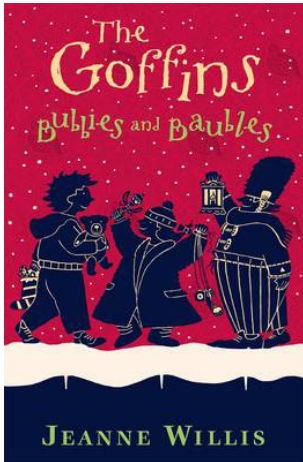


A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

AR6,7 – Yellow

Reading Age 13+

This timeless novella was first published in 1843. It tells the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, an old miser who is visited by the ghost of Jacob Marley, his former business partner, and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and yet to come. Scrooge is transformed by his experiences. A gripping and imaginative read that explores the meaning of Christmas and kindness.



The Goffins Bubbles and Baubles by Jeanne Willis

AR 5.1 – Red

Reading Age 9-12

A tantalising tale that celebrates the value of family and friendship and explores family history. Some amazing characters bring to life the weird and wonderful world of the Goffins.

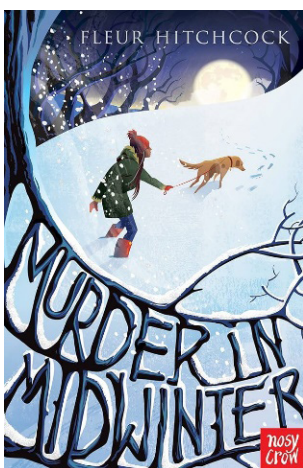
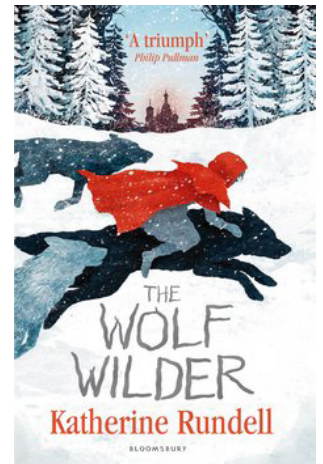
A story of endurance in tough times. Inspiring.

The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell

AR 4.5 – Blue

Reading Age 9-12

This classic in the making is set in the white snowy wilderness of Russia, where Feo and her mother live, nearby a pack of wolves. Feo's mother is a wolf wilder, she teaches tamed animals to inhabit the wild again. Disaster strikes when the corrupt Russian army arrests her mum and Feo is forced to go on the run. A fabulous adventure with memorable characters. Superb.



Murder in Midwinter by Fleur Hitchcock

AR 4.6 – Blue

Reading Age 10+

This is a real page-turner for fans of murder mystery, with a Christmas snowy setting. On the bus home from school Maya sees a man holding a gun and takes a photo of him on her phone. Unfortunately, he sees her do it. The next day a body is found in the river Thames that looks a lot like him. Fearing Maya is in danger the police send her away, but will she be safe? This is a gripping read awash with action and mystery. Thrilling!

“’Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.”

—Clement Clarke Moore



The Friends' Corner



Cash Draw Winner

fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

Congratulations to December's Cash Draw Winner:

Parents of Anika Matta

Remember tickets are £12 for the year with a monthly prize draw of £15. Tickets can be bought via ParentPay.

Raise money with [easyfundraising.com](https://www.easyfundraising.com)

Why not download the Easyfundraising app and help support the Friends of Longcroft School when shopping in the January sales. Simply download the app and register choosing us as your selected charity then browse the 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.



Finally, a massive **Thank You** to everyone who has supported FOLS fundraising this year. Whether volunteering, using easyfundraising, buying lottery tickets or simply buying refreshments at a school event, all support is really appreciated and FOLS isn't possible without you. We are looking forward to supporting lots more events and creating opportunities to raise money for our school in 2024.



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

Looking ahead to 2024!

Applications for The East Yorkshire Sixth Form open today!





GREAT HEART, THOUGHT AND VISION

LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

Thank you for your support during 2023.

We hope you have enjoyed looking back at some of the many highlights of the Autumn Term.

We would like to thank everyone involved with our community for their contribution to a year that we can reflect on with pride.

We wish you all a safe, happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to a wonderful 2024!

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.