



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER

Happy New Year!



Longcroft by Summer Mulvana (Year 11)

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# 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**

**43,378**

**THOUGHT**

**228,480**

**VISION**

**161,005**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**432,863**





# Headteacher's Welcome

**Happy New Year to all in our Longcroft community and welcome to our first Newsletter of 2024.**

When we return from a break it is always a joy to see our pupils and students making their way up the school drive and into our buildings. There is nothing like a busy school and I have really enjoyed talking to young people this week and looking forward together to an exciting term ahead.

Last term we secured a Good judgement from Ofsted and it was wonderful to receive some great feedback on the school and our amazing pupils. Whilst such external validation is always to be kept in context, visits from inspectors are rigorous and challenging, and it was pleasing for them to recognise the ambition we have for our community and the capacity we have demonstrated to continue the school's journey of progress and deliver a truly exceptional standard of education. Our response to the inspection process has already begun and will continue this term as we seek to draw on the recommendations and refine our development priorities along with the actions we have already been taking to address them. More on that to come.

One of the many highlights from the inspection feedback was their summary of our Sixth Form – the most rapidly growing provision in the region. In the coming weeks there will be taster sessions for our pupils in Year 11 to get a sense of the East Yorkshire Sixth Form experience. We continue to welcome conversations if you have any questions or would like to arrange a visit to discuss a place for September for your child. Please contact Miss Taylor, our post 16 Care and Achievement Coordinator whose details are on the last page, or Mr Chapman our Head of Sixth Form.

This is a relatively short spring term, and over the course of the next 10 weeks there is a lot to fit in. We have various trips, visits and events scheduled to look forward to, our

Options Process with Year 9, and of course we will be working hard with Year 11 and 13 to prepare them for the summer exams. Year 7 parents should look out for our Transition Newsletter which is published termly and captures just some of what our young people have been up to since arriving in September. There will be lots more for them to enjoy this term so do encourage them to get involved!

We also have a number of Parental Engagement events over the coming weeks and I urge you to attend and get involved with all that is relevant for your child(ren). There is extensive evidence of the impact of such engagement on successful outcomes for our young people. We recognise and value the important partnership between home and school, and if there are any barriers to accessing events then please contact your child(ren)'s Care and Achievement Coordinator who will be happy to help and support.

Finally, as we begin the new year and new term, thank you in anticipation for your support with our Longcroft Standard – our commitment to the highest of expectations for all in our community. The power of high expectations cannot be underestimated; of ourselves and of each other. This includes behaviour, appearance and attendance. We are here to offer support with any challenges to success in school so please don't hesitate to get in touch with your Care and Achievement Coordinator if you require any support at any time.

My interactions with our young people make me exceptionally proud every day to be a part of our Longcroft community and this week has been no exception. Enjoy reading all about them.

**Mr D Perry**  
Headteacher





# LOWER SCHOOL



## Mr Worthington writes:

**I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and happy Christmas with family and friends and that our Lower School pupils are rested and ready for the new term ahead. I am so impressed with the warmth and care our pupils share with one another, and it was great to see so many pupils involved volunteering and supporting in events in and around Beverley over the festive period.**

For me, the festive period began on the last day of term when our Year 7 and 8 pupils were treated to a wonderful Christmas Carol Service in the beautiful St Mary's Church. Following a welcome from The Revd Becky Lumley, we enjoyed a range of carols, performances and readings – a truly wonderful occasion. Pupils and staff walked to and from the church, and I was proud of the way in which our pupils represented themselves and our school in the community.

The word community is, without question, central to human experience. Being part of an engaging community gives us a sense of belonging.

It enables us to share personal relatedness and support perpetual growth of each other, ourselves, and

our environment. Community means a lot to us and our pupils at Longcroft School. We finished last term on such a high and I want to say a huge thank you for all the many donations that were brought in for our Foodbank Appeal co-ordinated by our Sixth Form students. I was simply astounded at the generosity of our Lower School pupils and their families. Nationally, foodbank networks help people break free from poverty by providing additional support to help people resolve the crises they're facing so that they don't need to use a food bank again in the future. We are proud to play our part in supporting and helping our community.





Being part of a community enables us to give support to other members. With so much stress in the busy world we live in, there's never been a more important time to help others struggling with their mental and physical wellbeing. Being supportive of others will help them to feel good and better about themselves. With community participation comes empowerment. When people feel empowered, they feel a sense of control enabling them to influence positive change.

It has been a wonderful week, returning from the festive period and seeing how our children have settled back into school so quickly. As ever, the school is focused, calm and purposeful, with our pupils giving their all in each lesson, making sure that every second counts. As acknowledged in our recent OFSTED inspection, Longcroft is a good school; pupils are happy and safe and we have high aspirations for all pupils.

It is a great privilege to spend time in our classrooms, witnessing the excellent teaching that takes place and seeing our children learn and develop over time. I look forward to sharing examples of pupils' efforts in lessons in the coming weeks.

This is a great time for our pupils to reflect upon the past year and all their achievements, highlights and best moments. It is also a great time for pupils to think about the opportunities and challenges in the year ahead, and how they can meet these with determination, resilience and ingenuity. At Longcroft School, we encourage our pupils to constantly assess their own wellbeing and performance, and to set themselves new targets and challenges. At all times, form tutors, teachers and Care and Achievement Coordinators offer their support and advice to ensure our pupils succeed.

This is an exciting term, as our Year 9 children begin the process of choosing their option subjects for GCSE, and begin the transition to Upper School. We will be providing an update about the option selection process in the near future, outlining the process as well as the support available.

I am looking forward to celebrating all our pupils' successes and achievements with you over the next two terms. Happy New Year!

**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

Christopher McGlone  
Amelia High  
Jack Orwin  
Henry Coates  
Fletcher Dolan  
Shanice Munaku  
Elizabeth Dale  
Max Dixon  
Sophie Clayton  
Charlie Thomson

## Year 8

Sienna Rasen  
Lilly Pyle  
Bonnie Smith  
Zak Richardson  
Holly Ruston  
Alex Matta  
Caitlin Groves  
Isaac Waterson  
Izzy Barwick  
Lille Wheeler

## 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: Fletcher Dolan

Year 8: Caitlin Groves



## UPPER SCHOOL



### Mr Henderson writes:

**I hope you all had a lovely festive period and are looking forward to what 2024 will bring. Year 10 pupils have made an excellent start this week and I am looking forward to celebrating their future successes as the term progresses.**

This week has also seen our Year 11 pupils back into normal lessons after the December Mock GCSE exams. I was extremely impressed with the way they approached the mocks and the invigilators commented on how calm and focused they were under exam conditions. This is an extremely busy term for all our Upper School pupils and I'm looking forward to supporting them alongside their Year Leaders Mr Cassidy and Mr Thomson, Care and Achievement Coordinators Mrs Ellis and Miss Harsley, and their Form Tutors.

By constantly challenging our pupils to excel, we nurture aspirations and strive to cultivate a lifelong love of learning in our young people. Pupils in Year 11 will be receiving their Mock Results over the next few weeks in lessons and then finally as a whole collection of results so they can reflect on their total progress so far. In school, they will have time during registration, to reflect on their progress. It is important that they take pride in what they have achieved and to set themselves SMART targets on how to further improve. These will be in their Mock Reflection Booklets so you will be able to discuss these with your child. Our experienced Form Tutors are on hand to offer support and advice. We will also be informing families on upcoming events, like the Year 11 Revision Evening and option subjects' Walking Talking Mocks as well as the Period 6 offer. We look forward to seeing you all at these and other events.

December also saw the first of a number of days where pupils could spend the entire day focusing on an integral part of their GCSE course. It was fantastic to see the focus and enthusiasm for the subjects shown by our pupils. I was fortunate enough to pop into all of the lessons throughout the day which included Food Technology, and was able to sample some fantastic food.







On the last day of term, we celebrated the commitment and dedication to classwork, homework and revision from our Year 11 pupils. The pupils were a credit to the school, showing respectful and calm behaviour as we went to the cinema in Beverley's Flemingate Shopping Centre. The year group watched the musical fantasy film 'Wonka'. Everyone enjoyed the experience and we were pleased to celebrate the end of the term and start the Christmas break together. Well done to these pupils.

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School







## Mr Chapman writes:

### A fabulous end to the term and huge excitement about 2024.

Our Sixth Formers spent the last week of the term moving around the tutor groups in Years 7 to 11 collecting food for a local food bank. We were overwhelmed by the response from children in the school to the appeal being led by the Sixth Formers. The food was sent off just before Christmas and we all hope, in our Longcroft School community, that this made a difference to people during the festive season.

On the very last day of term, we were proud to watch Ed and Poppy read at the Christmas Carol Service held at St Mary's Church. Ed said that he "was looking forward to the event and enjoyed being a part of it". He was happy to be working with Poppy – as they "reassured each other" as the event neared. Ed is one of our Sixth Form Ambassadors as well as a student of Theatre Studies and so speaking in public is something that he will become increasingly used to!

On the penultimate day of term, we took our Sixth Form students to the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet shopping centre as their enrichment/reward event. Shopping and Sixth Formers go together very well. Suffice to say that they loved it (and their Christmas shopping was significantly enhanced that day)!

As for 2024 – Year 13 have a matter of days now to get their UCAS applications submitted – many are now collecting their offers from all around the country. Our students are receiving some great offers from universities. Reading all about each student on their UCAS form, it's clear that our students are presenting well and showing themselves to be capable, confident and worthy of offers.

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form





# IN FOCUS

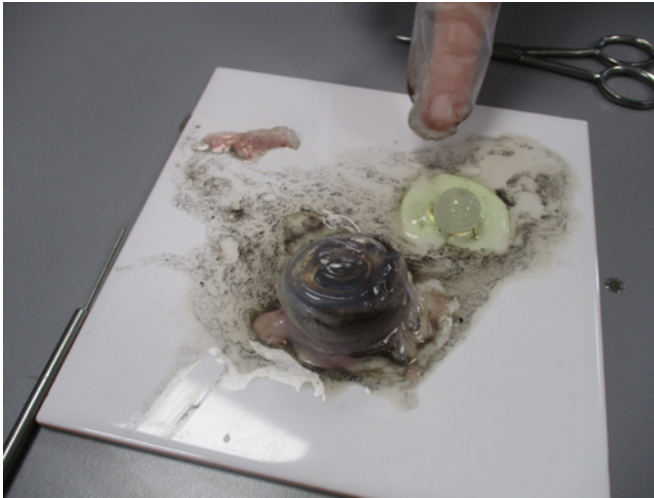
## SCIENCE

This week we feature Mrs Scott's Year 10 Science class who were looking at the structure of cod eyes to support with the Triple Biology eye structure content. Pupils cut through the sclera (muscular outside of the eye) to reach the optic nerve and through the cornea. Mrs Scott explained, "Many pupils managed to extract the lens from the eye. This enabled them to see what a lens looks like, but also to look through it to see what it does to light."

Mrs Scott added, "This was a fantastic experience to enable pupils to engage with the learning and link the curriculum content to a hands-on example."











# 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 1960's and feature two photographs from October 1963.

Our first picture shows the staff team, led by Headteacher Mr Dunn. Several staff taught at Longcroft into the 1990's, including Mr Packer, Mr Rogerson and Mr Stephenson.



Our second picture shows Mr Packer with his tutor group, 4T2.





www.  
summer-house.org

## Summerhouse Services

'Supporting Brighter Futures'



www.  
summer-house.org

### Supportive Training For Adult Family & Friends

## 'GENERIC'S'

Gentle Empathic Neutral Effective Resilient  
Insightful Compassionate Safe

Common Approaches, Tips & Tools, To Promote The Mental Health & Resilience Of  
The Children & Young People You Live With & Love

**Max 2 Adults Per Booking.**

We train in small groups  
for all services, therefore  
**FIRST COME 1ST SERVE!**

**Tuesday 23rd January VIRTUAL**

**9.45 - 2.45**

**FREE OFFER ! - Usually £40.00**  
**You will receive the full workshop**



In this friendly, relaxed, supportive and holistic workshop, you will have the opportunity to develop empathy, insights and understanding and gain approaches and tools, to help you help the children and young people in your world, who may be experiencing a range of mental health difficulties e.g. Anxiety, stress, Low Mood, Eating Difficulties, Self Harm, Obsessive Behaviours, Problems Expressing Anger, Low Self Esteem or Confidence, Risk taking behaviours etc. 'Look beneath the surface' of these issues and enter the world of young people and thereby realise both the common experiences and uniqueness of the spectrum of mental health issues in a grass roots, real life way.

Finding 'monsters and gremlins', discovering the inner 'paradise chicken' and 'Tapping for better mental health and resilience' are a just few of the activities that you will have the opportunity to participate in ! You will 'hear from young people' what helps and what hinders them and it will then become clear, what helps them build their resilience and ability to cope with the ups and downs of life, in a safe and effective way and in doing so, address their mental health difficulties.

**Note:** We make every effort to offer a sensitive, supportive and non-biased space. Your facilitator has also had their own direct life experience of serious mental health difficulties and is a highly experienced therapist of over 20 years experience in the field of holistic and generic mental health and resilience promotion, whose field of interest lies in the area of eating difficulties and self harm. **If you have any concerns before the day, please do not hesitate to contact Penny for a chat.**

### Outcomes

- Discuss and explore the spectrum of what constitutes a mental health issue from a Humanistic and empathic perspective.
- Develop insights to establish the link between a child and young person's mental health problem and their emotional, mental, spiritual and environmental world
- Argue the risks of making assumptions regarding children, young people with 'mental health problems' & explore the phrase '**we are all products of our environments**' in this context.
- Discover the wider meaning of resilience and its relationship to mental health promotion for children and young people.
- Acquire straightforward, safe and 'orbital' responding and support strategies to help any child or young person who may have difficulties with their mental health
- Understand the common reasons that young people struggle to ask for help and open up and how to help with this and offer alternative expression forms in the interim.
- Gain practical, tangible tools and quick tips for you and your young people to have in a holistic support toolkit, including 'Tapping' (Emotional freedom Techniques)
- Acquire relevant local and national signposting and support service awareness.

Company Number 13427929





### Some Feedback From Recent Workshops

*'This workshop was a game changer for me ! It has shown me how to help my daughter safely and in a way that makes sense to me as a parent . It has really opened my eyes ! Thank you so much :)*

*" Just to say I loved the course we did last year; I got what I needed from it and my daughter is radically better....as is our relationship....You really helped me at a time when I was frightened, lost, had no answers and felt utterly ill equipped.....Keep on shining your special light. What Summerhouse does is so important."*

*'This has been a game changer for me. I now know I can stop blaming myself for everything and I have also now got lots of tips to help my son. It was a really fun day too! Thank you!'*

*'I found this day so helpful. Thank you! Penny has a unique approach that really works & no powerpoint ! A great day !'*

*'As a parent of a child that has an eating disorder, I was worried about joining this workshop. Penny put me at ease straight away with her friendly and non-judgmental attitude and I found the day very informative. I feel much more confident as to how to help him now. Thank you '*

*'It has helped me a lot to understand more about my Granddaughter's self harming. I feel reassured that on the whole I am trying to do the right thing and have learned a lot. I now also know the things to avoid. I really enjoyed the day! Thank you.'*

*'Thank you so much for this day. After just one day of training, I have now been able to help my son by changing a few things that I do and **he** has now come up with a plan that is sensible and doable to help him return to school. (Young person had problems with anger and was a consistent school refuser)*

*'This workshop was just what I was hoping for! Everyone can benefit from this training! Thank you!'*

### The Thoughts of Parent Lynn , Whose Young Person Uses Our Service.

*"I cannot recommend this service enough having tried many conventional lines of help and nobody really seeming to understand the issues for my 13 year old. I was put in touch with Summerhouse Services and the Drifts programme and since they started here they have learnt many things and although they still have some issues, they have learnt new skills to aid them to cope with these .....*

*The approach of Summerhouse Services is very different to anything offered mainstream and the support I have been offered as a parent too has been amazing with one to one time, courses and workshops to help me better understand what my child is going through.*

*To anybody struggling out there please reach out to Summerhouse Services; you won't be disappointed."*

### Booking Details

For bookings or enquiries please email Penny [penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org](mailto:penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org)

**No online or phone bookings for this offer please.**

### Summerhouse Services

T. 07869173154

E. [penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org](mailto:penny.logsdail@summerhouseservices.org)

U. [www.summer-house.org](http://www.summer-house.org)

F. <https://www.facebook.com/supportingbrighterfutures>

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## LIBRARY NEWS



*Ms Carvill writes:*

## New Year's Resolution – Read More in 2024

A new year is all about fresh starts and making positive changes in your life. What better time to set yourself a target to read more books. We all know that reading is good for you. It develops your brain, benefits your health, teaches you empathy, and a recent study has even shown reading regularly helps you live longer!

“The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written.”

—Melody Beattie

Below are a few suggestions to encourage everyone to read more in 2024!

- » **Allocate Time For Reading** – Life can be busy, but reading really matters. You need to prioritise it. Allow yourself at least 20 minutes a day for reading.
- » **Give Yourself A Goal** – Aim to read one book every two weeks or at least one every month. Be realistic about your goals. If you are reading quick reads, you can read more. If you are reading a thick book you may need to take your time.
- » **Try Something New** – Introduce yourself to new authors and genres. A great way to do this is to read short stories in a collection featuring different writers. Ask the librarian or your teacher for suggestions.
- » **Talk Books** – Get reading recommendations from your friends. Ask them what they've enjoyed reading recently and what they think you'd like. That way you can explore and discuss books with your peers and even form a book club if you'd like. Family can also make suggestions. Perhaps a relative has a favourite book they'd like to share with you.





- » **Check Out Reading Recommendations and Bestseller Lists Online Or In The Sunday Papers** – Goodreads are a fabulous resource as are Waterstones, Penguin Random House, and The Booktrust. Just google them for recommendations. WH Smith bookshops and some supermarkets feature numbered bestsellers and don't forget to visit your local book shop too! You can also check out social media and the Sunday paper reviews, and bestseller lists in their art and culture sections.
- » **Spend Less Time On Your Phone Or Laptop** – Consider how much time you spend on social media or playing games. Scrolling mindlessly can really be a waste of time. Devote that time to reading more in 2024.
- » **Consider A Reading List** – Ask the librarian for a general reading list or one specific to a topic you're interested in. This is a great way to sample everything from contemporary to classics as well as the best non-fiction.
- » **Create A Reading Space** – Think about where you are comfortable reading and create a space that's tranquil, comfy, and where you feel relaxed.
- » **Try Out Audiobooks** – These are available in the school library, and public library. They are great if you are on a journey and really help you develop your listening skills and extend your imagination.

*"When we strive to become better than we are,  
everything around us becomes better too."*

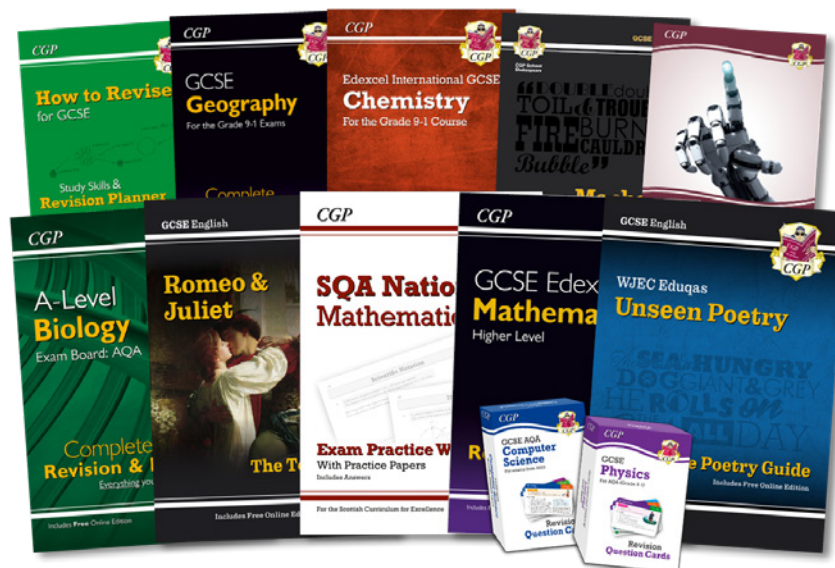
*Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist*

## Revision Guide Reminder

Just a reminder that the Library stocks a large range of revision resources for pupils and students sitting exams. These are all sold at cost price through ParentPay or can be loaned to pupils eligible for free school meals. Resources can be collected from the library, where they can also be paid for in cash if necessary.

Guides and revision cards are a good complement to quality teaching, allowing pupils to structure their revision and highlight areas that need to be worked on. This is great for building confidence and focus.

Remember to encourage your children to revise regularly, well in advance of exams, to really grasp concepts and embed knowledge. This will reduce stress and improve grades.





## 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](mailto:vicky.fox@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Years 8 and 9**

**Mrs Newsam**

**07827 587483**

[zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Year 10**

**Mrs Ellis**

**07900 394085**

[annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Year 11**

**Miss Harsley**

**07810 416081**

[katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Sixth Form**

**Miss Taylor**

**07423 261292**

[emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net)