



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Pupils Join the R-evolution!

A group of pupils from Years 7 and 8 have been working on a project with R-evolution, a local charity which aims to encourage sustainability through promoting and supporting cycling.

R-evolution aims to make being active an option for everybody and to help communities feel fitter through active travel and gardening activities. By being outdoors, we can improve our mental health and wellbeing, whilst both improving our environment and sense of self.

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Mr Coupe, our Curriculum Leader for Personal Development, said: "We have worked with R-evolution previously, for example when they came into school during last summer's School Games Day. This time the team were working with our pupils to build a bike from scratch, taking it from a bare frame, all the way to being a fully-functioning bike."

R-evolution started in October 2014, becoming a UK registered charity in January 2015. Led by people who are endlessly enthusiastic about learning, R-evolution believes everyone deserves the opportunity to learn, to feel confident in their abilities, and to be a part of a community. Understanding that not everyone is afforded that opportunity, the team works with professionally trained Cycle Mechanics, Horticulture Tutors and Life Coaches to develop the skills of volunteers and trainees to bridge the skills gap in the Humber area.

R-evolution's wonderful volunteers are offered free City & Guilds training so they are equipped to help the charity, with opportunities such as cycle mechanic support, van driving, helping at community events or even maintaining the wonderful gardens of Normanby Hall Country Park! The charity reaches out to different communities through programmes such as their Community Cycle Hubs and Dr Bike services.



Mr Coupe explained: "Our six pupils built three bikes, which R-evolution have kindly donated to the school, and which we will use to support our cycle-training schemes in the summer term."

Angel said, "It was good. It was fun to make a bike. I've never done anything like it before."

R-evolution accept bike donations in any condition, including children's bikes. Bikes can be donated at the Cottingham workshop, ERYC Depot (Beverley), Driffeld Showground, Bridlington Foreshores Office or Trinity Market. Alternatively, anyone wanting to donate can contact the R-evolution office on 01482 844422 or by email at info@r-evolution.org.uk and arrange to have the bike collected when staff are in your area.

We are grateful to R-evolution, a wonderful local charity, for the opportunities they are giving our pupils and look forward to welcoming them back to Longcroft again soon.



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

49,768

THOUGHT

259,154

VISION

179,646

GRAND

TOTAL:

487,976





Headteacher's Welcome

This week as a Longcroft community we have reflected with many around the world on Holocaust Memorial Day, which marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz- Birkenau on 27th January 1945, the largest Nazi death camp. The theme for 2024 is 'Fragility of Freedom' and will draw attention to the often subtle and slow events that have laid the foundations for the many horrific events of genocide around the world throughout history.

Lessons from events such as those brought back to our conscious through Holocaust Memorial Day are critical for us to explore with our young people. On a simple and significant level, how easily ordinary people can be influenced in their thinking and how this can lead to actions, behaviours and attitudes that are in direct contravention of our values, of humanity and of all that we are proud to celebrate as a community - our tolerance, respect and kindness.

A striking feature of the accounts that I have read this week has been the humility and reluctance to accept recognition for those innumerate unsung heroes who risked their own freedoms and lives. Many describe themselves in very simple terms, highlighting the circumstances that enabled them to save others. The Holocaust Memorial Day website describes how 'sometimes they were able to provide food to others who needed it, sometimes they hid people. Ordinary people who did extraordinary things, risking their lives, their livelihoods, their families to help others'. One example was Sir Nicholas Winton, a young stockbroker, who rescued 669 children from Czechoslovakia, bringing them to the UK thereby sparing them from the horrors of the Holocaust. In being recognised for his work, he reportedly said Why are you making such a big deal out of it? I just helped a little; I was in the right place at the right time.

There are many examples of ordinary people, achieving extraordinary, seemingly super human feats. The key is that they really were in so many instances ordinary people. What we can achieve as individuals and as a community is for us to determine, and as we seek to remind every one of our young people, is truly impossible to imagine.

Whilst Holocaust Memorial Day is a sombre occasion, a time for reflection, it is also a reason for great hope for the future. We encourage you to talk to your children about their assemblies and discussions this week and the many events that will be recorded through the news and wider media over the weekend. We will continue to celebrate the great capacity of our young people to make a positive contribution to the world and do all we can to promote, support and prepare them to do just that.

Mr D Perry
Headteacher



LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

This is an exciting time and an important year for all our Year 9 pupils. The children are now very close to starting their 2024 Options Process; building on their Lower School learning in a range of subjects and creating foundations of knowledge and skills which will prepare them for later stages in their education and lives beyond school. It has been wonderful to see so many of our Year 9 pupils access our recent trip to University of Hull, looking at life beyond our Sixth Form into the wider world of further education and careers.

As part of the process, we encourage pupils to explore different curriculum areas and what their courses can offer. This extends to where option choices might lead in terms of further education and careers. Parents are a critical part of this process, knowing their children best and offering guidance and support. It is important that the children consider their choices very carefully and seek information, advice and guidance from a number of different sources.

Your subject teachers can inform you about the progress you are making and the skills needed for GCSE. Mr Chapman, our Head of Sixth Form, can inform on how options may impact your future educational journey and the courses you will be able to study after Upper School. Of course, as Head of Lower School, I will guide pupils through the process and can advise on how options may support or impact next stages post-GCSE too. Mr Thomson, as Head of Year 9, knows you all very well and will be happy to discuss your preferences and selections. On February 29th, we will invite parents and children in for our Options Information Evening, and this is an opportunity for all to find out about the process of choosing options. On the following Wednesday, March 6th, there is a Parents' Consultation Evening, thus providing an opportunity for parents to speak to subject teachers about the options course and ask questions.



Our options model which we are in the process of finalising allows for a broad and balanced curriculum that aims to meet the needs of all learners. For most pupils, we will recommend selecting a subject from Humanities (History/Geography) as well as a Modern Foreign Language. This route is known as the English Baccalaureate, or EBacc for short. This is awarded to those who achieve Grade 5+ in English, Maths, Science, Geography or History and a modern foreign language. Whilst the EBacc is not a qualification in itself, it has increasing importance for the future and provides an important gateway to higher education, training and employment.

We have found the pupils asking themselves, "do I need to study a language?"; simply put, a language will always be important no matter what you do. To universities it will demonstrate a broad education and for many courses it is a pre-requisite, especially those involving a year studying abroad. It is not just the language itself but what the children learn about different cultures, people and places that are significant. This global perspective and cultural capital is hugely attractive to potential employers, as is the ability to communicate in a foreign language, even at a basic level. There is much research into the economic benefits of having a second language and it could raise your salary by up to 20%. It really makes you stand out.

If there any further questions, please contact Year 9 Head of Year Mr Thomson or me as Head of Lower School via school@longcroft.eriding.net

Mr Worthington
Head of Lower School





HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- **English language and English literature**
- **Maths**
- **Science**
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- **History or Geography**
- **A language**
Ancient or modern



WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.

The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,
August 2017

LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.



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

Angel Butler-Shorrocks
Elias Chapman
Oscar Purchon
Tymofi Merkulov
Sonny Marriott
Jake Redmond
Elliot Bennett
Ashley Griffin
Owen Harper
Leonid Vaskov

Year 8

Henrik-Bror Berntsson
Mia Robinson
Scarlett Wood
Ruby Rogers
Bonnie Smith
Lillie Wheeler
Amy Thornton
Sienna Rasen
Kamila Canniffe
Kiara De Kock

Year 9

Ben Carlyle-Smith
Joel Dyason
Sienna Robinson
Levi Petherbridge
Ben Smedley
Ellie Mulvana
Alicia Hicks
Aiden Clayton
Mason David
Maisie Foster

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: Harry Dixon

Year 9: Harry Rogers

UPPER
SCHOOL**Mr Henderson writes:****Support and Intervention**

Success over the coming months, as with all stages of education, will remain reliant on the pupil, parents and the school staff working together. We must maintain a shared focus on ensuring pupils are well supported both in school and at home to achieve the best possible outcomes.

One of the largest contributing factors to GCSE success is attendance, and we will continue to provide regular updates and information, both directly and through our weekly Newsletter which aims to promote being in school as often as possible and ideally all of the time.

When in school, we have a comprehensive and targeted focus on our Year 11 pupils, both inside our classrooms and through a suite of wider interventions and support. We recognise that all pupils require a clear understanding of their strengths and areas of focus and they will currently be receiving the latest round of individualised feedback from their teachers. This is a great time for family discussions and with their teachers during meetings over the coming weeks and don't hesitate to get in touch at any time with Mr Cassidy or Miss Harsley if you have any queries or require any support.

Our current support and intervention programme is designed to be directly responsive to the latest assessment data and includes:

- » Form time intervention for Core / EBacc subjects;
- » Period 6 and lunchtime revision / intervention – current sessions below.
- » Half term revision sessions for the mocks – details to be sent to parents and pupils.
- » GCSEPod / Seneca – Online and on demand platforms for pupils to access at home;
- » Revision resources shop / library every lunchtime in A7/A8;
- » Revision Conference at Hull University – details to follow soon;
- » Revision Packs & Guidance provided for every pupil;
- » Targeted small group tutoring programme for core subjects with our specialist tutor team.

Please note:

The Year 11 Exam Preparation and Revision Evening for the option subjects is this next Thursday, 1st February.

Please see the letter sent and the link to book your place.



Mr Cassidy and I have also been meeting individual pupils to discuss academic progress and the run up to exams. It has been fantastic seeing how motivated the pupils are to do well and how focused on their future courses they are.

Rewards and Motivation

To motivate pupils to attend and work to their potential we will again be introducing the Prom Passport. This has been introduced to pupils this week, with the aim of motivating them to give themselves the best opportunities to succeed and then celebrate with all their peers.

And lastly, if you or your child has any concerns over the next 4 months that may affect their learning and revision, please as normal contact the Year 11 Care and Achievement Coordinator – Miss Harsley

Period 6 / Lunchtime Revision – Spring Half Term 1

Day	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Others
Subject Room Time	Maths (Foundation) Mrs Wilson Room 16 3.15-4pm	Art Mrs Holmes After school	Maths (Foundation) Mrs Wilson Room 16 / 3.15-4pm	History Mr Pearson Room C1 3.15-4pm	PD Mr Dyson Afterschool - individual help
	Geography Mr Davies Room C5 3.15-4pm	RE Mr Fox Room C3 See Mr Fox for dates	Science Mr Henderson, Mr Rogers, Mr Perry, Mr Worthington Room B7 3.15-4pm		Music/Drama See teachers on an individual basis
	French Mrs Barry Lunchtimes A6		Spanish Mrs Shepherd Room A2 Lunchtime		PD Lunchtimes see Mr Dyson.
			Art Lunchtimes - see Mrs Holmes for other days		

Mr Henderson
Head of Upper 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 10

Rachel Harris
Isabel Buckle
Joe Dawson
Ella Curley
Elise Forster
Hollie Calder
Lucy Coombe
Andryana Murray
Anika Matta

Year 11

Ruby Garness
Lewis Allenby
Connor Baker
Connor Rushton
Lydia Curley
Grace McKenzie
Freddie Robinson
Rhys Simson
Imogen Capes
Samantha Thorpe

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: Matthew Harris

Year 11: River Tupper



Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

The future for Year 11.

We are excited to offer a full day allowing our students in Year 11 to come into the Sixth Form and sample life as a Sixth Form student. On this day students will be able to spend time with friends in the Sixth Form, use all of the fabulous facilities - including computers, canteen and social spaces, and, most importantly, have 5 hours worth of lesson time to go around and sample the lessons that we offer in Year 12 and 13.

This "Taster Day" is a really significant event in the cycle of our Sixth Form and will give students a real-life chance to immerse themselves in the Sixth Form - starting by not wearing uniform!

The day is fully planned and all that now needs to happen is for students to follow the link using the QR code and book on lessons. If there is a period when they don't see a lesson then that's ok - they can spend time in the Sixth Form area with friends perhaps over a coffee and a bit of toast!

Signing up is not a commitment - it's a chance to help galvanise thinking and test things out.

One of the strengths of our Sixth Form is that I can already declare who the teachers are going to be for next year - so there's no risk of not getting the teacher that you want to work with.

There are lots of subjects to choose, some taught at GCSE, some not.

Join us on Thursday February 8th for our Sixth Form Taster Day 2024.

Mr Chapman | Head of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Taster Day



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM



Thursday 8th February

Try out your A Level subjects

Scan the QR code to sign up



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



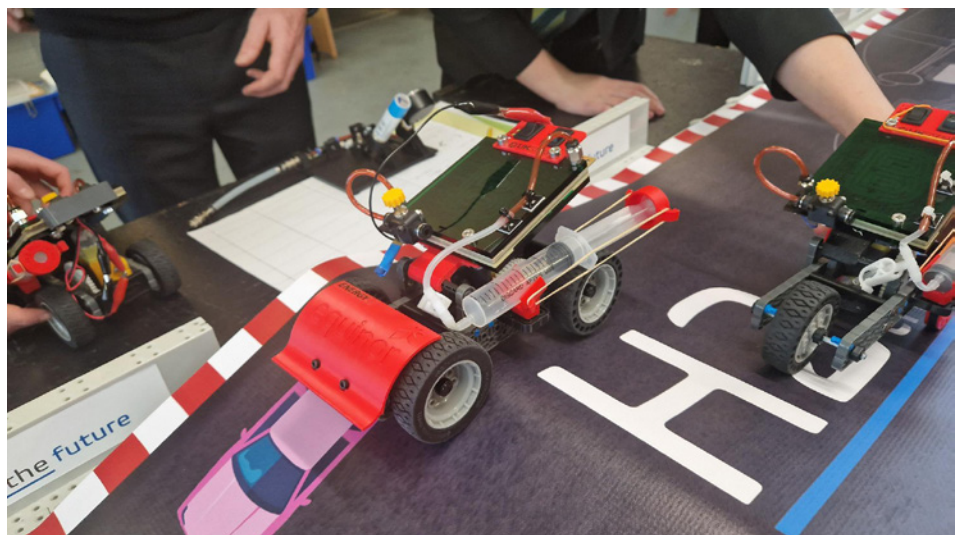
Mr Coupe writes:

Welcome to this month's Personal Development Update. Here at Longcroft there is lots going on in the world of Personal Development. In addition to our usual cycle of careers events such as the Careers Fair, Individual Advice & Guidance for Year 11, and our planning for this year's Work Experience Programme, we've been busy planning and delivering a range of smaller, one-off events to enrich the experience of our pupils.

Last week saw the launch of our 2024 Active Travel Ambassadors (ATA) Programme, with a group of Year 7 pupils who are keen to make a difference. Last year, our ATAs secured £500 of funding from Modeshift and East Riding Council for the school to promote active travel, and used this money to fund a very successful campaign to encourage pupils to walk and cycle into school. We look forward to seeing the campaign ideas of our new ATAs, who will have to pitch their plans to a panel of experts at County Hall later this year in order to attract the all-important funds for their campaign.

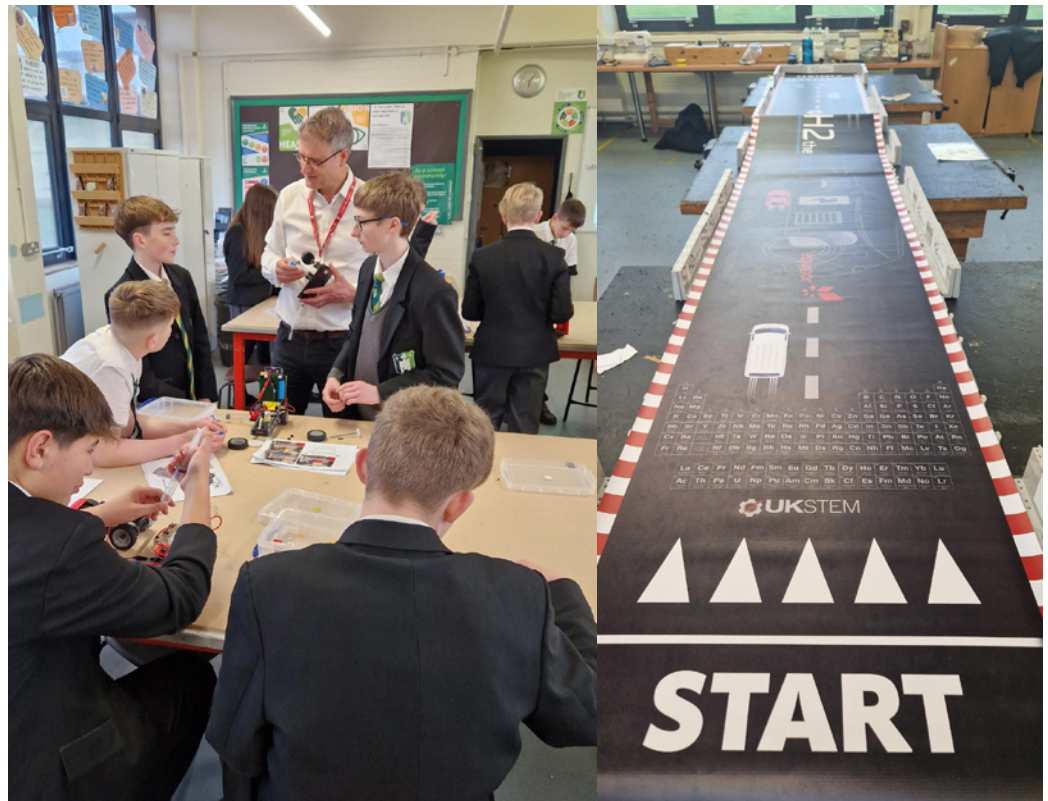
Continuing the theme of active travel, last Friday, a group of six Year 7 and 8 pupils completed a project they had been working on with R-evolution, a local charity which aims to encourage sustainability through promoting and supporting cycling. Their endeavours and our work with this wonderful local charity are featured in our cover story.

This week, we have run a number of additional events. On Tuesday, 28 budding scientists in Year 9 worked with Nick Keen from the Economic Development Team at East Riding Council and Mike Cargill from UKSTEM to rise to the challenge of building and developing hydrogen cars. After an introduction to the important part that hydrogen technology can use in the drive to decarbonise our economy, with particular importance for the local labour market, given our proximity to the





North Sea wind turbine fields, the pupils had to work together in teams, to build their hydrogen buggy, considering fuel delivery, electricity generation, and gear ratios. Once built, they raced their buggies on the racetrack, and timed their efforts to see which team had created the most efficient vehicle. Pupils displayed a wealth of employability skills such as teamwork, problem-solving and creative thinking. This was a great event that gave our pupils experience in cutting edge green technology. Nick said, "They were a great bunch, and a credit to your school!"



Racing To Success Well-Being Event

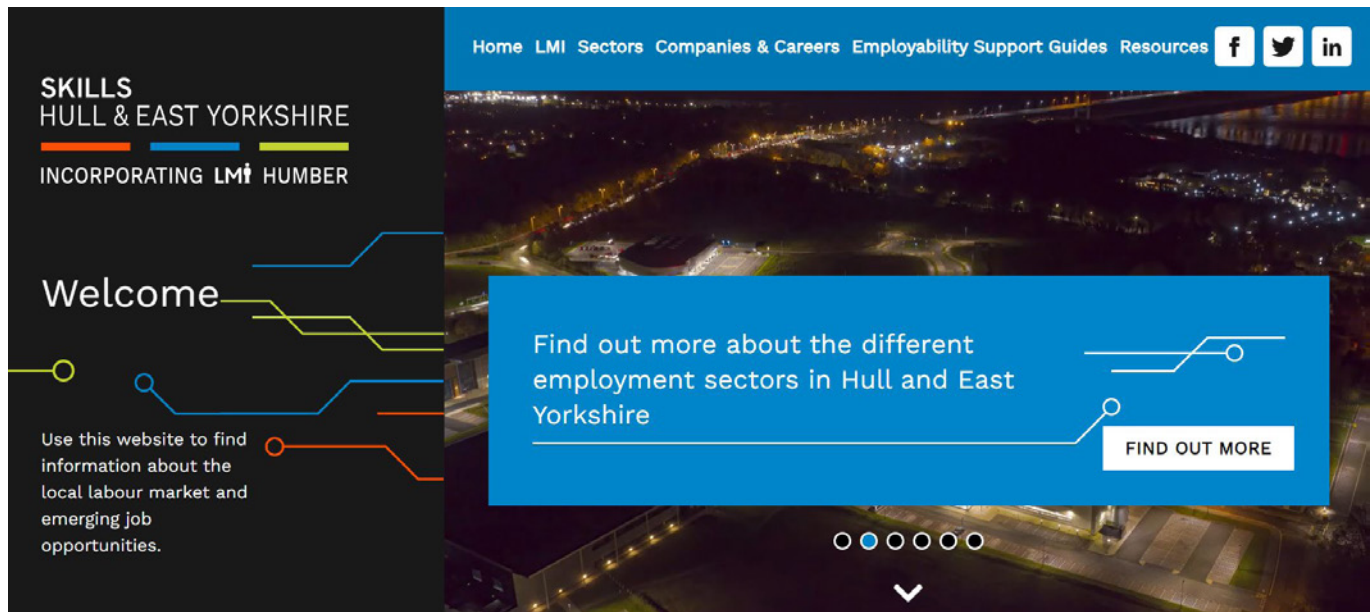


Helping GCSE students to relieve the stress and anxiety associated with the exam season.

Snacks provided by the Cornish Bakery, Beverley.



Thursday afternoon saw the start of this year's Scholars Programme for a number of Year 9 pupils, who will work with a PhD tutor on a university-style research project. This programme aims to introduce pupils to the types of teaching used in universities and to encourage them to feel more comfortable considering the university route in their future path. To achieve this, pupils will work with the tutor, who will introduce them to their particular research area, and lead the pupils through their thinking around their topic. Over a series of sessions, the pupils will learn more about the tutor's research, before completing a written assignment that will be marked to university standards. The programme will finish with a graduation event at a regionally significant university. Another really important programme that we are proud to be able to provide for our pupils.



In addition to all of the above, we have been busy planning a range of upcoming events for later in this half term, including a Year 7 Stem event provided by BAE Systems, a number of wellbeing/careers visits to Beverley Racecourse for Year 9, and a Sexual Health presentation for Year 10 pupils. This may well be a short half term, but we are certainly packing in the Personal Development events to enrich the experiences of our young people.

The Hull and East Yorkshire area is seeing record levels of investment from local, national, and international businesses. Skills Hull and East Yorkshire helps residents, especially young people, and their families, make informed decisions about their future career by providing up to date information on the emerging opportunities that these, and other companies are creating.

Use the website www.skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk to:

- » Explore Labour Market Information (LMI) for the Hull and East Yorkshire area
- » Find out which are the most posted jobs in the region with our Skills Dashboard
- » Discover local employers in the Company Profiles and interactive map
- » Explore our library of Careers of the Week, and watch short inspirational career videos in 'How Did You Get That Job?'
- » Find out more about the region's employment sectors
- » Download the 'Shape Your Future in Hull and East Yorkshire' booklet and Sector information fact sheets

Also, visit Skills Hull and East Yorkshire's social media channels, and follow them at <https://linktr.ee/skillshullandeastyorkshire>

Mr A Coupe
Head of PSHE and Careers Education



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Safe use of devices,

We as parents did not grow up with anywhere near the amount of technology around us as young people do today. As I'm sure we'll agree there are elements which have made access to information, communication and entertainment much more varied and accessible.

It is clear that we are playing catch up in terms of teaching our young children how to access their devices appropriately and how to keep themselves safe online. I think of the issues that arise within school between pupils, often involving at some point, negative behaviour on-line or through messaging services. What transpires from experience, is that parents have had faith that their own children who 'behave well' in real life know how to conduct themselves online. This is becoming more and more misplaced, especially when appropriate boundaries and monitoring system are not in place. Often, when talking to parents, we discuss how we wouldn't let our children go to parties where we don't know who is there, so why do we allow our children to enter areas online where we can't control who they speak to. I think we are more clued up about strangers online, but increasingly problems arise with others that our children already know in real life. We must continue to educate ourselves in these matters. I have found that Internetmatters.org have produced detailed guides for almost all available devices and search engines.

What are parental controls?

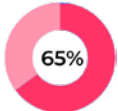
Parental controls refers to a group of settings that put you in control of what content your child can see. Combined with privacy settings, these can help you protect your children from inappropriate content, online grooming, cyberbullying and other **online safety issues**.



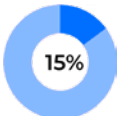
Remember that parental control settings are only one part of online safety. Make sure to keep having **regular conversations about their online lives** to stay on top of any issues that come up.



More than nine in ten parents of 5-15s who use parental control software consider it useful.



65% of young people aged 11-16 are in favour of the controls.



15% of Teens say parental controls and restrictions should only be taken away once they're over 18 years of age.

How to set parental controls

Many parents are put off using controls and settings as they think they will be difficult to set up, or complicated to use. With step by step guides, we can help make it simple and straightforward.

With so many available devices we are lucky that internet matters have created a guide for all available devices and search engines. We hope you find the information available useful.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement



IN FOCUS

ART

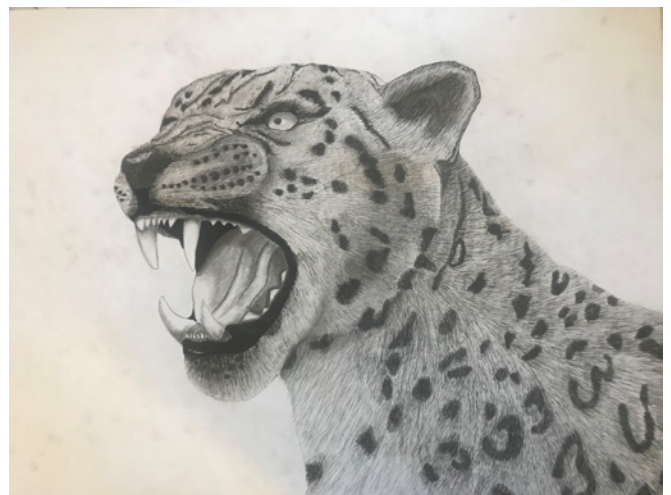
This week we feature the work of Year 13 artist Lewis Wainwright and show the development of a wonderful piece.

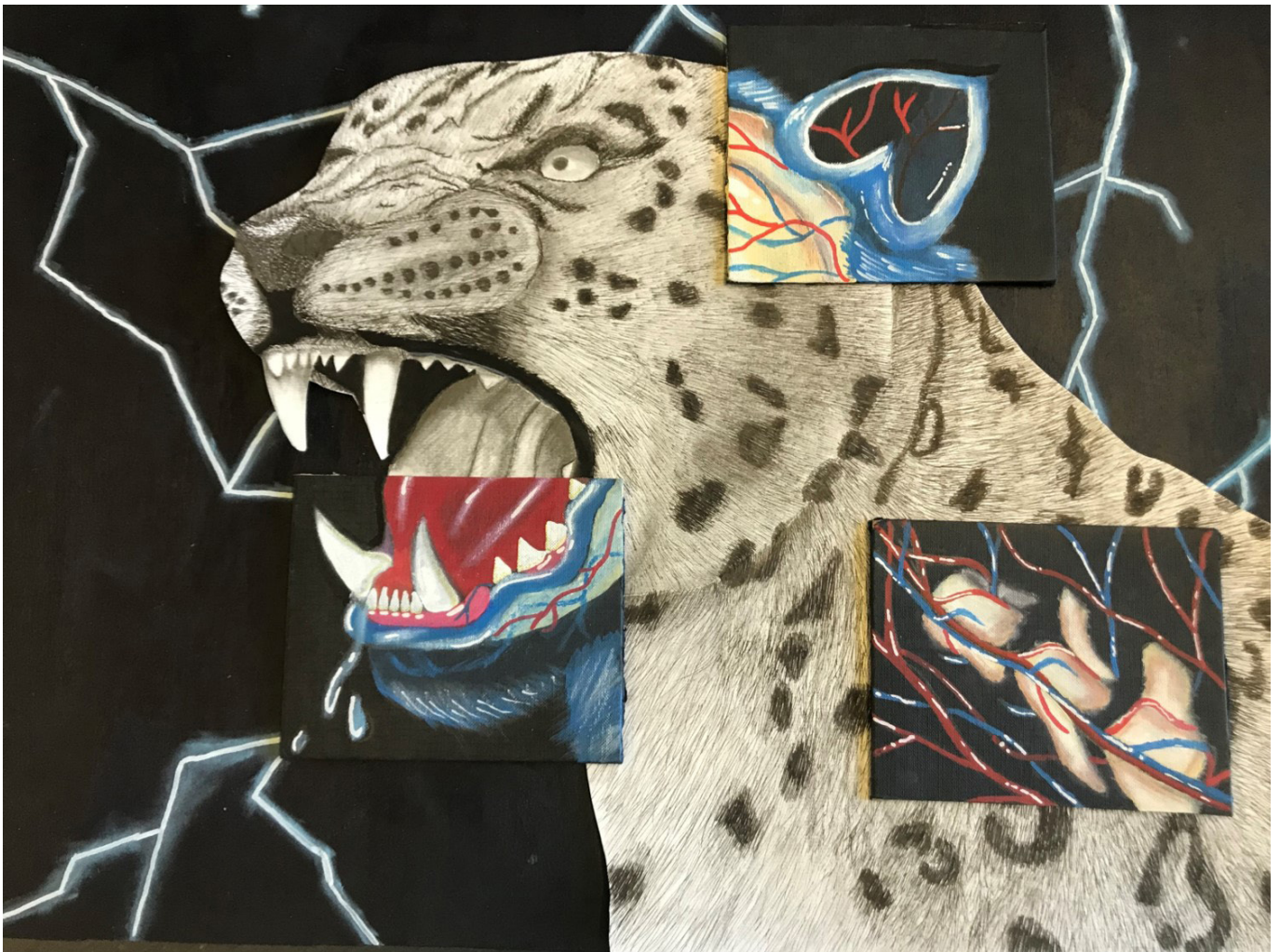
Mrs Holmes said, "These images show Lewis's final Mock Exam response to the theme of "Outside/Inside". Lewis has explored animals in art and has created a stunning piece which combines detailed pencil, pen, paint and chalk skills. His final composition depicts both the external and internal structure of a snow leopard. Well done Lewis!"

Lewis explained, "It's a nice piece to show off my work in Year 13 so far. It represents my workbook in one place."

Head of Sixth Form Mr Chapman summed up the work in one word - "Stunning!"

We look forward to featuring more of Lewis's work later in the year.







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

Friday

Badminton – all year groups

Table Tennis – all year groups





Memory Lane

This week we return to the 1970's and feature two photographs from 1976/77.

Our pictures show Geography teacher Mr Ball and PE teacher Mrs Packer with their tutor groups.





LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

Holocaust Memorial Day 2024

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 is 'Fragility of Freedom'. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, an event that saw Hutu extremists murder over one million Tutsis in just one hundred days, and shattered the fragile freedom in Rwanda.

"Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind."

—Virginia Woolf,
A Room of One's Own

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2024

THE FRAGILITY OF FREEDOM

It's also 49 years since the Holocaust ended, and 19 years after the genocide in Cambodia. All three of these genocides began by restricting the freedoms of people: freedom to self-identify, freedom of faith, freedom of expression, freedom of reproduction, freedom of movement, freedom of education, freedom to love, freedom to live.

Many of us take freedom for granted. We live in a western democracy and don't have to face the restrictions in society that others do. This Holocaust Memorial Day we can reflect on the value of freedom, and how fortunate we are to live where we do, and not to face the consequences of war every time we open our door.

A large selection of books relating to the holocaust are on display in the library alongside books that have 'freedom' as a central theme. Below are some favourites. Please encourage pupils and students to read them.



Freedom by Catherine Johnson

AR Book Level 4.5 – Colour Code – Blue

Year 7

This superb adventure, set in the 1780s, relates the story of Nat, a 12-year-old boy born into slavery on a Jamaican plantation. Although the character of Nat is fictional, many of the people and happenings named in the novel are based on real characters and historical events.

This is a brilliant insight into slavery. Sensitive and informative. Winner of the Little Rebels Children's Book Award 2019.

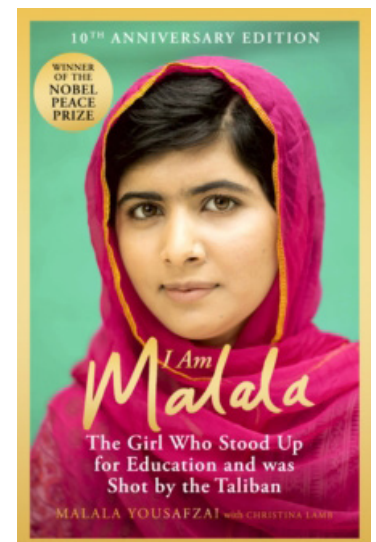
I am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban by Malal Yousafzai

AR Book Level 7.1 – Colour Code Purple

Year 8

The youngest ever winner of the Nobel prize, Malala fought for the right of females to be educated. As a result, she was shot in the head. This is an inspirational book about freedom and human rights that helps you experience the world through her eyes.

Powerful. A book everyone should read.



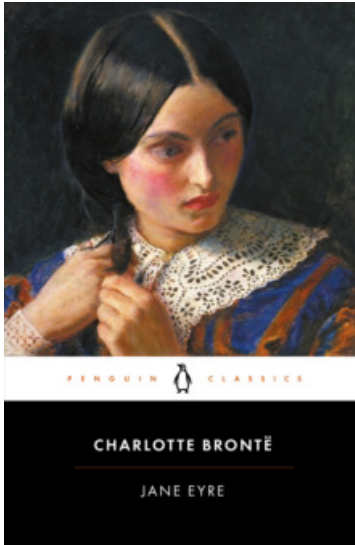
Nineteen Eighty-Four by George Orwell

AR Book Level 8.9 – Colour Code Gold

Year 9

This is a classic for a reason. Imagine living in a world where freedom of thought, freedom of movement, and freedom of assembly are forbidden. Imagine being constantly watched. Imagine living in a world where the truth is constantly manipulated.

It's incredible to think this novel was published in 1949. Although Orwell described it as a satire, parallels have been drawn between its subject matter and real life. It's considered one of the most terrifying books ever written, and a must for students.



Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë

AR Book Level 7.9 – Colour code – Purple

Year 10

This gothic masterpiece depicts a young woman's search for equality and freedom. Jane's troubled childhood, including the death of her parents and the bullying of her heartless cousins, does not diminish her spirit. Forced to support herself she becomes a governess at the home of brooding Mr Rochester. As her feelings for Rochester grow, and a terrible secret is revealed, she is forced to make a choice. A superb read.

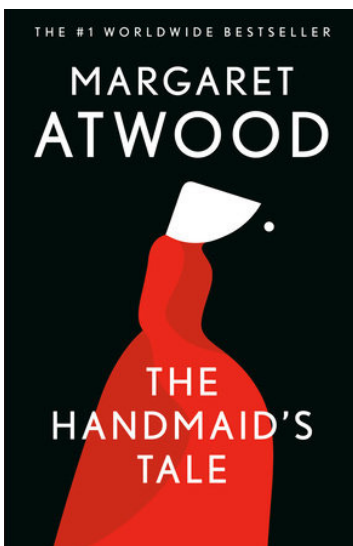
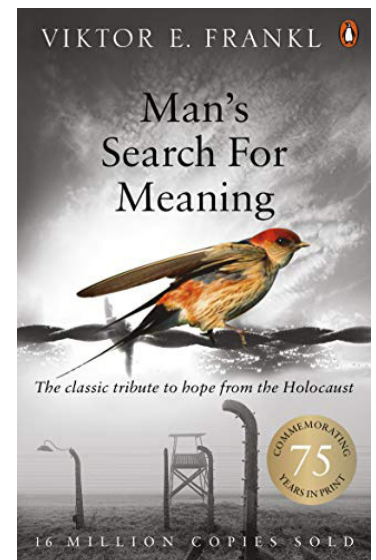
Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl

No AR

Year 11

Viktor Frankl's inspirational memoir details his struggle to survive in Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps during WW2. It explores the meaning and purpose in life when all freedoms are removed, except the freedom to 'choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way'.

This outstanding work transcends suffering and loss, and shows how even when faced with the most horrific circumstances meaning and growth can occur. It is a tribute to hope and humankind. A remarkable read.



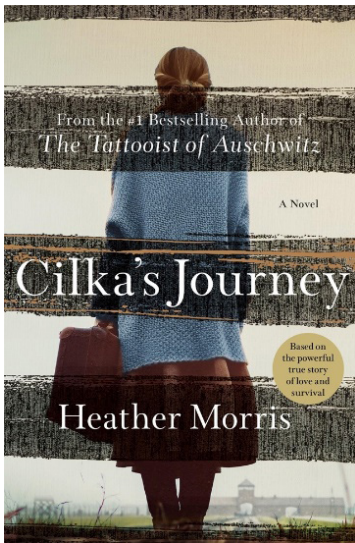
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

AR Book Level 5.4 – Colour code Red

Year 12

This groundbreaking dystopian novel is set in a truly misogynistic society where the signs in food shops are pictures because women are no longer allowed to read. Offred, is forced to become a handmaid, all her freedoms having been stripped from her: her home, husband, child, job, money, and access to knowledge.

The novel explores feminist themes, slavery, and freedom. Exceptional. A must read!



Cilka's Journey by Heather Morris

No AR

Year 13

The prequel to the bestselling *Tattooist of Auschwitz*, *Cilka's Journey* is both poignant and heart wrenching. Cilka arrives at Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1942 and is forced into an abusive relationship with the Commandant. After liberation she is accused of collaborating with the enemy and sent to a Siberian prison camp where she faces further horrendous challenges.

This humane book shows how imprisonment and brutality can be confounded by hope, and how despite everything bad in the world there is always space for love.

"I am no bird; and no net ensnares me: I am a free human being with an independent will."

—Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

First Story 100 Word Story Competition 2024

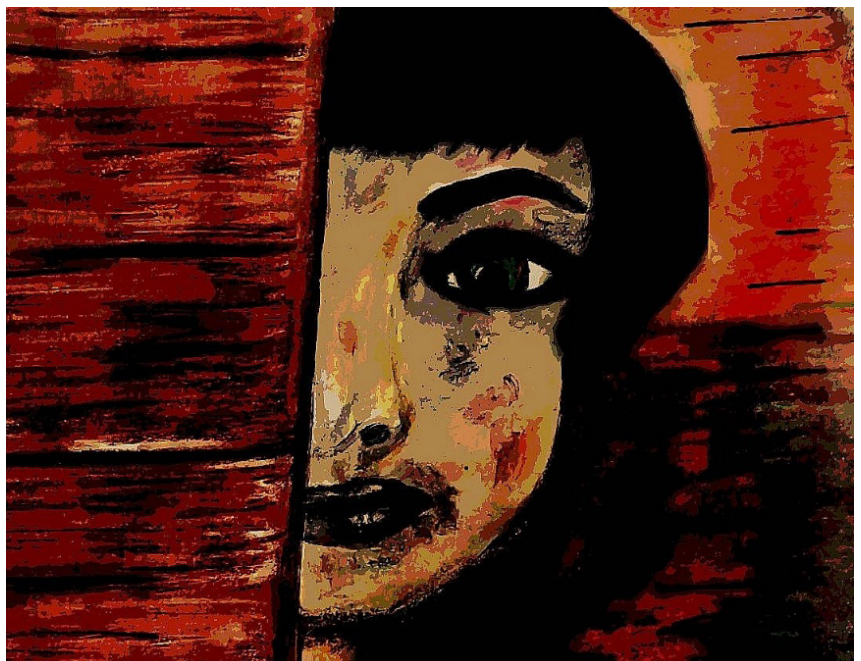
Can you write a superb story in just 100 words?

Tips: Think about what makes a good story? Plot, characters, setting, climax? Flash fiction needs to live up to its title. Your 100 words need to shine brightly; send forth light metaphorically. Think out of the box. Explore the five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, touch. Be daring. Make us laugh, make us cry, shock us. EXPERIMENT!

We can't wait to read your stories. As usual we will have an in-house competition with three winners going forth to the national finals.

Rules: Your story can be in any genre but must be 100 words only (not including the title).

Deadline: Friday March 1st, 2024.



Please submit your entries to Ms Carvill or Mrs Clarke in the library or your English or Form teacher.

Prizes will include ClassCharts, sweets, books, and goodie bags, and online publication.



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

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Years 8 and 9

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Year 10

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Sixth Form

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