



# LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

## NEWS LETTER



*“I shall definitely be promoting Longcroft’s approach to the elections in regard to future good practice in schools.”*

—Detty Tyler, Children and Young People’s Services Coordinator

### Democracy in Action!

**On Wednesday, pupils and Sixth Form students participated in democratic elections for the UK Youth Parliament alongside a UK-wide referendum on the issues that matter most to young people.**

The fundamental British Values, one of which is Democracy, underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Great Britain.

The ‘Make Your Mark’ ballot offered an opportunity to participate in the largest survey of young people in Europe. The month-long campaign sees volunteers and Members of Youth Parliament canvassing the views of young people.

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Make  
Your Mark

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE  
YOUR SAY.

The annual ballot, which has taken place since 2011, gives young people aged 11 – 18 the chance to select one issue they think affects them and their peers most. The ballot includes issues such as mental health and well-being, responding to the climate emergency and ending child poverty.

Secondly, pupils and Sixth Form students voted for a candidate to represent them as the East Riding (East) member of the UK Youth Parliament.

Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) are elected every two years across the UK. There are currently hundreds of Members of Youth Parliament.

Once elected Members of Youth Parliament meet with MPs and local councillors, organise events, run campaigns, make speeches, hold debates, and ensure the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

Mr Coupe, who organised the election, explained: "Longcroft pupils and students vote in the East Riding Constituency. Each candidate made a short video which pupils watched with their form tutor. Candidates also wrote a one-sentence manifesto. After watching all 9 videos, pupils had to decide who to vote for at the polling station."

Year 7 pupil Jake said: "I think it was good because it helped me understand how important it will be in the future."

**BALLOT PAPER**  
Youth Parliament  
MAKING OUR MARK

**Make Your Mark 2024**  
We want to know what topic you care about most. You have **one** vote, please mark an **X** in the box next to the topic you would like to vote for.

Education & Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
International Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health & Wellbeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rights, Equalities & Democracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs, the Economy & Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime & Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Culture, Media, Sport	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change and the Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Work & Young People's Services	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sonny, who is also in Year 7, said: "It was good to give young people an experience so you know in the future to do your research before you vote and not go in empty minded." Angel added: "It was the first time I'd voted and it was good to be involved. Being in a booth was good because it's important to do it privately."

Detty Tyler, Children and Young People's Services Coordinator, said: "I'm so pleased you're making it such a key part of their learning, this is exactly what we would love all schools to do, and I shall definitely be promoting Longcroft's approach to the elections in regard to future good practice in schools."

Mr Coupe added: "This was an excellent opportunity for our young people to have their voice heard and to see and experience democracy in action!"





## 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** 58,874

**THOUGHT** 309,550

**VISION** 202,761

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**557,185**





# Headteacher's Welcome

**As we move in to meteorological Spring, the longer days are beginning to return and there is a sense of optimism in the air as we anticipate what is to come. This sentiment has certainly been reflected in our community here at Longcroft as we have welcomed Year 9 families in to school this week to discuss Key Stage 4 Options.**

One of the great privileges of working with young people is to be immersed in the incredible potential that they possess and the hope and excitement it brings. Our aim is to prepare our pupils and students to fulfil that potential, and enjoy confident, happy and healthy lives beyond school. It has been wonderful to again share our school with parents and carers, exploring the enhanced curriculum we are now proud to be able to offer. Thank you to all who were able to come and be a part of the event which was incredibly well attended and we look forward to supporting Year 9 with their subject preferences over the coming weeks and beyond.

It was tremendous to see our pupils and students voting this week at our Longcroft Polling Station for the Youth Parliament Elections 2024. Our atrium was transformed to provide an authentic voting experience and two votes were cast as part of the process. The first was to select one issue that our young people felt most affected them and their peers, and the second was to vote for a candidate to represent them as their Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP) nationally. Issues such as mental health and well-being, ending child poverty and the climate emergency were included on the ballot. The whole event was about giving young people a voice, and recognising the importance of using it to shape and influence decisions that are made by politicians for our society in the UK and beyond.

As we move ever closer to the exam season, a further highlight this week has been the amazing creations that our Year 11 pupils have produced in Food Technology as part of their final controlled assessments. There has been a raft of different dishes on display and some impressive technical application demonstrated. You can read more in our Upper School article and see some previous pictures (as those taken this week must remain confidential until the examination boards have assessed and moderated the work that has been produced). A huge thanks to Mrs George for her brilliant work with all those involved.

World Book Day will be the stimulus for a range of events, competitions and enrichment next week as part of a vibrant ongoing offer from our literacy team. I'm very much looking forward to seeing the outcomes of our children's contributions and meeting the various visitors we will be welcoming in to school. You can find more information later in the Newsletter.

Have a great week.

**Mr D Perry**  
Headteacher



## LOWER SCHOOL



### Mr Worthington writes:

**At Longcroft we are fully committed to knowing your child as an individual and to developing them as an all-round person, ready for the wider-world, with an appreciation of the wonder of the world and what it has to offer.**

Part of our commitment extends to having a dedicated Care and Achievement Team associated with all year groups across the school. Mrs Newsam is a prominent part of this team, working with Year 8 and Year 9; Miss Fox is our Care and Achievement Coordinator for Year 7. As part of Miss Fox's wider role, she works as Deputy Safeguarding Lead for the school.

At the heart of everything we do at Longcroft School, the children are cared for and understood. Our Care and Achievement Coordinators have specific pastoral training, related to working with children and providing the appropriate support a young person might need in a variety of situations. The team of Care and Achievement Coordinators are available to support children before school, during breaktimes and lunchtimes as well as providing care after school as well.

This week, we launched the Options Booklet to our Year 9 pupils. The children are excited, and there has been a real buzz around the process with pupils discussing their potential choices and looking ahead to the future. Alongside Mr Thomson, Head of Year 9, we formally introduced the process to pupils as part of Wednesday's assembly presentation. On Thursday, we were thrilled at the turn out for our Options Information Evening, presenting to families about the process and the opportunities available in Key Stage 4.

### Longcroft School and Sixth Form: Options Form 2024





This year we are really pleased to be offering a comprehensive suite of courses as part of the Options process, as well as maintaining an enhanced range of choices. This now involves selecting subjects from 4 separate blocks alongside the core offer of English, Maths, Science and Core PE. As a result, pupils are provided with an ambitious curriculum that is broad and balanced, and will prepare them effectively for the range of future pathways available to them at the end of Key Stage 4. This process represents the first opportunity that the pupils have had to make choices about what to study. It is a good time for the children to start considering their preferred future career, and to begin considering what post-16 route they might take to get there.

Our options choices, alongside compulsory core subjects, ensure a broad and balanced curriculum that keeps as many careers as open as possible. Whilst this is generally true, it is also important to note that choosing certain subjects can help to steer a pupil towards future broad areas of employment.



## ATA's Preparing to Present!

We are grateful to Jason McAleese, Team Modeshift Active Travel Ambassador Coordinator (North Yorkshire, East Riding and York), who has been working alongside a group of Lower School pupils – our Active Travel Ambassadors.

The pupils are preparing for a visit to Beverley's County Hall when they will give a presentation about their plans to raise the levels of active travel to and from school. Pupils will also watch presentations from other schools, before a panel of judges will decide which school should receive a grant of £250 to help fund their plans. Last year, we were very successful and the £250 was doubled to £500! We hope for further success this year!

## Year 9 are Racing to Success!

We are grateful to the team at Beverley Racecourse who welcomed a group of Year 9 pupils for our second joint well-being event. Pupils walked around the track, visited the stables and even got the chance to hold some of the trophies that are over 70 years old! The Cornish Bakery in Beverley kept pupils fuelled with some delicious pastries!



## Holly's Boxing Success

Finally, I am pleased to report some success in the field of boxing for one of our Year 7 pupils. Holly has made some great progress under the guidance of Track Fitness and Boxing Club. Holly took part in a skills bout in Newcastle on Saturday, honing her craft and improving in the sport. She is looking forward to participating in the home event on 30th March.

**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

Rosie Fitton  
Oscar Purchon  
Beth Dawson  
Max van den Ban  
Jack Denyer  
Emily Thomson  
Freya Phipps  
Frankie Gray  
Mia Spruce-Wan  
Joshua Dakin

## Year 8

Neve Meagher  
Holly Ruston  
Bonnie Smith  
Lydia Chapman  
Charlotte Sutcliffe  
Caitlin Groves  
Mia Robinson  
Max Pollard  
Billie-Grace Featherstone  
Eddie Pickering

## Year 9

Lily Mae Tierney  
Evie Woad  
Ben Carlyle-Smith  
Ava Bryce  
Sam Al Budri  
Harry Cuthbert  
Sienna Robinson  
Dylan Noble  
Ben Smedley  
Maisie Monaghan

## 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: Leo Caley

Year 8: Henrik-Bror Berntsson

Year 9: Kiera Lamb



## UPPER SCHOOL



**Mr Henderson writes:**

### Netballers prepare for tournament in style!



**Congratulations to the fantastic Year 10 Netball team on their outstanding victory over Holderness Academy. The team prepared for their end of season tournament with a 49-1 win! Miss Walmsley said, "This incredible performance speaks volumes about the excellent chemistry and skill within the team. The ability to move the ball swiftly down the court demonstrates not only individual talent but also seamless teamwork and communication." Keep up the fantastic work and momentum for the end of season tournament!**

### Year 11 Mocks

Last week saw Year 11 pupils complete their final set of mocks in Maths, English and Science. Pupils met in the Theatre before each exam and were then given a five-minute instructional and motivational presentation by the subject's Curriculum Leader. This included a reminder of which questions in each section to answer in the English paper, how to use the acronym CIDER to answer practical questions in Science and details in Maths such as always putting units with the answer. This allowed the pupils time to compose themselves and enter the exams focused on the job at hand.



## Food, Glorious Food!

This week has seen pupils in Food completing their practical examinations. Ms George explained, "This week pupils in Year 11 studying GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition have been completing their NEA2 practical assessments. Each pupil has to make three dishes and accompaniments that meet a brief set by the exam board. This year's task is all about dietary fibre so pupils have been using wholemeal flour to make pastries, bread, cakes and pasta and incorporating fruits, vegetables, beans, pulses and wholegrains into their dishes. Some really high level technical skills have been demonstrated - especially by Libby, Ruby, Izzy, Rhys and James."

I look forward to seeing pupils completing assessments in other subjects such as Drama, Music and Product Design over the coming months.

## Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evenings

Year 10 parents will have the opportunity to discuss the progress of their child at the upcoming Parents' Consultation Evenings on April 10th and 17th. Information will be sent to parents regarding the evening they will be invited to, alongside a meeting booking form. We hope and look forward to seeing everyone on the evenings - please contact us if you are unable to attend.

## Year 11 Revision Conference

Letters have gone out this week for the University of Hull Year 11 Revision Conference. Last year's event was a huge success with pupils improving their understanding of the revision process, trying new ideas and being inspired by working in and looking around the University campus.

## GCSEPod

Well done to the following for completing the most GCSE Pods this month:

- » Lauren
- » Freddie
- » Jamie

Your vouchers are on the way.

**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

Lydia Spratt  
Mathilda Smith  
Hayden Berango  
Anika Matta  
Amelia Purchon  
Finn Bridgeman  
Joe Dawson  
Dan Parkinson  
Jasmine Lambert  
Emilia Fisher

## Year 11

Grace McKenzie  
Ruby Hutchinson  
Samantha Thorpe  
Freddie Robinson  
Adam Jefferson  
Seth Hamson  
Harry Hood  
Isobel Branney  
Rossi Moulson  
Lauren Matthews

## 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: Mollie Coates  
Year 11: Isobel Horner



## Mr Chapman writes:

**Well done to all Year 13 students who completed their final set of mock exams in the last week. The next time they step into the exam hall...**

There's a huge amount resting on this process and of course, for many in Year 13, this means offers that they have been issued from several universities are there to be taken as the most senior of students in our organisation prepare for their very significant next steps.

After 13 years of education, starting at around age 4 when they were first walked into a school setting (in Year 1) they are about to discover how well they have performed in their A Levels.

Good luck Year 13. Keep going - there is still time to make some gains as you move into the final push!

Meanwhile, our Year 12 students enjoyed a presentation from an outreach officer from the University of Hull regarding student finance. The 30 minute talk was both inciteful and interesting. Whilst attending a university in the UK is a huge financial investment, the speaker was able to articulate that the career value gained from the experience and qualification was likely to be worth it. The personal development, it was argued, is also salient!

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form



# THE EAST YORKSHIRE SIXTH FORM



'Teachers know their students incredibly well' and 'as a result of the quality curriculum, students achieve strong outcomes'  
**Ofsted 2023**

## ABOUT US WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Small class sizes
- Great academic outcomes
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 [WWW.LONGCROFTSCHOOL.CO.UK](http://WWW.LONGCROFTSCHOOL.CO.UK)

# BE AMBITIOUS



# 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 and 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** – all year groups .

**Drama Club** – all year groups

## Thursday

**Girls' Football** – all year groups

**Hockey** – all year groups

## Friday

**Badminton** – all year groups

**Table Tennis** – all year groups





# Girls' Football

## Longcroft hosted Holderness Academy on Thursday evening.

Mrs Henderson said, "We had three teams playing - it was great to see so many girls enjoying football and the weather was a little kinder to us than for the fixtures against Bridlington School. The Year 9/10 team struggled for numbers but worked hard in their game to cover the pitch; it was end to end play with a lot of goals, resulting in a win. The Year 7/8 team put out an improved performance and battled hard throughout the game with some great breaks upfront but were unable to finish, resulting in a defeat. The Year 7 team showed some strong attacking play, great through balls from midfield and were able to finish their chances resulting in a convincing win. Well done to all teams on their performance and on representing Longcroft so well."

**Mrs Henderson added, "A big thank you must go to our volunteer referees for giving their time to officiate the games and make the evening a possibility. Well done!"**





# Tallulah Wins National Title!

**Congratulations to former pupil Tallulah Pulling on her success in winning the England Boxing Youth National Championships at Rotherham's Magna Science and Adventure Centre.**

The England Boxing National Youth Championships is relatively new to the competition calendar, being introduced as a bridge between junior and senior levels.

Tallulah, who has boxed at Beverley's Track Fitness and Boxing Club for several years, earned a unanimous decision in her semi final against Ania Kot of White Rose following a tough bout. In the final Tallulah overcame Aston's Zaynah Casserly, the 4-1 verdict seeing her once again crowned National Champion!

Mr Baker said, "I have followed Tallulah's progress since her early bouts and she sets a tremendous example to younger boxers at her club. I was pleased to hear she'd taken her belt into the gym to show the academy boxers and that she spoke to them about the dedication and motivation it takes to achieve your goals. She will certainly have inspired them. She thoroughly deserves her success and I look forward to hearing about her achieving more of her goals in the future."



## Memory Lane

This week we return to the early 1980's and feature two First Year, or Year 7, tutor groups.  
Mr Coates is pictured with 1AS and Miss Middleton is pictured with 1BN.





Ms Carvill writes:

# World Book Day is Approaching!

“I guess there are never enough books.”  
—John Steinbeck (American author and the 1962 Nobel Prize in Literature winner)

**Our 2024 £1/€1.50 books**

Bydd llyfrau £1 yn dod yn fuan  
€1 book coming soon

Eire amháin Ireland only

Thursday 7th March is World Book Day. It's one of the most important events in the literary calendar; designed to encourage children across the world to read for pleasure.

A love of books and reading really can make a difference, and is the biggest indicator of a child's future success regardless of family circumstances, income, or parental educational background.

At Longcroft we'll be marking the day with book displays, fun quizzes in form time, and author visits, including talks and workshops.

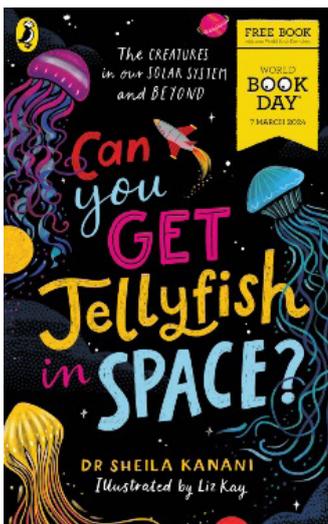
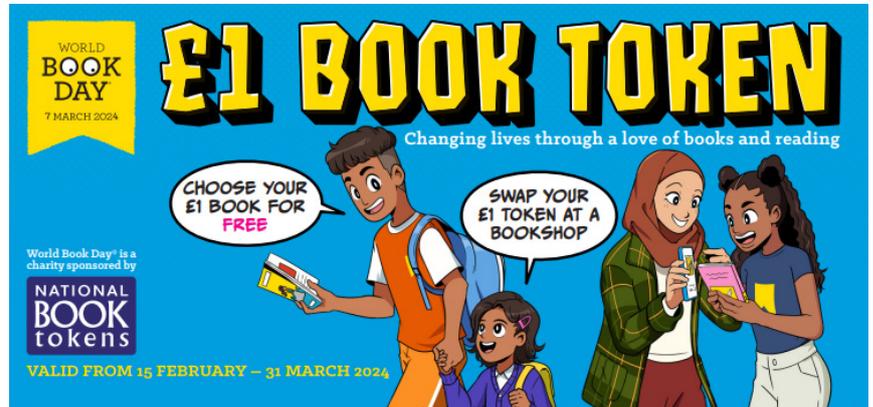


As part of the celebration every child is entitled to a free book token which can be exchanged for a new book at local retailers including independent bookshops, Tesco, Asda, Sainsburys, The Works, Waterstones, and WHSmith. Books are usually displayed near the front of stores.

Below are a list of the books in the fluent and independent sections selected for secondary school, with brief descriptions to help pupils make their choice. Book Tokens can be collected from Longcroft Library where pupils can also sample books on the World Book Day display.

For more information visit the link below which features lots of activities for families.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>



## Can You Get Jellyfish in Space? by Dr Sheila Kanani. Illustrated by Liz Kay

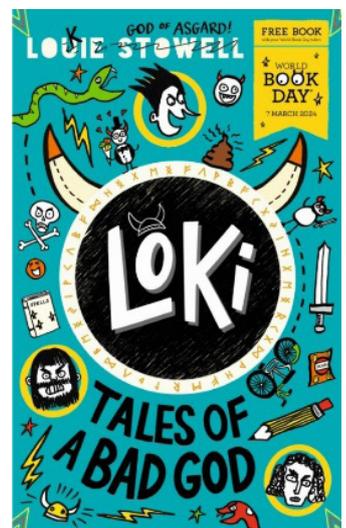
This fabulously illustrated page turner is a great choice for budding scientists and animal lovers. Most of us are familiar with the idea of dogs and chimpanzees in space but jellyfish! Apparently 60,000 jellyfish have orbited the Earth and there are even jellyfish-shaped galaxies.

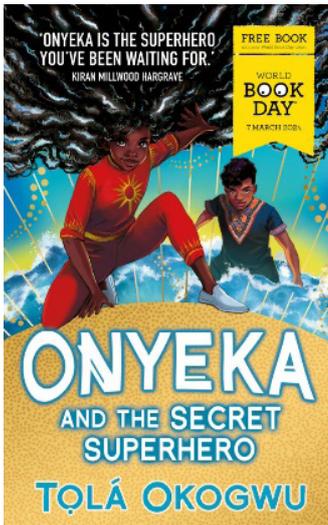
Dr Kanani's accessible text provides a wonderful insight into a whole host of weird and wonderful animals that have journeyed into space and survived its vacuum. An inspiring, educational, and fun read.

## Loki – Tales of A Bad God by Louie Stowell

This entertaining collection of three thrilling tales is written in diary format and has amusing graphics. Loki, a Norse god, has been banished to Earth by Odin after playing one too many tricks in Asgard, and forced to become an 11-year-old schoolboy. Quite an upset for the most handsome and clever of all the gods!

Can Loki except his punishment and become virtuous? His highly sarcastic diary reveals all. Great fun.





### Onyeka and the Secret Superhero by Tola Okogwu

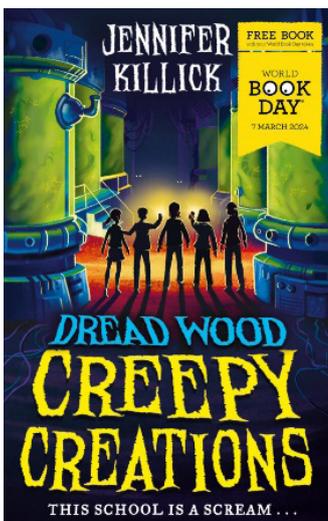
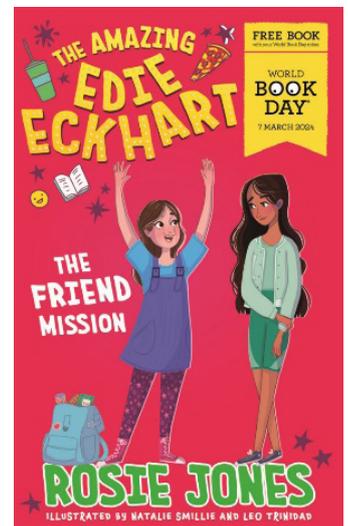
This action-packed tale features 12-year-old Onyeka, a student at the Academy of the Sun, a school for superheroes called Solari. She and her friends are sent on a mission to investigate a series of weird weather incidents in a faraway village, where they meet a top secret Solari with incredible superpowers. Who is she and is she a friend or foe?

A great choice if you enjoy Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson series or are a fan of Marvel and DC.

### The Amazing Edie Eckhart by Rosie Jones. Illustrated by Natalie Smillie

Edie has cerebral palsy, but it's never really bothered her because she's never known anything else. When Mia arrives from America to join her class at the start of Year 8, Edie can't wait to get to know her and her twin brother. Mia has a hearing impairment and wears hearing aids and lip reads. She seems shy. Mia understands how that feels and knows how scary it can be to join a new school.

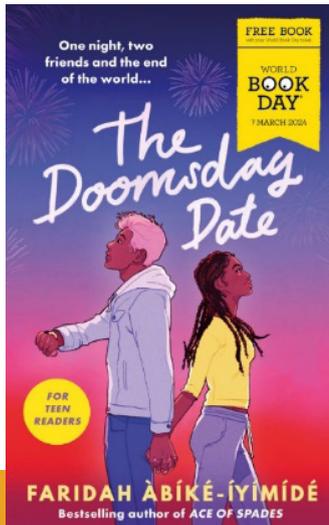
A tender tale of friendship that deepens knowledge of disabilities and encourages empathy,



### Dread Wood – Creepy Creations by Jennifer Killick

This terrifying tale has been specially commissioned for World Book Day and forms part of the Dread Wood series. The latter was the most popular Bookbuzz book with our Year 7s in 2023 and is currently being read in form time in our Reading Aloud sessions with Year 8s. They are on the edge of their seats.

Is it possible that even more hideous creations are living in the Latchitts' laboratories underneath Dread Wood High? It seems so, and Angelo and his friends are about to find them. A great sci-fi adventure that will set your pulse racing.



### The Doomsday Date by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé Illustrated by Bex Glendining

The world is due to end and Sanjeet has dyed his hair pink and is determined to live a little before the sky comes crashing down. He's come up with a list of ten things he must do. Sola is Sanjeet's best friend and she's going to help him, even though she does not believe the world is going anywhere.

A touching love story from the best-selling author of ACE OF SPADES. Heart-warming.

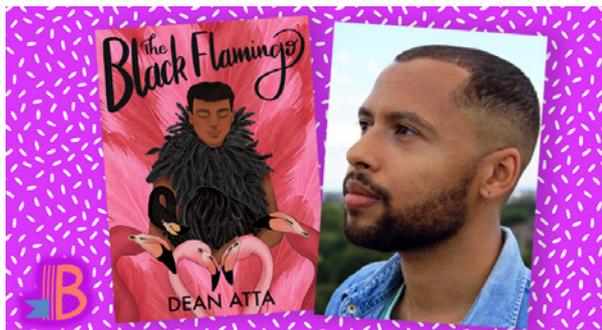
## First Story Young Writers Festival 2024 – Booking Open Soon!

27 March 2024

This year's Young Writers Festival is on Wednesday 27th March, during our Easter holiday. It takes place at Downing College, at the University of Cambridge. A truly remarkable setting.

The Young Writers Festival is a fabulous event where pupils can participate in a series of workshops led by famous authors, listen to readings and performances, enjoy a tour of Downing College and its stunning grounds, and lots more...

This year award winning YA author Dean Atta will be headlining the festival. Dean is the author of **The Black Flamingo** and **Only on the Weekends**, and has been named as one of poetry's greatest modern voices.



The Black Flamingo was a top selling debut novel in 2020 and awarded the prestigious Stonewall Book Award and the Carnegie Shadowers' Choice Award 2020, and sold to the US in a five-way publisher auction.

If your child is interested in going on the Young Writers Festival trip, please ask them to visit the Library for further information. We have 40 places available, and the cost of the trip is £40. Payment can be made through ParentPay. Places will be awarded on a first come first served basis.

FIRST STORY  
**Young  
Writers  
Festival**



## 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**

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**Sixth Form**

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