



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Author Inspires!

"It was so innovative. It will really help me with my own writing."

—Year 10 pupil Joe

It's always exciting when an author visits Longcroft, and never more so than in World Book Day week.

Dr Ed Hurst, or Ed as he prefers to be called, visited the library on Wednesday to talk to pupils and students about his new book and lead a creative writing session that was full of enthusiasm and energy. As Sixth Form student Ash commented:

■ *"He's a fun character, very upbeat, and engaging."*

Ed currently works as the programme director for creative writing at the University of Hull, where he lectures. Recently he secured Ferens funding to lead creative writing workshops in secondary schools and Longcroft School was highly recommended to him.

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The first workshop was all about generating a creative spark; the second, in a couple of months, will explore publication. Ed's own new book, ARX: City of Broken Minds, is coming out in September and he has invited our writing cohort to attend the launch party and learn more about the publishing process.



Ed's favourite literature is Fantasy and Science Fiction. He hates the idea of what he describes as **"good literature and bad literature, what you study in class and what you enjoy"**.

Pupils were invited to introduce themselves and consider what genre of fiction they preferred and why they engaged with those stories. Evie said she was inspired by books with **relatable characters** and Casey spoke about how books taught you to understand **internal emotions**. Joe said he liked books with a **historical context that taught you about the past**.

Ed encouraged pupils to think about **'a world they could enter, that mattered to them, where they could create another reality, and be the creator.'** He played a video clip of Hogfather, the 20th Discworld novel filmed in 2006 and spoke about why **'humans need fantasy to be human'**.

Pupils did a series of exercises and were asked to imagine a brand-new world, in the form of a pyramid and consider what were the most important and least important aspects of it. They shared their thoughts openly and considered characterisations, writing diary entries detailing how their character perceived their world. The workshop was really well paced, lively, and stimulating, as Mrs Clarke commented:

"He really engaged with the pupils and encouraged expression, lots of interaction and participation. The workshop produced some brilliant ideas."



Pupils and students clearly enjoyed Ed's talk and workshop too. As Year 10 pupil Anika stated:

"It was really inspiring, and I really enjoyed learning about writing."

Joe, who is also in Year 10, was equally impressed:

"It was so innovative, and I found it useful. It will really help me with my own writing."

A huge thank you to Ed for visiting Longcroft and talking to our pupils and students. He was a wonderfully entertaining, informative, and inspiring visitor. We look forward to his next visit in a few months.



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

63,529

THOUGHT

322,795

VISION

222,809

GRAND

TOTAL:

619,133





This is to certify that

Longcroft School and Sixth Form

is a member of



...showing consistent commitment to
developing high-quality provision for
more able learners and challenge for all

1st January 2024 to 1st January 2025

Rob Lightfoot, CEO, NACE



LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Dreamy Dally

Having already enjoyed success in the RSPCA's competitions, Year 9 pupil Lily Logan is hoping her entry in this year's RSPCA Young Photographer Awards competition will win the People's Choice Award having been shortlisted by the judges.

The competition, which is open to anyone aged 18 or under, helps everyone appreciate our wonderful animals. Lily said: "I really like the photo because he looks cute - I take lots of photos, but submitted that one because of the focus on his face. I entered because I had been successful last year and was invited to by the organisers."

Last year Lily was invited to a glamorous awards ceremony where she met TV presenter and wildlife expert Chris Packham - I can't wait to hear how she's done this year!

FA's Biggest Ever Football Session

Communities are usually built around common interests. We can still find people within them who have different views, experiences, or beliefs, and learning from them can help us reach insights that we may not have reached on our own. 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. At Longcroft, both Lower School and Upper School pupils work together in harmony, bringing the best out in each other.





Over 465,000 girls took part in the Football Association's Biggest Ever Football Session on Friday 8th March. As part of a drive to raise numbers taking part in football, the commitment to increase participation was delivered thanks to campaigning spearheaded by the EURO 2022-winning Lionesses and an open letter they addressed to the Prime Minister which looked to increase opportunities for girls to play the game in school.

On our 3G facility, Mrs Henderson and I ran a session for both Lower and Upper School pupils. A big thanks needs to go to Mrs Henderson for her organisation of the event and advertisements around the school. On the day, we had girls playing as part of the session who represent their local sides, such as AFC Tickton and Beverley Town. It was a pleasure to see members of our Longcroft Community engage in this national event, and Miss Walmsley also came out to assist on the big day, designed to coincide with International Women's Day 2024. Amy, who is in Year 10, said it was a good opportunity for different year groups to come together and to play the sport that they enjoy. Indeed, increasingly we are seeing more pupils engage in their local community clubs, including Rugby League clubs locally like Beverley Braves and swimming clubs such as Beverley Barracudas.

In our Sports Centre, we display up to date information about ways of getting involved; not only do we share information about our extra-curricular clubs, which we include in our newsletter, but we also display details about sports clubs in the community and who to contact. Being in a sports club provides an additional opportunity for children to meet new people and make new friends; they are particularly good at keeping physically fit and supporting mental health.

At Longcroft we take great pride in making our mission to promote lifelong learning through physical activity, exercise and sports. We nurture engagement in P.E. ensuring that all pupils are equipped with the knowledge and skill to approach a variety of activities with confidence. Our large, 50-acre school field is a hive of sporting activity all year round. We boast a comprehensive extra-curricular programme, where children of all abilities can thrive and get involved. Our facilities are second to none and include our well-maintained sports hall and 3G pitch.

Through a comprehensive and inclusive curriculum, our pupils will develop into individuals who value physical activity, maintain physically active lifestyles, and improve their skill development. We know and care for every child as an individual.

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

Owen Harper
Oscar Purchon
Tymofii Merkulov
Leonid Vaskov
Harry Hugill
Thomas Greensides
Beth Dawson
Isaac Savage
Ashley Griffin
Jake Redmond

Year 8

Lewis Henderson
Nathan Steele
Alfie Robinson
Luke Hiles
Neve Meagher
Will Balmforth
Charlotte Sutcliffe
Sasha Huzzard
Evie Sugdon
Kamilla Canniffe

Year 9

Millie Wisher
Sam Al Budri
Sienna Robinson
Ben Smedley
Maisie Foster
Alicia Hicks
Maisie Monaghan
Evie Woad
Lily Logan
Emilia D'Andilly

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: Emile Collin

Year 8: Charlotte Sutcliffe

Year 9: Luke Hodges

UPPER
SCHOOL*Mr Henderson writes:*

This week has seen Year 11 pupils booking onto our Easter Revision Programme. After the fantastic progress made by pupils who attended revision sessions during half-term before the mocks we have created the largest revision programme ever offered at Longcroft with over 35 two and a half hour sessions for pupils to benefit from over the Easter break. Over 80 pupils have already booked their place and we are hoping that every pupil will participate.

From coursework completion in Art, Food and DT, to specialist revision sessions in nearly all subjects, every pupil has an area to develop catered for. Having enjoyed this Friday's Revision Conference at the University of Hull, pupils not only have all the skills needed to revise but also all the assistance required to exceed their targets.

Pupils who have not yet done so can book their place using the online form sent out to them, selecting all the sessions which meet their needs.

With only around six school weeks before the start of the 2024 GCSE exam series revision over Easter, particularly alongside our expert teachers, adds an extra period of quality, dedicated revision time.

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

Charlotte Skilbeck
Lily Pepper
Cal Skinner
Matthew Harris
Daniel Parkinson
Rachel Harris
Emilia Harris
Amelia Purchon
Anika Matta
Theo Waterson

Year 11

Grace McKenzie
Jemma Garnham
Lydia Curley
Freddie Robinson
Amy Barber
James Gresswell
Hazel Jones
Megan Ulph
Evie Barwick
Ruby Garness
Harry Hood
Heidi Jackson
Tristan Carlo Pineda
Ella Thornton

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: Lucy Coombe

Year 11: Grace Walker



Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

International Women's Day 2024.

We were very proud to be asked to be involved in a special event held at the MKM Stadium in Hull to mark International Women's Day. Representing Longcroft Sixth Form were Jessica, Louisa, Gabby, Saskia, Poppy and Isabelle.

Jessica wrote the following summary of the day...

I marked International Women's Day by travelling to the MKM to attend a conference for International Women's Day. We started off the day with an introduction by Jan Collins, MD KCOM Enterprise where she talked about what International Women's Day meant to her. She talked about her experiences and the difficulty of achieving her dream role and career in the technology industry as she found it was very male-dominated. This then made me think about my future career and the challenges I already face as a woman in society. Then we were introduced to Rose James, CEO of Hull, and East Yorkshire Children's University. She talked about what it was like growing up in Hull how she was having a hard time discovering what she wanted to do for her career, how she settled on this charity and how she worked up to become the CEO of the charity. Her journey inspired me when she said that she had to work from the bottom to achieve the highest role for the charity when she didn't know what she wanted to do even after she left university. She went into one profession but found that it wasn't for her, it showed me that even if you go to university you might not know what you want to do at the end of it.

This conference was a great opportunity and I'm glad I was asked to attend it. It made me realise that even if you have your future planned out you might start your journey and realise it's not what you dreamed of and you want something different. Also, there may be things holding you back from achieving your dreams whether it's difficulty getting a position that you worked hard for or that your gender affects you to achieve them there is always another option.

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
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- Every student known as an individual
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- State of the art facilities
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BE AMBITIOUS



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Empowering Parents to Support Their Children: Tips for Managing Stress

As we navigate through the academic year, it's crucial to acknowledge the various challenges our children face, especially when it comes to managing stress. As a leader in our secondary school, I understand the importance of a collaborative effort between educators and parents to ensure the well-being and success of our pupils and Sixth Form students. With that in mind, I'd like to offer some valuable advice on how you can support your children in managing stress effectively.

Open Communication Channels: The foundation of any supportive relationship is open communication. Encourage your children to express their feelings and concerns freely. Create a safe space at home where they feel comfortable discussing their academic pressures, social dilemmas, or any other stressors they may encounter.

Teach Stress Management Techniques: Equip your children with practical strategies to cope with stress. Encourage regular exercise, adequate sleep, and healthy eating habits, as these play a significant role in promoting mental well-being. Additionally, introduce them to relaxation techniques such as deep breathing exercises, mindfulness, or meditation, which can help alleviate stress levels.

Encourage Time Management Skills: Effective time management is essential for reducing stress. Teach your children how to prioritise tasks, set realistic goals, and organise their study schedules. By instilling good time management habits early on, you empower them to handle academic responsibilities more efficiently, thereby reducing feelings of overwhelm.

Promote a Balanced Lifestyle: Encourage your children to pursue a balanced lifestyle that includes both academic and non-academic activities. While academic achievement is important, it's equally vital for them to engage in hobbies, sports, or social activities that bring them joy and fulfilment. Balancing study with leisure time fosters a sense of well-roundedness and helps prevent burnout.



Lead by Example: Children often learn best by observing the behaviour of their parents. Model healthy stress management techniques in your own life, such as maintaining a positive attitude, seeking support when needed, and practicing self-care. By demonstrating resilience in the face of challenges, you show your children that it's possible to overcome adversity with grace and determination.

Stay Engaged with School Activities: Keep yourself informed about school events, academic expectations, and extracurricular opportunities. Attend parent consultation evenings, school performances, and other events to stay connected with your child's educational journey. Being actively involved in their school life demonstrates your commitment to their success and reinforces the importance of education.



Encourage Seeking Help: Remind your children that it's okay to ask for help when they need it. Whether it's seeking assistance from teachers, Care and Achievement Co-ordinators, or trusted adults, encourage them to reach out for support whenever they're feeling overwhelmed. Emphasise the importance of speaking up rather than struggling in silence.

Foster a Positive Mindset: Cultivate a growth mindset in your children by emphasising the value of effort, perseverance, and learning from mistakes. Encourage them to view challenges as opportunities for growth rather than insurmountable obstacles. By fostering a positive attitude towards setbacks, you empower them to approach life's challenges with resilience and determination.

Create a Supportive Environment: Foster a supportive home environment where your children feel loved, valued, and accepted for who they are. Celebrate their achievements, no matter how small, and offer words of encouragement during difficult times. By nurturing their self-esteem and confidence, you provide them with a solid foundation for managing stress and overcoming adversity.

By working together as parents and Longcroft staff, we can create a supportive network that empowers our children to navigate the challenges of adolescence with resilience and confidence. By implementing these strategies and fostering a nurturing environment at home, we can equip our children with the tools they need to manage stress effectively and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting the well-being and success of our pupils and Sixth Form students.

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement

2024 EASTER TENNIS AND MULTI SPORTS CAMPS

We are now taking bookings for this year's Easter Tennis and Multi Sport Camps and have reintroduced our full day option with an afternoon of multi sports

Our camps will be running at the following times for school years Reception - Year 11

Dates:

25 - 28 March 2024

2 - 5 April 2024

Times/ Price:

9am - 12pm (Half Day) (£25)

9am - 4pm (Full Day) (£35)

Supervision times are available from 8am - 9am and 4pm - 5pm at £5 per 30 minutes

There is a maximum 20% discount available for full week and multi-sibling bookings and a £2 per day or maximum £5 per week non member fee charge

For more information or to register your place, please contact Tom Davies on 07976 189671 or via Facebook @tomdaviestennisschool

Get A FREE
personalised t-shirt
with all full week
bookings
(max 1 per child)





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





IN FOCUS

SCIENCE

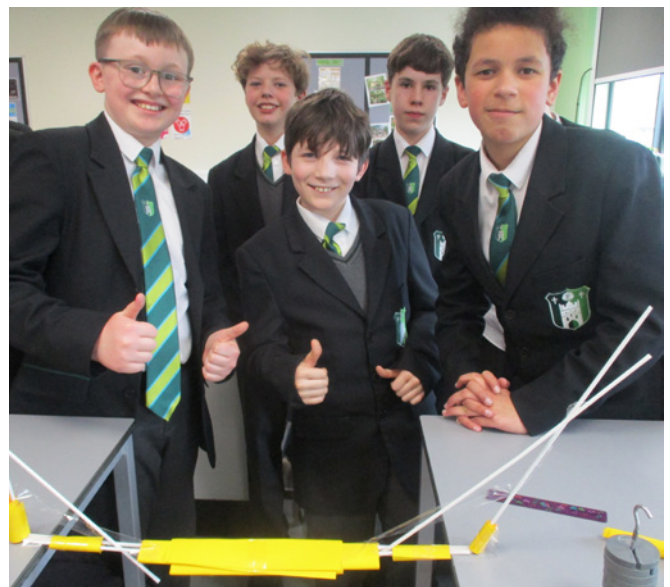
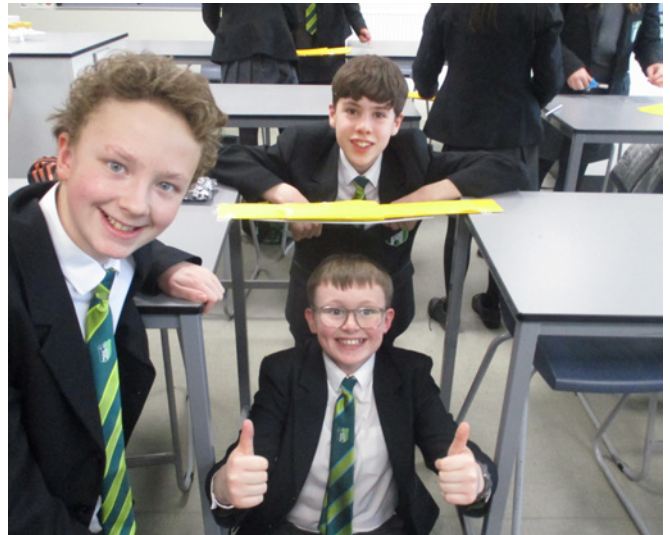
This week is British Science Week - a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths!

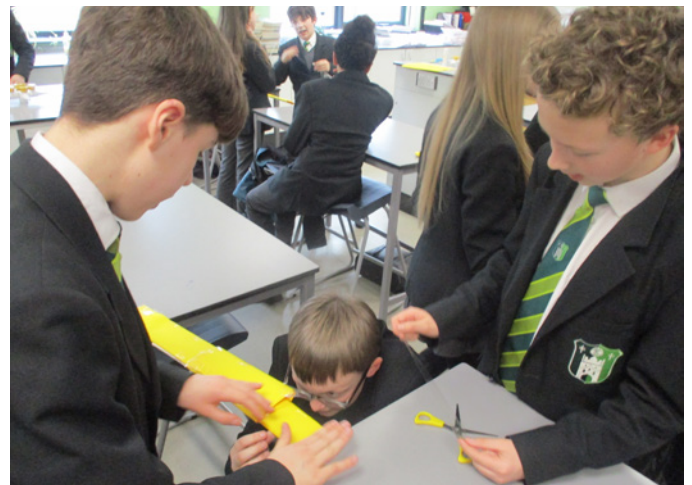
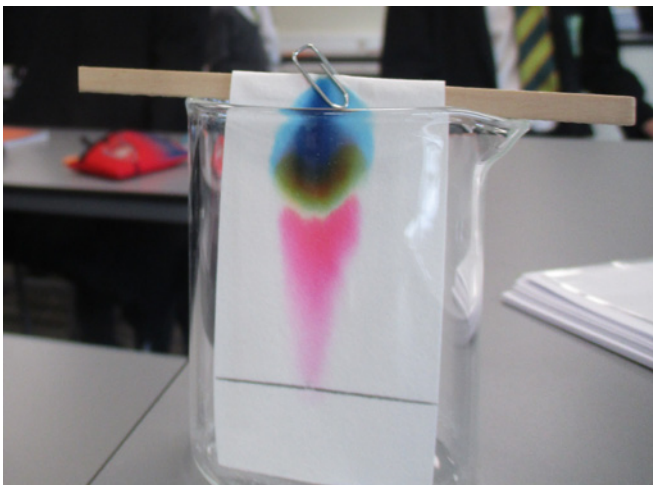
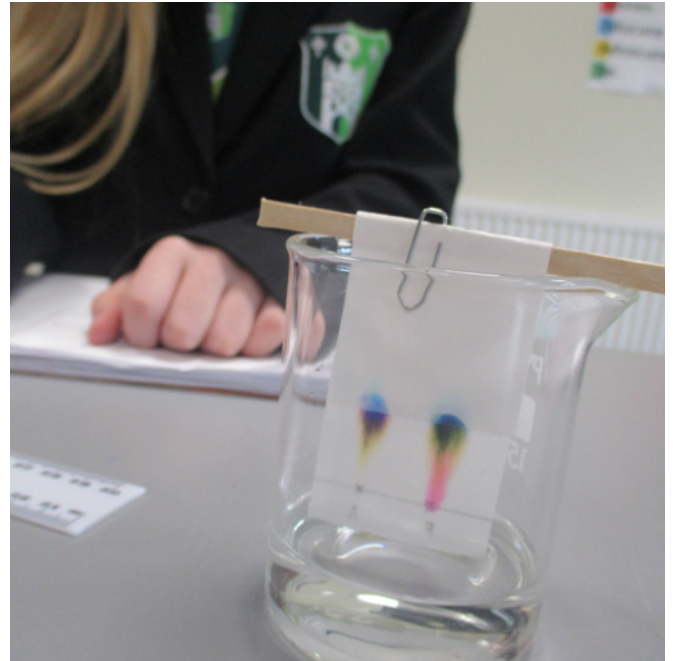
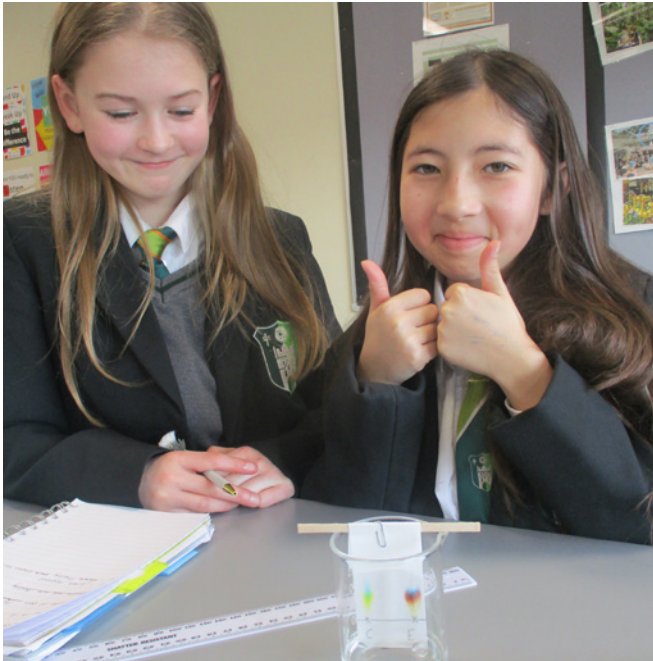
This year, British Science Week marks its 30th anniversary. Taking place annually in March, the national 10-day celebration is marked by schools, libraries, museums, businesses and more. For this milestone British Science Week, the British Science Association, has partnered with the Royal Observatory Greenwich to bring this year's theme to life. The theme is 'time'.

Head of Science Mrs Scott said: "All year groups saw an assembly on this year's theme of 'Time'. We celebrated the work of well known scientists such as Galileo and Hawking but also some who are less well known such as Maria Mitchell and Claude Shannon. Pupils were invited to take part in a UK wide competition to produce a poster all about Time and what it means to them. Details of this competition were sent via a ClassCharts announcement, but if you would like more details feel free to contact me."

Mrs Scott added: "Year 7 pupils had lessons with a different theme this week to celebrate British Science Week. In one lesson, they had to build bridges and learn about the challenges of being an engineer. In another, they had to study a crime scene and find a culprit using forensic science techniques and in the final lesson of the week they were extracting DNA from kiwis and learning about the fantastic work of Rosalind Franklin."

The children enjoyed stepping beyond the national curriculum, and celebrating all that science has to offer."







Memory Lane

This week we return to 1994 and feature two Year 7 tutor groups.
Maths teachers Mr Velji and Mrs Lee are pictured with their tutor groups.





Care and Achievement Co-ordinators

Our Care and Achievement Co-ordinators work with specific year groups to ensure the welfare and progress of pupils and are the first point of contact for parents.

They support children to achieve academically by establishing a positive learning environment, visiting and working in lessons and supervising and supporting individuals and groups of pupils.

Our team, and their work mobile phone number which parents can use to contact them, are pictured below.



Year 7

Miss Fox

07342 342858

vicky.fox@longcroft.eriding.net



Years 8 and 9

Mrs Newsam

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zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 10

Mrs Ellis

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annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Miss Harsley

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Sixth Form

Miss Taylor

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