



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Cambridge Visit Inspires Young Writers!

"Cambridge University was so inspiring and made me believe I am capable of anything." —Year 9 pupil Primrose

The First Story Young Writers' Festival is always a fabulous event, and this year was no exception. The day was packed with activities, and the setting was simply stunning.

During the Easter holidays a cohort of 40 Longcroft pupils and Sixth Form students travelled to Downing College, University of Cambridge to attend the festival. It was an early start and we travelled further than any other school, but everyone was

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eager to be there. For most it was their first sight of Cambridge. Our young people were clearly impressed, as Primrose stated:

"Cambridge University was so inspiring and made me believe I am capable of anything."

The festival began with an upbeat welcome from poet, performer, and arts producer Lewis Buxton, Downing College Fellow Bonnie Lander-Johnson, and First Story Alumni Ravena Guron. Ravena has published three fantasy novels, and spoke about the impact attending First Story workshops had on her when she was at school.



"I never seriously thought I could be an author. I didn't have any connections and I struggled massively with confidence. Reading my work out during First Story workshops always felt safe though; it was hugely foundational in my becoming a writer."

Bonnie Lander-Johnson, who is Director of Studies in English at Downing College, welcomed schools from across the country to the festival. She was delighted to be partnering with First Story to raise the profile of creative writing and is eager that young people apply to Cambridge University. She stressed that "Cambridge is a unique place to learn, and available to anyone who wants to work."

During their visit pupils and students had a tour of the site. Alicia was impressed:

"The buildings are amazingly designed. I enjoyed eating lunch in the dining hall. It was like being in a grand ballroom."

Downing was founded in 1800 and has some magnificent Georgian architecture set amongst spacious lawns and gardens. Our cohort were also given a talk by current students and asked lots of questions about student life.



One of the highlights of the day is always the keynote speaker. Lewis introduced Dean Atta, who read from his YA novel *The Black Flamingo*, spoke about writing and did a Q & A. Elias asked Dean who were his main literary inspirations.

"Benjamin Zephaniah. He spoke out on a huge range of topics, and lived an authentic life, true to his values. Also, Michael Rosen. He's just fun."

Dean has had five books published and writes in verse. He's been named as 'one of poetry's greatest modern voices'. His novels are aimed at the Young Adult market and focus on themes including racial identity and representation. The title of his debut novel was inspired by a real-life black flamingo first spotted in Cyprus in



2015 and believed to be the only one in the world. It's a metaphor for the central character. Atta explained:

"The character is a fairy-tale version of me, a black gay boy in school being supported to be who he is. At university he develops an alter-ego."

Kamila asked how Dean got the courage to become a writer.

"I kept a journal of my poems, and showed a few friends who encouraged me. Eventually I did an open mic night, and then I just kept doing more. I began Black Flamingo in 2015 and it was published in 2019. I wasn't working on it all the time. Now my career is a mix of writing books, running workshops, and visiting schools. When your books get translated into other languages, that's really special!"

Dean was very open about the challenges he's faced in his life and stressed the importance of being true to who you are, and finding where you do and don't fit in. Later in the day he signed copies of his books for pupils. Annabelle was delighted:

"I got a book signed by Dean Atta. He was very friendly."

Ms Carvill, who organised and led the opportunity, said: "Our cohort, from a range of year groups, should feel incredibly proud of themselves. Their behaviour was exemplary throughout the visit, and they wrote some amazing poetry and prose. Well done Longcroft!"

Pupils and students were also treated to some fabulous workshops with First Story writers. It was thrilling to see such quality work being produced and their willingness to share it.

Maisie was impressed by the writing sessions:

"I enjoyed the various stimuli we got to base our writing around."

Mary was equally enthusiastic:

"I really liked the workshops and having prompts to write to. It felt a safe environment to share work."

Pupils also enjoyed an exposition where they could talk to writers, have books signed, and buy brand new books for one pound only. Sienna was pleased to chat to the writers:

"It was fun meeting the writers and learning about their careers. I felt inspired."

At the end of the day everyone was welcomed back to the theatre where a selection of pupils and students, including some from Longcroft, went on stage and read out the writing they'd created in the workshops that day.





Reward Totals

So far this term our pupils have been awarded the following rewards for acting with Great Heart, Thought and Vision:



ClassCharts

Acts of Great

HEART

68,963

THOUGHT

354,904

VISION

237,953

GRAND

TOTAL:

661,820





Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of the Summer Term, one we are very much looking forward to with so much planned and to get excited about. I do hope you have enjoyed time as families and with friends over the Easter holidays.

The last few weeks has seen a host of events, trips, visits and experiences for pupils and students across the school and our coming

Newsletters will endeavour to capture something of the breadth of opportunities that continue to be embraced. This week I have been talking to pupils who visited Cambridge University for the First Story festival over the Easter break. It was clearly an experience that has been hugely inspiring for those involved and you can read some of their reflections in our headline article. Our relationship with First Story and the authors in residence that have added so much value to our school over recent years, is hugely important to us. It reflects our commitment to reading and indeed writing which can do so much to enrich our lives, support learning and promote health and well-being.

Looking ahead, we have our residential to London as well as Barcelona later this term and a range of trips and visits scheduled – not least our end of year trip to Flamingo Land which will be launched this week. Our young people will also be taking part in the final stages of a range of sports competitions and festivals over the coming weeks and we will be hosting a number of events for the community and particularly primary schools across the region. As a community school, our place in service of Beverley and the surrounding villages matters to us, and we look forward to welcoming visitors and ensuring our fabulous facilities are made available in different ways.

In the last week of the Spring Term we enjoyed celebrating huge numbers of pupils who met our attendance challenge – well done to all! We were also treated to an array of sweet treats as part of our Charity Day which saw us raise hundreds of pounds. I was incredibly proud of another wonderful response from our community and the Great Heart that all continue to show

We are now just a few short weeks away from the heart of the exam season and pupils and students continue to prepare to represent themselves well. I remain hugely encouraged by the response our young people have demonstrated to this challenging period and to the

raft of support the school continues to provide. This has manifested in many ways, including attendance and engagement with intervention, having seen great attendance to the extensive Easter programme; tutoring and support sessions; and the use of GCSE Pod, SENECA and other national online learning platforms. Momentum is key and our focus is to continue to build on all that we have established over this final stage. Please continue to encourage and support at home, and get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. We know this is an acute period emotionally and physically and we are here to help!

At this time of year, we experience much transition for children across the school. Some students will leave us to take their next steps in education, employment or training and others will be preparing to join us for the first time, with increased numbers again in both Year 7 and the sixth form. Every year group will be preparing for a move to the next stage of their journey and we will be working to ensure every young person experiences a smooth progression.

As a final note this week, a vacancy has become available on our governing body for a parent governor. This is an important and exciting role and an opportunity to contribute to our continued journey at Longcroft. I do appreciate the challenges associated with such additional commitments, and there are many other ways that parents can be involved in supporting the school and shaping our future. However, if you feel that you have something to offer and the capacity to get involved, or would like to find out more, please contact school@longcroft.eriding.net by Friday 19th April and we will be in touch with details of next steps. Correspondence should be marked for my direct attention.

It is at times of transition that our values and associated expectations provide constancy and reassurance. They will remain a focus of all we are and do at Longcroft for the young people we serve. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support in partnership with the school and our community.

Mr D Perry
Headteacher



LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

LEARNING HUB

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

INFORMED | EMPOWERED

AUTISM INFORMATION EVENING

DATE: 23RD APRIL

TIME: 6-8PM

EXPERT FACILITATOR:


CATH MURDOCH

SPECIALIST INCLUSION PRACTITIONER

Event Aims:

- ✓ Share expert advice to support understanding of how Autism effects your child
- ✓ Provide information to help you and your child navigate the challenges Autism can bring
- ✓ Signpost further sources of support, advice and guidance

More Information / Book a place:

 01482 862171

 SEN@longcroft.eriding.net



REIMAGINE WHAT'S POSSIBLE



LOWER SCHOOL



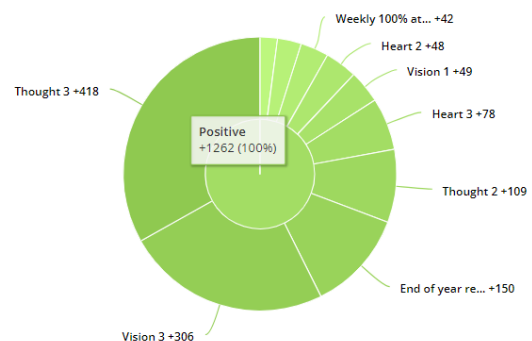
Mr Worthington writes:

The Summer Term brings a lot of excitement as we focus on what is an important time within the academic year while looking forward to events such as Reward Trips and School Games Day. It has been a great pleasure to welcome the children back into the school, seeing them return with a positive attitude, ready and focused for learning. What has impressed me in particular has been the way the pupils have interacted with each other during lesson times and when moving around the school site in a calm way. Longcroft is a friendly, welcoming school where the pupils are keen to help each other and support one another to achieve.

We celebrate acts of Great Heart, those qualities of a good person who is kind, considerate and respectful of their community and environment. Collectively as a school, we have recognised over 66,000 separate acts of Great Heart using our rewards system which is a good reflection on our pupils as a school community and is what we see as staff day-in and day-out.

A child can see their positive progress towards going on the Flamingo Land school trip by highlighting the centre circle of their points breakdown on ClassCharts.

If your child needs their ClassCharts code reissuing to gain access to this information, their tutor will be able to do so during tutor time.



A reminder, any points accumulated on ClassCharts can be traded in for items in our school's ClassCharts store online. This week also sees the school launch our Summer Term Rewards Trip to Flamingo Land. In the final week, pupils with a positive points percentage on ClassCharts that is a value above 95% will meet the criteria to attend. It is always a highlight of our year - last year we took ten buses to North Yorkshire for a fantastic day out.

A child can see their positive progress towards going on the Flamingo Land school trip by highlighting the centre circle of their points breakdown on ClassCharts.

If your child needs their ClassCharts code reissuing to gain access to this information, their tutor will be able to do so during tutor time.



Once again I am delighted to congratulate pupils who have excelled in their studies and extra-curricular activities, both in and beyond school.



Year 7 pupil Chris is pictured with an outstanding piece of History homework. His teacher, Mr Cassidy, said: "I thought Chris's homework demonstrated exceptional effort."

It was heartening to hear and witness positive examples of our pupils interacting with our local community over Easter. Our boxers Max, Rosie, Luci and Oscar continue to go from strength to strength with their boxing through Track Fitness and Boxing Club, performing well at the local event at Beverley Leisure Centre. Within the group, Year 7 pupil Holly continues to improve in her skills bouts and I'm pleased to share a photo of her prepared for action at the last event.



Credit: Mathew Watson

Also, a number of our pupils represented their Beverley Town team as mascots at the recent fixture at Norwood as Beverley Town took on Nostell Miners Welfare. The girls' teams enjoyed their day, leading out the men's first team on this occasion. It is really encouraging to see so many of our young people engaging in local sport.

Mr Worthington
Head of Lower School



Credit: Adamson Images



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

George Hogg
Ashley Griffin
Tymofii Merkulov
Oscar Purchon
Angel Butler-Shorrocks
Owen Harper
Jake Redmond
Amelia High
Chloe Turner
Sonny Marriott

Year 8

Alfie Robinson
Lydia Chapman
Alex Matta
Holly Ruston
Sasha Huzzard
Eddie Pickering
Jasmine Stephenson
Amelie Wharton
Reagan De Kock
Annabel Shepherd

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: Joshua Dakin

Year 8: Jacob Fergusson



UPPER SCHOOL



Mr Henderson writes:

Easter Revision a Success

School was buzzing throughout the holiday with almost all subjects hosting revision and coursework sessions. I was able to greet the pupils on two of the days and they were all eager and up early to push themselves in preparation for the exams. Congratulations to River and George on winning the Prom tickets prize for revision session attendance.

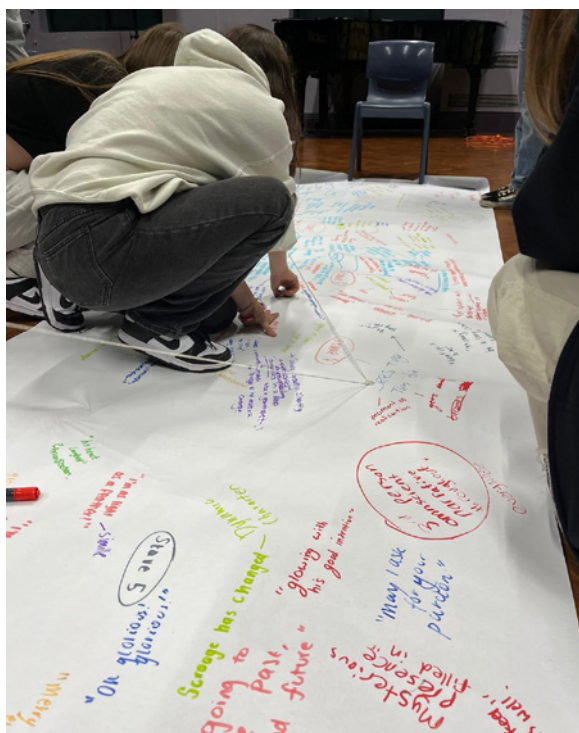
The English Language session saw the morning focus on Paper 1 – Mrs Foster said: “Pupils engaged with the past paper approach and spent time creating their responses to questions. Then we compared across to model answers and considered how they could improve their own responses. Rosie engaged with improving her question 3, while Tilly focused on how to respond to question 5 with planning ideas for the descriptive piece using anthropomorphism.”

Mrs Foster explained: “The afternoon ensued with Paper 2. Natasha linked the paper 3 question nicely with ideas on analysing language devices. Alex said that he found the walking talking mock approach “very useful” in knowing how to answer each question. It was a very positive day for all those involved!”



The pupils that attended Maths were focused, asking questions and engaging with whiteboard activities. The topics covered were from the mock analysis and quite challenging. Pupils that stood out included Libby, Lucy, Ruby, Harry, Ella and Zara. Mrs Low, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Woolner all congratulated the pupils on their approach.

Mrs Shepherd said: “In both sessions we looked at various elements of the Spanish exam. We started with a focus on some key irregular verbs – Lauren was a rockstar with this! We then moved onto trigger questions, thinking about which particular verbs and tenses we could use to respond to a specific question. All pupils did well here but Ruby did amazingly! Finally, we



looked at translation tasks, both English to Spanish and Spanish to English - Natasha was so determined with these tasks and it was great to see such enthusiasm. Thank you to all those who attended for their incredible efforts."

Mr Pearson said: "Year 11 Historians joined us in school for two History revision sessions over the Easter break. The sessions focused on the importance of doing 16 mark questions well and how to tackle them, as well as focusing on the different technical elements between 8 mark source and 8 mark interpretation questions. Commitment and participation were impressive - especially the 4 pupils who attended both sessions! Thank you Historians! Your time, focus and dedication was and is greatly appreciated!"

Mrs Barry congratulated the pupils who attended their French revision session. She explained: "We focused on speaking skills to prepare for the GCSE speaking exam which will take place on 17th April. Heidi's contribution really stood out in our sessions providing extra support for those pupils entered for the foundation tier in attendance. Tristan, Megan, Samantha and Lewis did a great job, challenging each other to add extra complexity to their conversation tasks."

Mrs Holmes was delighted that a total of 21 pupils attended Art over two days. She said: "They worked hard on coursework completion and examination preparation. Kieran was a star, attending for two full days and developing some interesting oil pastel studies. Hazel explored her textile skills and Katie did some superb lightbulb research, working in a variety of media. Lewis enjoyed working with watercolour pencils to create a Paolozzi inspired piece of work. A productive two days was had by all."

The attendees to Mr Haworth's Geography session focused on revision of the UK's physical geography, especially rivers. He said: "Pupils were enthusiastic and conscientious throughout the session. Liv displayed an impressive knowledge of the geology of the UK and we were all impressed by Rosie's Harry Potter knowledge (she could recall the part of the story filmed on Malham Cove!) I'm looking forward to pupils' continued hard work in the coming weeks and over half-term where there will be another session."

Mrs Fisher said: "Pupils had a good and positive attitude, they engaged well and showed real enthusiasm to learn more, discuss topics and themes and clarify existing knowledge. I was really impressed by all of them and enjoyed my day."

The RE session went well, and pupils were fortunate that Mr Fox was accompanied by an examiner from exam board Edexcel who gave a talk and worked with pupils while they completed practice questions.

Mr Henderson
Head of Upper School





LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS

LETTER

Military
YOUTH
Voice Survey

8-17 Years

Your Voice Matters !!

<https://forms.office.com/e/MbX44R8Rin>

Military Young People from across the UK came together to design this survey. Their idea is to gather as many voices as possible. Results will shape services, develop support and make a positive difference for all Military Young People.

SCAN THE CODE !!

ROYAL NAVY **ROYAL AIR FORCE** **ARMY BE THE BEST** **ARMY WELFARE SERVICE**

Made with PosterMyWall.com



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 11

Connor Ruston

Rhys Simson

Libby Wood

Seth Hamson

Alex Ryan

George Steele

Lydia Curley

Ashton Blakebrough

Grace McKenzie

Lewis Kitchin



Attendance Matters!

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Last week's winner was:

Year 11: Isobel Branney



Mr Chapman writes:



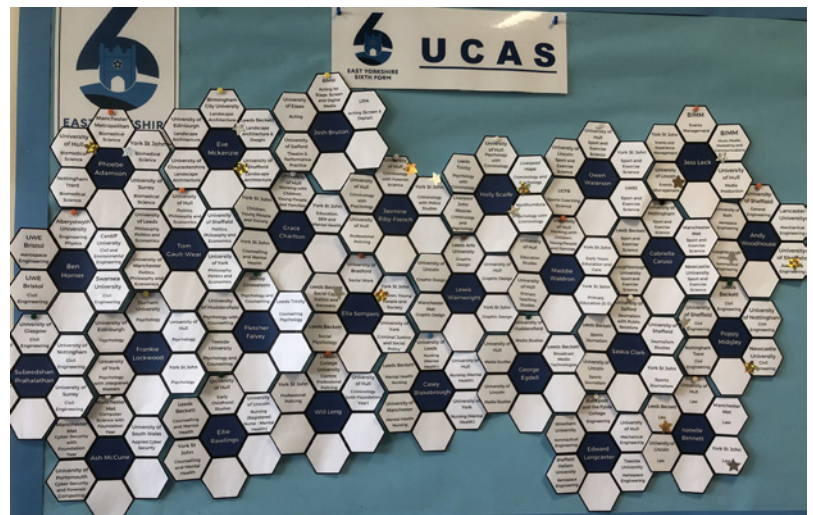
LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

University Applications

We're always excited to see our Year 13 students apply for university. Last year we were very proud when 100% of our Sixth Formers earned a place at their first or second choice of university. This year's applications are in full flow and we are going to be having students from our Sixth Form heading all across the country.

Here are a few headlines:

Glasgow - Civil Engineering
Durham - Psychology
Aberystwyth - Engineering with Physics
LIPA - Acting: on screen and digital
Sheffield - Landscape Architecture
Hull - Criminology with Forensic Science
Newcastle - Civil Engineering
Leeds Beckett - Law
York St John - Children, Young People and Society
Lincoln - Event Management
Hull - Biomedical Science
Liverpool - Criminology and Psychology
Hull - Graphic Design



Crazy to think that students from our Sixth Form in Beverley are heading so far and wide!

Good luck one and all!

We shout about their successes in the Sixth Form and record everything on our display.

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
- Every student known as an individual
- Wide range of subjects available
- Over £7.5 million investment
- State of the art facilities
- Over 40 acres of stunning estate
- Superb enrichment

NOW ENROLLING ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/25

*Use this QR code
to find out more or
start an application:*



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BE AMBITIOUS



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

The Importance of Good Attendance: A Guide for Parents

In the educational journey, one often overlooks a critical factor: attendance. Parents often prioritise academic performance, extracurricular activities, and overall well-being, but the significance of consistent attendance cannot be overstated. Throughout their years in school, regular attendance sets the foundation for a child's success.

Why Good Attendance Matters:

- 1. Academic Success:** Regular attendance is strongly correlated with academic achievement. When pupils are present in class, they have the opportunity to engage with the material, participate in discussions, and ask questions, all of which contribute to better understanding and retention of information.
- 2. Building Habits:** Attending school regularly instils discipline and responsibility in children. It establishes the habit of showing up on time and being accountable, traits that are invaluable in both academic and professional settings.
- 3. Social and Emotional Development:** School is not just about academics; it's also a place for children to develop social skills, build friendships, and learn to navigate various social situations. Consistent attendance ensures that children have the opportunity to interact with their peers and develop these crucial skills.
- 4. Preparation for the Future:** In the real world, punctuality and reliability are highly valued traits. By emphasising the importance of attendance, parents are preparing their children for success beyond the classroom, where consistent attendance is often a prerequisite for professional advancement.
- 5. Reduction of Achievement Gaps:** Regular attendance can help narrow the achievement gap that exists between pupils from different socio-economic backgrounds. Children who attend school regularly are more likely to receive the support and resources they need to succeed academically, thus reducing disparities in achievement.



How Parents Can Foster Good Attendance:

- 1. Establish a Routine:** Set a consistent daily routine that includes waking up at the same time, getting ready for school, and leaving home in time to arrive punctually. Consistency helps children develop a sense of structure and makes it easier for them to adhere to attendance expectations.
- 2. Emphasise the Importance:** Have open conversations with your child about the importance of attendance. Help them understand how being present in class contributes to their learning and overall success. Encourage a positive attitude towards school and learning.
- 3. Monitor and Communicate:** Keep track of your child's attendance and communicate regularly with their teachers. If your child is frequently absent or late, work with the school to identify any underlying issues and develop strategies to address them. Sometimes, there may be underlying factors such as health issues or bullying that need to be addressed.
- 4. Lead by Example:** Children learn by example, so demonstrate the importance of attendance in your own life. Show them that you prioritise punctuality and reliability in your commitments, whether it's attending work, appointments, or other responsibilities.
- 5. Celebrate Milestones:** Acknowledge and celebrate your child's achievements in attendance. Whether it's a perfect attendance award or simply recognising their efforts to improve attendance, positive reinforcement can motivate children to continue striving for good attendance.
- 6. Address Challenges Proactively:** If your child is facing challenges that affect their attendance, such as transportation issues or difficulty waking up in the morning, proactively seek solutions. Work with the school and other relevant stakeholders to find practical solutions that support your child's attendance.

Good attendance is not just about showing up; it's about laying the foundation for a lifetime of success. By prioritising attendance and instilling the value of punctuality and reliability in their children, parents play a crucial role in shaping their academic and professional futures. Consistent attendance not only enhances academic achievement but also fosters important life skills such as discipline, responsibility, and resilience. So let's rally together as parents, educators, and communities to prioritise attendance and give our children the best possible start in life.

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Care and Achievement





Performers Excel

Our most recent Performing Arts Night once again emphasised the tremendous talent among our pupils and Sixth Form students.

Our choir opened the evening with performances of 'Lift Me Up' and 'Rhythm of Life', before pupils studying GCSE Drama performed an excerpt from 'Shakers'.

Our musicians treated the audience to solo and ensemble performances, and ever-popular East Riding Schools Music Service Battle of the Bands winners Room 64 performed a rendition of indie rock band The Courteeners' fourth single 'Not Nineteen Forever'.





Pupils in Years 10 and 11 studying GCSE Drama performed excerpts from 'Blood Brothers', 'Bouncers' and 'Teachers', while A Level Theatre Studies students presented a challenging physical theatre performance – 'Night Call'.

Ila, Hailey and Ava, who are members of former Longcroft student Clare Moran's Base Dance Company, gave an outstanding performance. An unforgettable evening closed with a finale, 'From Now On', originally performed by Hugh Jackman's character P. T. Barnum in 'The Greatest Showman', led by our Year 10 GCSE musicians.





Supporting Safe Cycling

We were delighted to welcome Christian Jordan from the East Riding Sustainable Transport Team who gave out 36 helmets, 30 locks and 32 sets of lights to pupils, supporting our efforts to encourage safe, active travel.



A further eight helmets were donated by the team.

Thank you to Christian and the team.



Memory Lane

This week we return to 2018 and feature a visit from local author Sue Wilsea. A qualified teacher with extensive and varied experience in education, Sue has a proven track record in Creative Writing, both as a tutor and a practitioner and performs as half of 'The Hull to Scarborough Line'. A part-time lecturer in Creative Writing and the University of Hull, Sue's qualifications include a B.A. Hons. in English and Latin Literature and a MA in Creative Writing (Distinction) from Newcastle University. Students enjoyed and benefitted from their time working with her.



Our pictures feature Sixth Form students, Ms Carvill and Mrs Clegg with Sue during her visit.





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

07827 587483

zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 10

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Miss Harsley

07810 416081

katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net



Sixth Form

Miss Taylor

07423 261292

emily.taylor@longcroft.eriding.net