



LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS LETTER

**Longcroft
Celebrates
a Summer
of Success!**



As we look forward to the forthcoming academic year, we reflect with pride on the achievements of our pupils and Sixth Form students over the summer. Their talent and commitment were rewarded with academic and sporting success and we are proud to share these while welcoming members of our community back into school for the new year.



Congratulations Year 13 – We're Proud of You!

We are exceptionally proud of our Year 13 students who have demonstrated the dedication and hard work to achieve their desired outcomes and lay a strong foundation for further study at university, employment or an apprenticeship. Students receiving their results summer have been through an unprecedented and incredibly challenging 18 months when they have carried out their studies amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Fine results such as these reflect the combination of determination and commitment of students, dedication of staff in delivering high quality teaching and the support of parents to ensure our young people are cared for, supported and challenged to do their very best. It is this partnership that has enabled our students to excel in their studies. Many are now moving on to study at Universities of Hull, Glasgow, York, Sheffield and Cambridge, following courses the likes of Medicine, Law, History and Politics, Music and Theatre and Performance.

Molly Hewett was delighted to have secured her place at the University of Cambridge where she will read History and Politics. Having earned the opportunity to study at one of the world's most prestigious universities, Molly said, "I'm speechless – ecstatic. I can't describe how it feels."

Talented performing artist Joel Walker chose to continue his studies at the University of Glasgow. He said, "The course and Scotland appeal to me. I've enjoyed the whole seven years at Longcroft – I've had a lot of support from my teachers and Heads of Year." Joel will be studying Music and Theatre Studies having earned an A* in both subjects at A Level and we have certainly been privileged to enjoy his fantastic performances in both aspects throughout his years at Longcroft.



Adam Froggatt was excited having chosen to begin the journey towards a career as a primary school teacher at Sheffield Hallam University. He said, "It's been a rollercoaster – I'm very pleased to have achieved what I have. I've really enjoyed my time in the Sixth Form and I'm looking forward to university."

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Oliver Stapleton chose to study Medicine at the University of Sheffield. Having taken on the challenge of studying four A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Geography and Psychology Oliver earned three A* and an A grade. He said, "I'm 100% proud of what I've achieved – the hard work has paid off. I'm most looking forward to the clinical experience."

Oliver's parents are rightly proud of their son's exceptional achievements. Mrs Stapleton said, "He's had the best experience and the support he's been given has been second to none. He's excelled. It's been down to the teachers and the support – he wouldn't have done it anywhere else. He's always wanted to come to Longcroft and he's never been a number here."

Over the last 18 months it has been fantastic to see how our young people have risen to the many challenges that have faced them, growing in confidence to the extent that they can move onto the next step of their journey through education or into training. The results that these young people have achieved are impressive and it is really evident that they have not only met our high expectations, but well and truly exceeded them in some cases. We are extremely proud of them and look forward to catching up with many of them in the future to hear of their experiences at university and in the workplace.





Executive Headteacher's Welcome



I do hope you have found some time over the summer period to spend with children and family. I have found myself navigating a rather long rope bridge with my three children, climbing through tunnels and descending down some rather large slides – backwards! The joy of having children – all of those childhood experiences revisited and re-seen through the eyes of a child is wonderful, if slightly wearing on the knees and the old back. It is, though, the joy and privilege of teaching and it is truly fabulous to be back in school with all of our children.

A new academic year starts and what an absolute joy to welcome our children back to school for the beginning of a new term. To welcome our Year 7 joining the school and to see our new Year 8 having the first real opportunity not to be within one building in a 'bubble' but navigating their way around the school and using all of our specialist facilities, including using the school's laboratories.

Our Upper School children also had a great start to the term and after the summer break it was evident in lessons they had returned ready to learn. I was especially proud of our Year 11, who having returned to the second year of their GCSE studies continued to show the hard work, determination and studious approach to their studies that truly make this a wonderful year.

Sixth Form were also welcomed back into school. It was a great pleasure to see our to see children from our ex-Year 11 especially following the results day in the holiday, returning to our Sixth Form, about to embark on their studies.

Our new temporary website will be launching shortly and soon will be replaced with our altogether improved version to help parents access information about school.

In addition, we will be publishing our curriculum plans, so you'll also be able to see the content and topics that colleagues will be teaching as part of each subject.

I would also like to ask parents to please familiarise yourself with the contact number for your Care and Achievement (C&A) Co-Ordinator and to make this your first point of contact with the school, rather than contacting our reception. C&A colleagues know each and every child within their year and work closely alongside colleagues, so are best placed to answer your questions and liaise with teachers as needed, including senior members of staff.

An exciting academic year ahead and we have had a great start, so thank you to our fabulous parents for your kind words and support. I am hopeful the weeks ahead will see our community coming back together and our school full of excitement, learning and opportunities, for each and every child.

Do have a great weekend.

Mr J Britton
Executive Headteacher



Head of School's Welcome



Hello everyone, I hope you had a good summer break.

This week we have been really pleased to welcome all our young people back to school and we are looking forward to accelerating their learning and personal development over this next academic year. It has been especially great to welcome our new Year 7s into our community. They have been a pleasure to see this week as they have begun to find their way around our site and familiarise themselves with our routines. They are full of enthusiasm and keenness to do well, and have already achieved many reward points for their acts of great heart, thought and vision. It is particularly impressive that they are settling in so quickly given that the usual transition activities before the summer could not take place due to Covid. They seem to be a lovely group of youngsters and I really am pleased to begin getting to know them. Thanks go to Mrs Brady, Mr Worthington, the tutor team and all others who have supported them throughout this first week.

I have also enjoyed seeing our Year 12s return for their A Level studies and also the school community using the full school site, in a way that has not happened for the last eighteen months when we have been split into bubbles. Whilst these were critical to protect us. As we now have the testing routines in place and society is able to open up more than before, it is great to be able to use specialist facilities for all years once again. The staggered lunchtimes from last year have remained, as you will be aware, to reduce congestion in key dining areas. From Monday, there will be additional capacity at lunchtime and break when the two smaller serveries re-open too.

As I mentioned, it is partly as a result of the testing schemes that schools are able to open up. Next Tuesday all pupils will have had the opportunity to have two lateral flow device Covid tests in our school testing centre and we will continue with twice weekly testing at home from there. Thanks go to parents who have supported this national strategy and also to our testing centre staff who have been brilliant. Can I ask that parents continue to let us know straight away if a child has a positive LFD test at home and that a PCR test is booked immediately. If a child has Covid symptoms, they should also self-isolate and book a PCR test. We appreciate the way parents have communicated with us on instances of positive tests throughout the pandemic. We will continue to let you know through this newsletter if there are any changes to our routines.

As ever, if you have any queries relating to our child, please contact the Care and Achievement Coordinator for the year group in the first instance and they will be happy to help.

Ms I Grant
Head of School



Happiness and Pride as Year 11 Celebrate!



We were delighted and proud to celebrate with our Year 11 pupils as they received their results. These young people have adapted to new ways of working and, supported by dedicated staff and their families, succeeded in achieving impressive outcomes.



Pupils can now look forward to a range of exciting opportunities as they begin the next stage of their education. Zack said, "I'm very happy. I'm planning to go into aerospace engineering." Archer is one of several pupils to have chosen an apprenticeship. He said, "I've got better results than I expected. The support I received from Mr Coupe and Mrs Brady was fantastic. I'm looking forward to starting my engineering apprenticeship at Airco."

Many pupils shared their initial thoughts and emotions, and Maddie was thrilled to have earned a fantastic eight passes at Grade 9. Megan said, "It was unexpected and I'm shocked but extremely happy!" Evie said, "I'm so happy! I've done better than I expected and I'm proud!"

Lucy said, "I'm lost for words! I'm so happy!" while Abbie said, "I'm over the moon!"

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Milly said, "I'm proud of my achievements – I've done better than I expected," while Freya reflected, "I'm just really pleased and relieved." Alana was very happy with her results. She said, "I'm particularly proud of my Grade 8 in Textiles!"

Mrs Brady provided tremendous support for Year 11 as their Care and Achievement Co-ordinator. She enthused, "What a wonderful morning! It has been amazing to see our fabulous Year 11 pupils who have worked super hard throughout their Longcroft journey. I am more proud of them than they will ever know."



Mr Coupe reflected on five years as the pupils' Year Leader. "I'm so proud of how the year group has developed over five years. Today is about the results, and we're so pleased with those, but we are also delighted with how our pupils have developed into well-rounded young adults, ready to face their futures."

Head of Sixth Form Mr Henderson said, "After the success of our Year 13 students it has been fantastic to see Year 11 do so well and to share their celebration this morning. They have achieved so much during their years at Longcroft and we look forward to welcoming our new Year 12 in September."



As they enjoy well-deserved celebrations these impressive young people can reflect with pride, not only on their tremendous results but on the skills and qualities they developed and demonstrated in earning them. We are extremely proud of them all!



Welcome to Year 7

"It's nice to be at secondary school." Cody – Year 7

We were delighted to welcome our new Year 7 pupils this week. Mrs Brady was excited to welcome Year 7 as their Care and Achievement Coordinator. She said, "I was so excited! The pupils all look so smart and I am delighted with the way they have settled in."



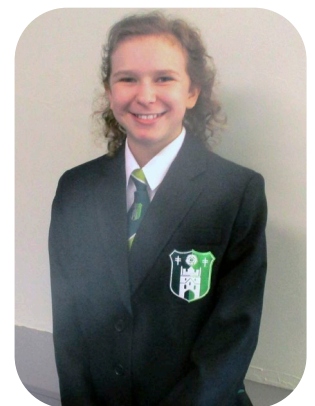
Pupils have certainly enjoyed their first experience of Longcroft. Lana said, "The teachers have been really friendly this morning, I've enjoyed tutor time with Mrs Holmes". Murphy added, "It's been great, the tour has been good." Cody said, "It's been good this morning, it's nice to be at secondary school."

Mr Worthington, Head of Lower School, said: "Our school is a community and, as we begin the new academic year, it is wonderful to see our pupils return to school, meet with friends and focus on their work together." He added, "We have had a fantastic start to the year. I have been so proud of the way our Year 7 pupils have settled into the Longcroft

community over the last couple of days and the maturity with which they have embraced new routines and started to build new friendships. I am so aware of how much more of a challenge this has been in our current climate and yet they have done all of this admirably. The Year 7 pupils are polite, courteous and are eager to do well and I have no doubt they will achieve great things during the next few years."

Mr Worthington also considered the importance of this year to pupils in Years 8 and 9. "As

our Year 8 pupils move into their second year at Longcroft, it is an opportunity for them to reflect on their first year of secondary school and develop their interests, skills and understanding. It is also an opportunity for pupils to make the most of extra-curricular opportunities, such as the school's sports teams, or taking part in our performing arts events. For our Year 9 pupils, this year is very important as they begin the process of researching and choosing their GCSE option subjects for Years 10 and 11. They will be guided through this important process by their subject teachers, form tutors, Care and Achievement co-ordinator and their Year Leader. Over the next few months, our Year 9 pupils will begin to consider their future plans and ambitions as part of this process. I know that this year our Lower School pupils will make the most of all the opportunities our school has to offer and demonstrate their potential."







In Memory of Riley Ketley

A beautiful bench, which will take pride of place on our playground, will ensure members of the Longcroft community are reminded every day of Riley Ketley's many strengths and qualities.

Mr Baker said, "The bench, which is engraved with the phrase "I'm Riley Ketley and I'm gorgeous", will provide a permanent reminder of the qualities Riley brought as a pupil but also as a young man in all aspects of his life. He set an example for many current pupils who rightly looked up to him and they understandably miss him. We hope this will not only serve as a tribute and a place to reflect, but a visual reminder – when a young person, or an adult because Riley impacted so many of us, is needing inspiration or guidance seeing the bench may enable them to pause and consider what Riley would have done. This is one reason why we have chosen such a prominent position. Also the bench is in an area looking out onto our fantastic sports facilities, which Riley enjoyed, and it gets plenty of sun."

Riley's cousin Jayden was delighted with the bench. He said, "I really like it!"

The bench was made by Memorial Benches UK, a leading manufacturer and supplier of teak wooden memorial benches based in East Sussex. We were delighted with the quality of craftsmanship of what is now such a poignant and significant feature of our school.





Memory Lane

This week we feature two tutor groups from March 1953.

Form 1M5 is pictured with Mr Davenport.



Back Row:

Michael Ayre; Alan Edmond;
Colin Atkinson; David
Riby; Roger Friar; Ernest
Partridge; Peter Wilson;
Peter Gillyon; David
Featherstone and Roland
Boynton.

Middle Row:

Michael Rippon; Janet
Hancock; Harry Richardson;
Brigitte Hill; Mavis Butler;
Peter Williamson; Brian
Woodrup and Mabel
Overton.

Front Row:

Dorothy Dixon; Mary
Hillerby; Josephine Widdall;
Jacqueline Freebury; Mr
Davenport; Bronwyn Curtis;
Dorothy Lazenby; Kathleen
Skinner and Yvonne
Saunderson.



Follow us on Twitter to
see more pictures from
Memory Lane

@SchoolLongcroft



Find us on Facebook

Longcroft School &
Sixth Form College



Form 1M7 is pictured with Mr Brown.



Back Row:

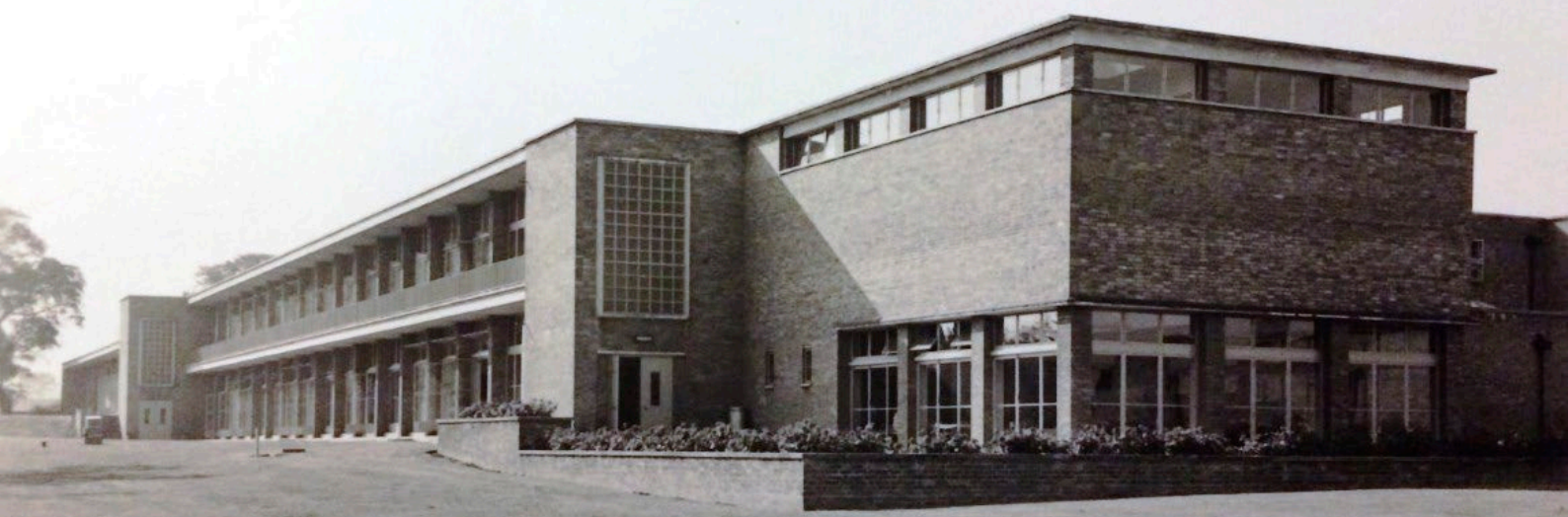
Peter Jackson; Thomas Smart; Philip Whitehead and John Holgate.

Middle Row:

Kathleen Dennis; Mavis Lightowler; John Ibbetson; Judith Ellerington; Norman Linklater; Nancy Elvidge; Audrey Robinson and Barbara Horner.

Front Row:

Norma Wood; Kathleen Gibson; Hazel Voase; Shirley Kirkwood; Mr Brown; Evelyn Gannon; Mavis Collinson; Pat English and Marjorie Short.





Care and Achievement Co-ordinators

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

They work to care and support children to achieve academically by establishing a positive learning environment by 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

Mrs Brady

07388 722751

kay.brady@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 8

Mr Devall

07827 587483

john.devall@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 9

Mr Tong

07810 416081

graham.tong@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 10

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Mrs Winter

07423 568558

joanne.winter@longcroft.eriding.net