



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



"I was very happy to get my lights. It's important that cars can see cyclists."

**Supporting Safe,**

**Sustainable Travel!**

To raise awareness of Road Safety Week, a campaign run by road safety charity Brake, all pupils attended an assembly which highlighted the focus for this year's campaign: **Safe Vehicles Save Lives**. In addition, we welcomed Christian from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) Sustainable Transport team who gave pupils free helmets, locks and lights.

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Miss Sinclair explained, "Brake is a charity with a vision of a world where no one is killed or hurt on a road and we can all move in a safe and healthy way, whoever we are and however we travel. A well-established charity, Brake has been working to stop the tragedy of road deaths and serious injuries in road crashes, make streets safe and healthy places for all and support road crash victims since 1995. Road Safety Week is Brake's biggest annual road safety campaign. Worldwide, 1.35 million people are killed on roads every year and road crash injuries are the leading killer of children and young people aged 5-29 – Brake offers a range of excellent resources we utilise to help ensure Longcroft's pupils are fully informed about potential risks and how best to stay safe."

Christian, our Road Safety Officer from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, handed out dozens of helmets, locks and lights! This was linked with Road Safety Week which took place between Sunday 16th and Saturday 22nd November. Miss Sinclair said, "As part of our commitment to making sure Longcroft pupils are safe while using sustainable travel, we held our annual bike helmet and light handout on Friday morning at the pupils' bike shed. This event was made possible thanks to our collaborative work with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council Sustainable Travel team."

Miss Sinclair added,

*"We will also be organising a visit from R-evolution during the Spring Term with their Dr Bike Session. Last year 40 bikes were checked and repaired by Dr Bike!"*





## Headteacher's Welcome

**What a wonderful week of success and celebration it has been with so much more to look forward to as we continue to recognise the many achievements of our young people over the remaining weeks of this important term.**

With a proud sporting heritage at Longcroft, it was great to host the School Sports Partnership 'Sports Hall Athletics' event on Tuesday. Year 7 and 8 pupils from across the region arrived to participate in what is always a lively and competitive arena. Our young people were exceptional both in their conduct and performance, with successes across the board and especially for Year 7 who were crowned champions! It was an exceptional effort and we are incredibly proud of all involved. On the same evening, we also hosted the Year 9 East Riding Schools (East) football tournament and again Longcroft came out as winners with an excellent performance sealing the top spot! This means we qualify for the East Riding Finals in the new year, returning as reigning champions to defend our title. With success for our Year 7 and 8 girls football teams in tournaments and fixtures this week and great performances in regional indoor cricket competitions too, it's been a busy but brilliant spell for our sports teams. A huge thank you to those staff that have been working so hard to make all of these opportunities possible.

On Wednesday I had the privilege of attending our Christmas Concert which was held in the stunning setting of St Mary's Church. The quality and range of performances was wonderful with the choirs and ensembles impressing an enthralled audience, putting us all in the Christmas spirit. The whole evening was incredibly uplifting and a great celebration of our school, our values and our children. Again, a huge thank you to our dedicated staff who made the evening possible and our brilliant young people!

Over the last term, pupils across the school have been receiving unprecedented levels of rewards for the positive acts of Great Heart, Thought and Vision they display each and every day. We have now hit over 400,000 which is ahead of any previous year at this stage. We therefore remain on track for the ambitious target I set of 1,200,000 by the end of this academic year. We have had a queue of young people excited to be using their reward credits to purchase items from our shop, including the queue jump pass which remains particularly popular for those that enjoy the range of food available in our school canteens.

Whilst we are nearing the end of the term, there are still 10 incredibly valuable days to go with much learning planned. Mock exams for Year 11 and 13 begin on Monday and this is a particularly critical time of year for those pupils and students. There are also however many more opportunities to come for us to celebrate together. We have rewards assemblies, trips and events scheduled at various points for different Year Groups and our seasonal well-being day to look forward to for our Sixth Form packed full of activities. A note to also look out for information regarding our **Big Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 17th December!** We have a Christmas Bonanza Attendance Challenge with a new 'Ice Streak' initiative for our children to enjoy and loads of prizes available on the final day of term which promises to be a brilliant and memorable one for all! We can't wait.

This week's Newsletter reflects so much more that has been taking place in school over recent days so please do enjoy reading the various articles and contributions. One of the best gifts we can ever give our children is a love of reading and our library team have given a great selection of ideas for Christmas book presents for your consideration. Have a great week.

**Mr D Perry**  
Headteacher



## 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**

**57,851**

**THOUGHT**

**167,566**

**VISION**

**201,703**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**427,120**





## LOWER SCHOOL



*Mr Worthington writes:*

### Lifestyle Success!

Last week, I wrote about how it was truly inspiring to see so many talented young people at the 2025 Humberside Lifestyle Awards on a Monday night at Hull City Hall. The event showcased the incredible efforts of young people across the region who have worked hard to make their communities safer, cleaner, and more vibrant.

Longcroft was proudly represented by several pupils who took part in this year's Lifestyle Challenge, with some even winning awards in categories such as the Sustainability Challenge. Again, special mention goes to the Bevtastic Four, including Sebastian, Olivia and Oscar from 8JPO, who were finalists and previously featured for their outstanding work cleaning up Beverley Westwood and raising funds for Dove House Hospice.



But they weren't alone! Here are some of the other amazing Longcroft pupils who stepped up to make a difference:

#### Year 7

Layla – Lifestyle Sharkies  
Samuel – Three Amigos  
Jack – Cherry Burton Community Warriors

#### Year 8

Holly – Three Amigos  
Sebastian, Olivia and Oscar – The Bevtastic Four



These young people have shown creativity, teamwork, and a real commitment to improving their local communities. Whether through litter picking, fundraising, or sustainability projects, their efforts deserve recognition and applause.

Layla and the rest of her group, the Lifestyle Sharkies, set about working together to raise awareness and support for local hedgehog rescue charities and volunteers. Their efforts included a visit to a local rescue centre where they could ask questions and find out more information about how they could help, creating and distributing educational posters and flyers, making hedgehog habitats from willow and leaves for the local nature trail, organising a homemade bracelet and bake sale at the local pub, and completing a 10K sponsored walk along the Hudson Way railway track. Altogether, they raised an impressive £630 for this worthy cause and featured in the Beverley Life newspaper.





Holly and Samuel, with their teammate, focussed mainly on ways they could help locally. They put together two music concerts for the residents at Claremont House Care Home, where they sang, played the piano, violin and clarinet and also held a karaoke sing-along plus refreshments for the residents. They did a 5km fun run, ran two bake sales and a raffle in aid of Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People; altogether they raised £495.92. They went gardening and litter picking in a local park and on Bridlington beach, prepared food packs for local food banks, volunteered as a helper for a football club and helped on a dental hygiene educational stall. Finally, they donated clothes, toys and books to various local charities and gave food to homeless people.

After talking to the Parish Council, Jack and his group decided to do a community clean up - they cleaned inside the church, weeding in the church garden, cleaning up the children's park, making pom-poms with residents at the local care home and helping at the community cafe. They even featured on the Beverley FM radio station and shared what new skills they developed as part of this project including team work, confidence and perseverance.

We are incredibly proud of all our Lifestyle participants and look forward to seeing what they achieve next year!





## JOSH'S TITLE!

We are thrilled to share some fantastic news from last weekend. Year 9 pupil Josh appeared at the prestigious Global Gloves Box Cup, this year taking place in Bolton, which is an international boxing competition that attracts top talent from around the world.

Josh delivered an outstanding performance, winning his bout by unanimous decision. His hard work, dedication, and determination have paid off, and he now proudly holds the title of Global Gloves 2025 World Champion!

This is an extraordinary accomplishment, and we couldn't be prouder of Josh. His success is a testament to his perseverance and commitment to excellence inside the ring.

Please join us in congratulating Josh on this remarkable achievement!

## YEAR 8 BOYS WELCOME THE TIGERS!

Finally, I was delighted to hear that several of our Year 8 pupils were flagbearers at Hull City's Championship game against Ipswich Town last Tuesday evening. Jack, Kingsley, Harry, George, George, Will, Ollie, Albert and Caleb play for Cherry Burton FC Under 13s. While the result didn't go the Tigers' way I'm sure the boys enjoyed a fantastic evening!

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

Rupert Atkinson  
Rafe Atkinson  
Freya French  
Evie Page  
Layla Molloy  
Calla Stallard  
Dorra Atkinson  
Barnaby Bridson  
Lucy Harling  
Abi Jameson

## Year 8

Evelyn Rumford  
Holly Artley Tolson  
Lottie Johnston  
Isabella Da Silva  
Oscar Jowsey  
Theo Baldwin  
Jack Wisher  
Will Newsam  
Ryhs Thompson  
Stanley Parks

## Year 9

Tymofii Merkulov  
Ryan Russell  
Ben Taylor  
Angel Butler-Shorrocks  
Isaac Savage  
Harry Hugill  
Imogen Trolle  
Charlie Innes  
Oscar Lawson  
Daniel Barrow

## 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: Ben Bryans

Year 8: Riley Hearn

Year 9: Ella Page



## UPPER SCHOOL



### *Mr Henderson writes:*

**While Year 11 pupils are preparing for next week's Mock Examinations, they are also looking forward to their end of term reward – a visit to Beverley's Parkway Cinema on the final day of term.**

Mr Thomson explained, "The reward celebrates the end of term and offers an opportunity for pupils to reflect on their hard work having completed challenging mock examinations. Every pupil has the opportunity to attend – our requirements are basic, manageable expectations."

#### **Pupils are required to:**

- » Have earned 95% positive behaviour on ClassCharts.
- » Attend all mock exams.
- » Complete GCSEPods, Seneca and Sparx Maths expectations.
- » Achieve a minimum of 95% attendance for the final three weeks of term.

Mr Thomson added, "We will also consider pupils' uniform and punctuality to lessons."

#### **Pupils are conducting votes in their tutor groups to decide which film to watch, choices being:**

- » Home Alone
- » The Grinch
- » Zootropolis 2
- » Christmas Karma
- » Five Nights at Freddy's 2

We are very much looking forward to celebrating what has been a challenging yet extremely positive term with our Year 11 pupils!

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School

## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: Cloud Engineer**

### **What does a cloud engineer do?**

Cloud engineers design, build and maintain the technology that allows data and software to run on the internet rather than on a single computer. They work with platforms such as Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure, and Google Cloud to create secure, reliable, and efficient systems for businesses. A cloud engineer's day could involve setting up virtual servers, improving system performance, ensuring data is backed up, or protecting information from cyber threats. They also help organisations move their existing systems to the cloud and support developers in creating cloud-based applications.



### **What can I expect to earn as a cloud engineer?**

Starting salaries for cloud engineers in the UK are usually between £30,000 and £40,000 a year. With a few years of experience, you could earn £50,000 to £70,000. Senior and specialist cloud engineers can earn over £80,000, and in some cases £100,000 or more, especially in large tech companies or finance. Contract work can also pay higher daily rates, depending on your skills and the complexity of the project.

### **What subjects should I study to become a cloud engineer?**

At school or college, focus on subjects that build strong problem-solving and technical skills. Useful options include:

Computer Science – for programming and understanding systems.

Mathematics – for logical thinking and data analysis.

Physics or Engineering – for applying technical concepts.

English is also valuable for writing clear technical documentation and communicating ideas.

Many cloud engineers have degrees in computing, software engineering, or information technology. However, it's also possible to enter the field through apprenticeships or self-taught online learning.

### **How can I start my career as a cloud engineer?**

You can begin by learning the basics of cloud platforms through free or low-cost online courses from providers like AWS, Microsoft, or Google. Gaining certifications, such as AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner or Microsoft Azure Fundamentals, will help you stand out to employers. You could also study a college course or T level in an IT/digital subject. You may want to go on and study a relevant IT/computing course at university,

Another option is to look for IT apprenticeships or junior tech support roles to gain hands-on experience. Volunteering to help local organisations with their tech needs can also build your skills. As you progress, you can specialise in areas such as cloud security, DevOps, or cloud architecture. The key is to keep learning — cloud technology changes fast, and employers value people who can adapt and grow with it.

Cloud engineering offers a well-paid, future-focused career where you can work on projects that power the digital world. Whether you join a global tech giant, a start-up, or work remotely from anywhere, it's a role with endless possibilities.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a cloud engineer, visit our partner website [www.logonmoveon.co.uk](http://www.logonmoveon.co.uk)

### **Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a cloud engineer:**

The Chartered Institute for IT, Careers <https://www.bcs.org/it-careers/>

The Complete University Guide, How to become a cloud engineer

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/student-advice/careers/how-to-become-a-cloud-engineer>

Indeed, How to become a cloud engineer <https://uk.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/how-to-become-cloud-engineer>





*Congratulations to our Upper 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

Lily Thornton  
 Scarlett Wood  
 Bella Stoney  
 Lily Curtis  
 Amy Thornton  
 Brenton McKie  
 Devon Bryans  
 Niamh Raw  
 Neve Meagher  
 Aaron Davies

### Year 11

Harry Cuthbert  
 Gracie Pawson  
 Aidan Clayton  
 Ben Smedley  
 Xavier Jenney  
 Millie Wisher  
 Levi Petherbridge  
 Annabelle Curtis  
 Cherry Curwood  
 Lexie Burke

## 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: Yevdokym Yershov

Year 11: Levi Petherbridge



*Mr Chapman writes:*



LONGCROFT  
THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM

As we move further into the term, there is so much to celebrate across our Sixth Form community. From remarkable individual academic achievements to whole-year-group commitment, charity work, and the growing focus on future pathways, our students continue to impress me with their effort, positivity, and leadership. This week's update highlights just a few of the many reasons I am so proud of them.

### A Remarkable Mathematical Achievement

I begin with an outstanding accomplishment from **Sam in Year 12**, who has been awarded a **Silver Certificate in the Kangaroo Maths Challenge**, part of the highly respected UKMT mathematical enrichment programme.

The Kangaroo Challenge is offered only to students who achieve top-level scores in the UKMT Intermediate and Senior Maths Challenges, meaning that qualifying alone is an achievement reserved for the country's strongest young mathematicians. To go on and secure a **National Silver Certificate** is an exceptional accomplishment and places Sam among the top performing students across the UK.

This recognition reflects not only Sam's natural mathematical talent, but also the resilience, curiosity and determination that the UKMT programme aims to develop in young people. It is wonderful to see these qualities flourishing in our Sixth Form. We are incredibly proud of Sam and hope this success inspires other students to take on additional academic challenges, competitions, and enrichment opportunities.

Well done, Sam — a superb achievement, and richly deserved.





## Year 13: Countdown to Mocks and UCAS Milestones

For our **Year 13 students**, the next few days mark an important moment in their Sixth Form journey: the beginning of their **mock examinations**. These assessments come at a key point in the academic year and will serve as an invaluable indicator of current strengths, areas for improvement, and the topics that should shape their revision plans going into the Spring Term.

Mocks can be challenging, but we have been thoroughly impressed with the Year 13 attitude in recent weeks. Students have been making the most of study spaces, attending revision sessions, asking insightful questions in lessons, and showing a mature commitment to preparing effectively. Their focus and determination have been excellent, and we have every confidence that their efforts will be reflected in the quality of their mock performances.

Alongside this academic focus, Year 13s are also in the final stages of their **UCAS applications**. Personal statements are now being refined and polished, references are being finalised, and students are thoughtfully preparing to take their next steps into university, apprenticeships, or other pathways. It is an exciting time, and although the process can feel intense, the resilience and ambition on display have been superb.

We wish every Year 13 student the very best of luck in their mock examinations and in completing their UCAS applications. Their hard work is clear to see, and we are incredibly proud of the way they are approaching these crucial weeks.

## Year 12 Leading With Generosity: Shoeboxes for Charity

While Year 13 have been deep in preparation for mocks, our **Year 12 students have taken the lead on this year's whole-school Shoebox Appeal** – a charitable initiative that embodies kindness, community service, and social responsibility.

The Sixth Form plays a crucial role in coordinating this annual project, and this year's team has shown outstanding commitment. Year 12 students have been delivering empty shoeboxes to form groups across the school, explaining how the donations work, and encouraging younger pupils to take part. They have also taken responsibility for collecting the completed shoeboxes, organising them, and ensuring everything is ready for delivery to the charity.

The Shoebox Appeal makes a meaningful difference to children and families who may otherwise go without at this time of year. It is heartening to see our Year 12 students stepping up to lead such an impactful initiative with enthusiasm, warmth, and a real sense of community spirit.

A huge thank you to everyone in Year 12 for their leadership, teamwork, and compassion.

## A Wonderful Half-Term of Achievement

Across both year groups, the past few weeks have highlighted what makes our Sixth Form such a special part of the school: academic excellence, dedication, kindness, and a willingness to contribute to our community. Whether achieving national recognition in mathematics, preparing thoughtfully for the next stage of education, or working to support others through charity, our students show daily what it means to be the senior students within our school.

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form





# SAFEGUARDING



*Mr Rogers writes:*



## Christmas Attendance Bonanza – Let's Finish the Year Strongly!

As we head into the final two weeks of term, we're shining an extra spotlight on excellent attendance with our Christmas Attendance Bonanza.

This is a fantastic opportunity for every pupil to finish the year on a high note and celebrate their commitment to learning.

We've launched the Ice Streak Challenge: achieve 100% attendance during these two weeks and they will earn a Spin the Wheel Voucher. Each voucher also enters them into a raffle for one of five amazing prizes! In addition, our Form Competition will recognise the highest-attending form in each year group at the end of term. Daily attendance updates will be shared with pupils so they can celebrate success together.



Why does this matter? Because we believe our pupils attend well not just out of obligation, but because they want to be here—they enjoy school, value their friendships, and thrive on the opportunities we provide. Let's keep that momentum going and make these last days of term something to be proud of.

Together, let's finish the year strongly!

Mr Rogers | Deputy Headteacher

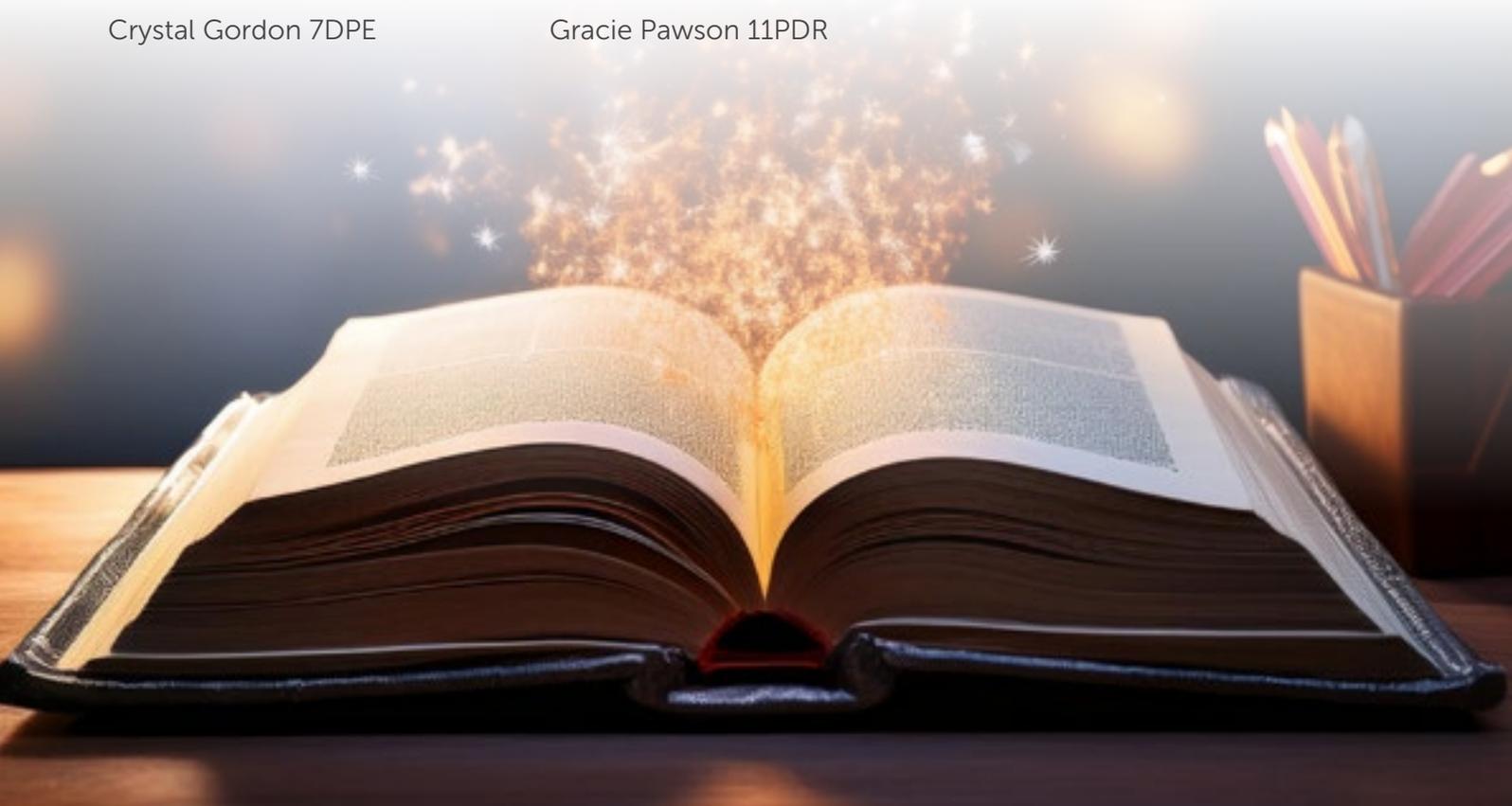


## A huge congratulations to our latest Golden Buzzer winners!

Memet Akkus 7JHL  
 Rafe Atkinson 7ARU  
 Rupert Atkinson 7ARU  
 Layla Blakey 8EIN  
 Aidan Clayton 11NST  
 Sophie Clayton 9NFO  
 Lily Conman 9NFO  
 Finley Dalton 7ARU  
 Ellie Eaton 11RLO  
 Bradley Elvidge 10EMN  
 Crystal Gordon 7DPE

Curtis Gordon 10GTA  
 Evie Hartley 8JPO  
 Luke Hodges 11PDR  
 Esmae Johnson 9ACR  
 Muireann Kennedy 10GTA  
 Conner Leak 11NST  
 Ryan Lucas 9ACR  
 Zac Lucas 7ARU  
 Myla Millington 7JHL  
 Mylo Osborne-Lawn 7FCO  
 Gracie Pawson 11PDR

Courtney Petherbridge 7ARU  
 Reggie Pierce 7SJU  
 Jake Redmond 9ACR  
 Amy Simpson 10PDV  
 Luci Stewart 11ASC  
 Imogen Trolle 9ACR  
 Tommy Watts 11RLO  
 Evie Woad 11ASC  
 Freddie Wood 8EIN  
 Leon Zielinski 8ESH





## IN FOCUS

## PSHE

**This week we feature Year 7 pupils who have been working hard in their PSHE lessons.**

Mr Baker explained, "This term pupils have been learning about potential dangers when near roads, railway lines and water and how to stay safe. This particular lesson required pupils to show that they were able to carry out a primary survey and that they could place an unresponsive casualty, who is breathing normally, into the recovery position. They also learned when and how to deliver CPR to an unresponsive casualty who is not breathing normally. Pupils enjoyed working with their friends to practise putting each other into the recovery position – they worked sensibly and demonstrated their knowledge. After their practical work, pupils summarised the main steps in administering Hands Only CPR in their books."





## Extra Curricular Activities

### Tuesday

#### CHOIR

This is open to all pupils and Sixth Form students – no audition is required.

Room 64 from 3:15 until 4pm.

#### FOOTBALL

'Come and Play' sessions are open to all – separate sessions for boys and girls.

3G from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### NETBALL

A session for Lower School pupils in Years 7 – 9.

Sports Hall from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

All year groups and staff are welcome to join Ms Sinclair. Character sheets and dice are provided!

Library from 3.10-4.30pm.

### Thursday

#### MUSICAL THEATRE

Open to all pupils and Sixth Form students – no audition is required.

Theatre from 3:15 until 4:30pm

#### GIRLS' FOOTBALL

3G from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

### Monday

#### CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

If you have a story to tell, please come along, or pop into the Learning Hub and see Mr Dixon.

Room 2 during lunchtime.

### Wednesday

#### CHESS CLUB

Library at lunchtime.

#### ORCHESTRA

Open to all instrumentalists.

Room 64 from 3:15 until 4pm.

#### RUGBY

A session for Lower School pupils in Years 7 – 9.

Field from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### NETBALL

A session for Upper School pupils in Years 10 and 11,

Netball courts from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### HOCKEY

Sports Hall from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### TABLE TENNIS

Gym from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

### Friday

#### BADMINTON

Sports Hall from 3.15 until 4.10pm.

#### CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

If you have a story to tell, please come along, or pop into the Learning Hub and see Mr Dixon.

Room 2 during lunchtime.

#### BASKETBALL

All year groups welcome.

Sports Hall during lunchtime.



## Pupils Going Nuts for Languages!



Pupils study either French or Spanish throughout Key Stage 3, with many going on to study their foreign language at GCSE and beyond. Languagenut is designed to support and empower pupils in their study of French and Spanish.

## Congratulations to this week's top scoring Nutters!

**Esme Johnson** – 24,800

**Ella Barry** – 15,200

**Thomas Wells** – 10,200

**Joel Dyason** – 6,400

**Tymofii Merkulov** – 5,600

**Leona James** – 4,800

**Effi Baldwin** – 3,600

**Leonid Vaskov** – 3,600

**Savanna Rezaei** – 3,000

**Oliver Barley** – 2,600





## Mathematicians

## are Bright Sparx!

# Sparx Maths

**With a mission to improve lives and the world through learning and building maths confidence through personalised learning, Sparx Maths supports pupils aged 11-16 with challenging, attainable homework. Each pupil has a clear, unambiguous target to answer 100% of their homework correctly each week and external research conducted by RAND Europe and the University of Cambridge found that using Sparx Maths for 1 hour a week significantly improves grades.**

The team at Sparx Maths, made up of 90 experts, including outstanding teachers, academics, data-scientists, researchers and technologists, uses over 200 million data points to personalise every homework for every child. This ensures pupils always receive homework that is both achievable and challenging, meaning they experience success as well as being stretched by harder questions.

Mrs Low, our Head of Maths, explained: "Sparx Maths is both popular and effective – we are going to be celebrating pupils weekly in our Newsletter and presenting pupils with certificates to recognise their hard work but also their perseverance and resilience when faced with some extremely challenging questions!"

### **Congratulations to this week's Sparxy Maths Champion Isabelle Cunningham !**

#### **The top 10 pupils in our Weekly Leaderboard are:**

**Isabelle Cunningham** – 6,491XP

**Mason Bennett** – 4,685XP

**Eloise McIntosh** – 5,228XP

**Holly Sutcliffe-Storr** – 4,358XP

**Oscar Dale** – 4,942XP

**Effi Baldwin** – 4,341XP

**Evie Cunningham** – 4,866XP

**Elizabeth Dale** – 4,045XP

**Lydia Dorsey** – 4,769XP

**Leona James** – 3,943XP



## Footballers Enjoy Success

### GIRLS IN DERBY ACTION!

The Year 8 girls' football team played Beverley High School and it proved to be a very even game with both teams making breaks and showing solid defence. The game ended scoreless, but there was lots of positive linking play on The Year 7 team also took on their local rivals and enjoyed a convincing victory. Well done to everyone who played and to the Longcroft referees, Oliver and Alex, for giving up their time to referee.

### LONGCROFT YEAR 7 GIRLS REACH SEMI FINALS

The Year 7 girls had convincing wins in their group games at Soccer Sensations, with good attacking play on show which is vital for short 5-a-side games. Molly worked hard both in attack and defence in the games - she put pressure on the goalkeeper and was back defending her own goal. All the outfield players scored in the group stages, while Millie made some great saves keeping the team ahead.

The team met challenging opposition in Howden in the semi-finals. The girls worked hard and Millie saved many tough shots but Howden proved to be a strong team and went on to win the competition. The girls had a great morning, played well and represented Longcroft beautifully. Well done!

### YEAR 9 BOYS IN TOURNAMENT SUCCESS!

Our Year 9 boys won the East Riding School Sports Partnership (East) Finals on Tuesday evening, overcoming competition from Beverley Grammar, Driffield, Holderness Academy, Hornsea and Withernsea. The team have qualified for the final which will be held in January at Wolfreton School!





## UK Parliament

## Week 2025

Pupils and staff have been taking part in UK Parliament Week alongside millions of their peers across the UK and around the world. As part of the school's work to promote Fundamental British Values, learning about the role of parliament is key to understanding how the UK democratic system operates and how decisions are made that impact on our society. This is a topic which already features prominently in the school's comprehensive personal development curriculum and the dedicated week of events has provided the opportunity for further enrichment as well as highlighting to young people the myriad opportunities available in this area of government.



As part of a suite of engagement activities provided throughout the week, pupils received assemblies making use of the excellent resources provided by UK Parliament. During form time, they then engaged in discussions and votes as well as exploring the range of career opportunities on offer as part of the government's infrastructure around parliament. The Student Council will be meeting with senior leaders in the coming weeks to feed back on the outcomes of events as well as providing their termly updates as part of the school's routine cycle of business.

Longcroft has enjoyed a strong regional and national profile in recent years, prompting visits from senior Department for Education Officers, including Allison Wilson (Regional Director for Yorkshire and the Humber) and Graeme Stuart MP who has been a welcome supporter and champion for our community. We are planning a further visit later this academic year, providing our children with tangible links to the UK Parliament and the working of government offices.

Bethany said, "It was great to take part in UK Parliament Week and learn more about how our country is run. Debating is always fun and I didn't realise how many different types of jobs you could do apart from being an MP."

Mr Perry said, "We are always incredibly proud of the way our children respond to opportunities such as those presented to them during UK Parliament Week. Our commitment is to ensure that all of our young people leave school well prepared for their exciting futures and understanding the role they have to play in a healthy democratic society is an important aspect of that preparation."





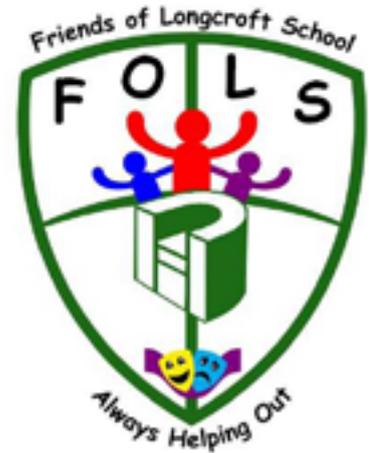
# Memory Lane

This week we return to 1955 and feature pictures of the Upper School playground, the Dining Hall and Longcroft's staff.





# The Friends' Corner



[fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net)

Charity Reg No. 515674

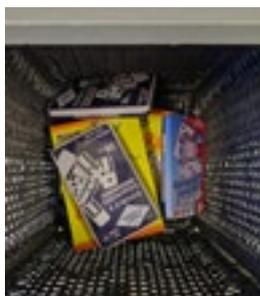
## Reading Room Project Completed!

The FOLS are happy to announce the Reading Room project has now been completed and we proudly announced it open and ready to be used by the pupils at the FOLS AGM on Wednesday.

The FOLS have worked as a team in order to paint the benches and shelves, recover the bench backs, make cushions and purchase photo frames, plants, storage and games (such as Uno and dominos).

But the FOLS have had help along the way and they want to express their thanks to the following people:

- » **Jon Charge painter and decorator** — who offered his guidance and donated his own time to paint the display wall.
- » **Swift Group in Cottingham** — who kindly donated fabric that was used to make the cushions and the surplus material was donated to the arts department.
- » **Tesco** — who provided the FOLS with a Community Grant. The £1000 donated by Tesco, allowed the FOLS to complete the whole project.
- » **The teachers and staff at Longcroft School** — who supported and assisted the FOLS and used their own time to help paint the benches and shelves.



And a very big thank you goes to the FOLS who have used their own time and resources to bring the project to life.

We can now enjoy the pupils using the space.

If you would like to be part of the FOLS and help with projects like the Reading Room, please email the FOLS on [fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net)



FRIENDS OF LONGCROFT SCHOOL

# Prize Draw

**Join the FOLS Prize Draw!**

**FOR JUST £12 PER YEAR, YOU'LL BE HELPING TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND BE IN WITH A CHANCE TO WIN!**



*50% OF YOUR ENTRY FEE GOES DIRECTLY TO FUNDING SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES THAT THE SCHOOL BUDGET CAN'T COVER. THE OTHER 50% GOES STRAIGHT INTO THE PRIZE FUND.*

YOU CAN PURCHASE AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE - THE MORE YOU BUY, THE GREATER CHANCE YOU HAVE OF WINNING! MEMBERSHIP LASTS FOR A FULL YEAR AND YOU CAN JOIN AT ANY TIME.



## How to Enter:

Purchase your tickets online via your ParentPay account (click 'Pay for other items').



**GOOD LUCK**

and **thank you** for supporting the Friends of Longcroft School!

**To find out more or to get involved with the FOLS:**

Email: [fols@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:fols@longcroft.eriding.net)

Follow us on Facebook: Friends of Longcroft School



## LIBRARY NEWS



**Ms Carvill writes:**

## Award Winning Books of 2025

As we enter the month of December and prepare for Christmas, it's a good opportunity to recall some of the finest reads of 2025. Below are a selection of award-winning fiction and non-fiction books, including audiobooks, that were feted for their excellence. The majority of these works address subjects of huge significance, have the power to drive forward positive change, and also teach empathy and understanding in a world that can sometimes appear confusing.

Pupils and students are welcome to take them out of the Library over the holiday period, a wonderful time to catch up on some outstanding reading! The books can also be bought at local bookshops in the area, and make perfect Christmas gifts.



### Winner of the Literacy Hive Best British Audio Awards – Best Audiobook 2025 Young Adult Category

**Different for Boys by Patrick Ness**  
Reading Age – 13-14+

Narrated by actor, musician, and voiceover artist Alex Wingfield ( Bolinda Audio) this audiobook was praised for the *'beautiful intensity'* of its narration and the sensitive adaptation of this LGBT+ story. Moving and profound.

“A true winner is not someone who has won an award, but someone who has left an indelible mark on the world.”

—Mouloud Benzadi



### Winner of the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Award 2025

**Fia and the Last Snow Deer' written by Eilish Fisher and illustrated by Dermot Flynn.**

**Reading Age – 9-12**

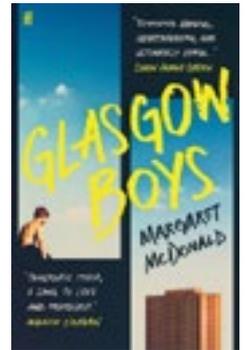
Written in verse, this bewitching novel is set in prehistoric Ireland where the winter seems to last an eternity. Fia and her reindeer Solas have a unique relationship, but as intense coldness and starvation threatens their village, Solas is craved for his meat; a prophetic figure worthy of sacrifice. Fantasy and mythology combine in this exceptional read.

### Winner of The Carnegie Medal for Writing 2025 and UKLA Book Award 2025

**Glasgow Boys by Margaret McDonald**

**Reading Age – 14+**

Without doubt, this was one of my favourite books of 2025 and fully deserved to win two of the most prestigious book awards in children's fiction. A coming-of-age novel set in working-class Scotland; exploring identity, poverty, and young masculinity. A book that breathes hope. Outstanding.



### Winner of The British Book Awards Children's Fiction Award 2025

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hot Mess (Book 19) by Jeff Kinney**

**Reading Age – 9-12**

It's been described as the funniest Diary of a Wimpy Kid book ever. Greg Heffley is having the summer from hell as he coops up with his whole family in a tiny beach house in the boiling heat; determined to find out the secret ingredients in Gramma's famous meatball recipe. It could all just be a recipe for disaster. Side splitting. You'll laugh out loud!

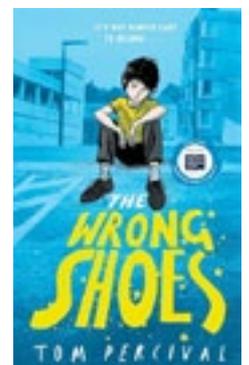
### Winner of the Older Fiction category at The Week Junior Book Awards 2025 and the Carnegie Shadows Choice Award 2025

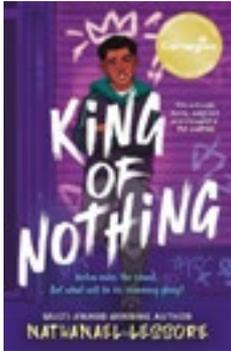
**The Wrong Shoes by Tom Percival**

**Reading Age – 9+**

This brave and timely book focuses on child poverty. Will, a character you'll be rooting for from the first page, doesn't have the right shoes, coat, or anything else for that matter. He has problems at school and problems at home, and doesn't know how to navigate his world.

But even if you feel you are in the wrong shoes, others can sometimes walk in them too. True friends can do that! Powerful.





## Winner of Waterstones Best Book for Older Readers 2025 and the Carnegie Shadowers' Choice for Writing 2025

**King of Nothing by Nathaniel Lessore**  
Reading Age – 11+

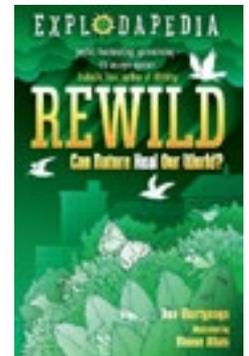
This is a great book for reluctant readers; especially boys. Despite the seriousness of some of the subject matter it will have you in hysterics; laughing out loud.

Anton's dad, not the best of role models, is in prison and Anton's reputation as the bad boy at his South London school is pretty secure. But when he strikes up an unlikely new friendship things change. Anton begins to question misogyny and sexism and what it means to be a real man. Fantastic dialogue.

## Winner of The Week Junior Book Awards 2025 – Factual category

**Explodapedia: Rewild – Can Nature Heal Our World? by Ben Martynoga,**  
Illustrated by Moose Allain  
Reading Age 11+

This solution-based non-fiction book is packed with facts, fabulous illustrations, and fully explores the benefits of rewilding. How can we reverse the threats the world faces? How can we become less eco-anxious? Time to get active and positive. Really enlightening.



## Winner of the FCBG Children's , Older Category Award 2025

**Seven Million Sunflowers by Malcolm Duffy**  
Reading Age – 12+

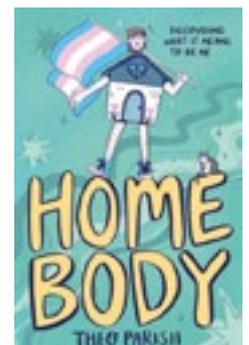
Shortly after this remarkable novel was published in 2024 Longcroft was delighted to welcome its author to our Library. The book was inspired by a family of Ukrainian refugees who stayed with Malcolm Duffy and his own family in what was to become a life changing experience for all of them.

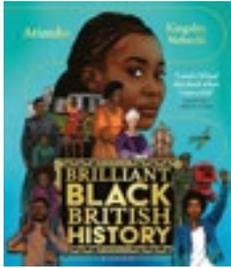
When the Russian army invades the Kovalenko family have no choice but to flee, but in England they find a whole new set of challenges. A life-affirming read.

## Winner of The Carnegie Shadowers' Choice for Illustration 2025

**Homebody by Theo Parish**  
Reading Age – 14+

This heart-warming graphic novel has been described as 'a moving celebration of trans joy'. It tells a universal story about what it means to truly feel at home with the world and be unafraid to be yourself. A tale of self-discovery and empowerment.





## Winner of the UKLA 2025 Information Book of the Year Award 2025

**Brilliant Black British History by Atinuke, illustrated by Kingsley Nebechi**

Reading Age – 9-12+

Since its publication in 2023, this ground-breaking non-fiction book has notched up a string of awards. Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho couldn't put it down, and described it as 'the kind of book I wish I'd had when I was a kid'.

Shortly after its publication its incredibly talented illustrator, Kingsley Nebechi, visited Longcroft to talk about its importance in reframing Black British history. Eye-opening and definitive.



"A book is a gift you can open again and again."

—Garrison Keillor

## The Scholars Programme Launches in the Library in January 2026



In January Longcroft will once again commence **The Scholars Programme**. This transformative initiative, run by the Brilliant Club, allows a cohort of pupils to be tutored by a university researcher and learn what it's like to study at university. Library staff are delighted that the 2025/2026 programme will take place in the library, where pupils have so many research resources at hand.

It's an exciting prospect for selected Year 9 pupils, who work in small groups of seven, and get lots of attention and support from their PHD tutor. Muireann Kennedy, who successfully completed the programme in the last academic year, found it very helpful:

*"The tutor was really good, and so kind. She gave us tasks and was great at explaining everything. She really helped me understand new ideas."*



During weekly tutorials, tutors share their subject knowledge and encourage pupils with their passion for learning. Sam Collin, who also attended the programme, felt his knowledge really improved:

*"The main topic was politics. I learnt so much and became much better informed. The programme was fun too, and you learn a lot about university life."*

Pupils work towards completing a challenging assignment, which is marked and graded. This is followed by a graduation event at a partner university where the cohort meet current undergraduates and develop their understanding of the student experience.

Research has shown that The Scholars Programme has a positive impact on GCSE results. Another great benefit is how the programme develops all literacy skills, with a big emphasis on oracy and writing. It was something that really helped Scarlett Wood:

*"The tutor was really helpful explaining how to improve my essay writing and how to structure essays. She stressed how helpful it is to have that skill before you go to university."*

The flagship Scholars programme was launched in 2011, its aim to imbue pupils with the confidence and skills to progress to the highest-ranking universities, including those in the Russell Group. The cohort are able to learn topics outside the curriculum and expand their knowledge through a learning style consistent with a university approach. Martha Beaumont was initially surprised.

*"The way you learn is very different to school and I wasn't sure how well I would do at first, but the tutor was really kind and friendly. She helped me understand the topics and I became much more confident."*

*Attending the graduation at the University of Sheffield was just marvellous. It really made me understand what university is like."*

Jasmine Stephenson agreed:

*"I really enjoyed the graduation. We had a great tour and then went to a huge room where we heard lots of inspiring speeches. It was so impressive and gave me an idea about what university is all about."*

*I'm really pleased I did the programme and graduated. It left me feeling proud."*

The Brilliant Club, a UK based charity with a mission to make university education more accessible, has won a number of awards for its work. It publishes an academic journal, The Scholar, annually which showcases the work of students attending the Scholars Programme.

**We can't wait to see the work of some Longcroft students in it!**



## 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)



**Year 8**

**Mrs Thwaites**

**07444 847881**

[gemma.thwaites@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:gemma.thwaites@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Years 9 and 10**

**Mrs Newsam**

**07827 587483**

[zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Year 11**

**Mrs Ellis**

**07900 394085**

[annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net](mailto:annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net)