



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



"It's been really fun. I've really liked creating a story for my game."

—James (Year 8)

### Pupils Enjoy Innovative Event!

From Player to Page, a literacy and careers event celebrating the gaming industry, launched last week at the University of Hull and was greeted with huge enthusiasm. A selection of Longcroft pupils from a range of year groups took part in writing workshops, were introduced to and inspired by some incredible games, and met key figures in the industry, who outlined their career paths. There was also a lively Q & A session in which Longcroft pupils were impressively vocal. Finally, attendees received certificates for their superb game concepts. As Jake commented:

*"It's been my best school trip so far. We got to play video games and write a story about a game we'd create."*

### Contents

Headteacher's Welcome

Page 4

Lower School

Page 6

Upper School

Page 9

Sixth Form

Page 13

Mr Rogers writes:

Page 14

In Focus: Art:

Page 17

Memory Lane

Page 22

Friends of Longcroft School:

Page 23

Library News

Page 24



From Player to Page was masterminded by Simon Engerer, who has run similar events in Hong Kong where he worked as a TEFL teacher for a number of years. Dr Edmund Hurst, who regularly leads creative writing workshops at Longcroft, and was pivotal in establishing a BA Hons in Games Design and Creative Writing at the University of Hull was also in attendance. He was delighted Hull was hosting such an innovative event for East Riding pupils.



The day began with welcoming speeches; then pupils were introduced to three games including Stray, a dystopian adventure/fantasy in which a ginger cat gets lost in a city scape where the only population appear to be robotic civilians. The artistry was amazing, as the cat moved from a lush green landscape and sunlight into a terrifying underworld, reminiscent of an oriental shanty town; featuring numerous obstacles for the cat to avoid. Visually stunning, with a superb soundtrack, it's easy to understand the game's appeal.

In a follow-up workshop pupils were asked to discuss their impressions of the games and explored their content, narrative, and style. What was so interesting was the variety of subjects and topics covered. One game focused on mental health, another on immigration, and in subsequent discussions it was clear many game writers and players are moving away from the zombie flesh-eating, horror, and shooting games in favour of something far more subtle and educative.

Working as an artist/designer or musician are just some of the job opportunities available in the games industry. As Luke Hebblethwaite, former Head of Games BAFTA explained:

*"Games are a huge industry, bigger than music and movies combined. There are over 2000 games companies in the UK alone, and the industry generates around 180 billion dollars a year."*

As well as designers, artists, and musicians the industry offers work to other creatives including actors and writers. Ayesha Khan, professionally known as Khan, a leading narrative designer in the field, who particularly enjoys writing dialogue for actors and also casting them, explained what game writing involved:

*"There is no standardisation in the industry; so you can have the same job title as someone in another company, but do different jobs. A game writer needs to be able to tell a story; a narrative designer needs to be able to write too, but also understand game design."*

So what skills should young people develop in order to work in the industry? Murray Lewis, narrative designer and writer of Fall Guys, and Murder by Numbers, paid an online visit to the event and had excellent advice for pupils.

*"There's one golden rule. You need to think about what you want the player to experience. This goes hand in hand with not being afraid to focus on what you think is fun, what you can feel personally engaged with, this will ensure you really enjoy the creative process."*

Throughout the two-day event seven professionals were at hand to offer career guidance to pupils. Many of them had done a number of jobs prior to working in the industry, which gave them valuable life experience. All stressed the need to get your foot in the door, possibly through work experience prior to doing a degree, although there are numerous routes to success. They also emphasised the importance of writing a good cover letter, approaching companies as soon as you can, and getting life experience. Khan said having a portfolio site and a master portfolio with samples, including ones you could send out, was important.



*"You need to show you can create in lots of genres. Any company is going to be asking if you can write for the games they make."*

Arseniy Klishin, a programmer and designer, and former producer at Playstation who now runs his own games company, highlighted how important it was to have problem solving skills:



*"Nobody hires for fun. It's cool if you can do all sorts of things, but in the end they want someone who can fix what is broken, bridge a gap. Unlike tech companies, solving a known problem, with games every new game presents a different problem."*

Sagar Beroshi, who leads the team at the acclaimed Chinese Room studio, based in London was very honest about his initial struggles breaking into the field.

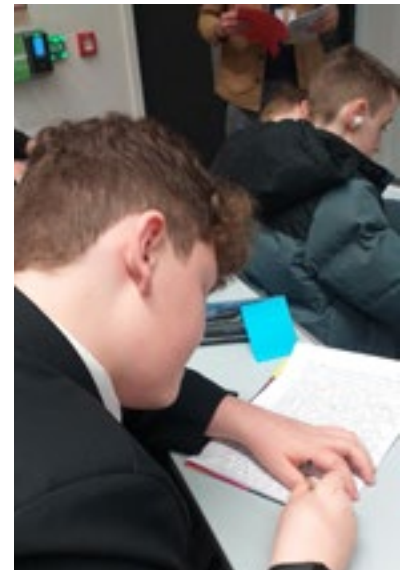
*"If you are a junior going into the industry you'll find it hard to break the hustle, but once you do, you'll find it very friendly."*

Arseniy stressed the importance of having a real passion for the industry and being eager and prepared.

*"Study every area you can and build up a good portfolio."*

Patrick found the advice helpful:

*"It was good to meet professionals who have successful careers in the gaming world. It opened up the idea in my head, that game writing is a possibility as a career."*



A real highlight of the event was when pupils started creating their own storylines for games, and were given encouragement and feedback by the industry guests. Some Longcroft pupils were influenced by games they'd already played, others created a narrative from an original idea of their own. It was amazing to see them write so freely and without hesitation or constraint. They were brimming with ideas. James really relaxed into the task:

*"It's been really fun. I've really liked creating a story for my game."*

Charli was also impressed:

*"I've learned a lot about the literacy and narrative involved in games and enjoyed the experience more than I expected."*

Following a really informative Q & A in which a number of our pupils asked questions, attendees were presented with certificates to mark their achievement. It was wonderful to see our pupils so creative in their writing, confident in their questioning, and so fully engaged in the tasks they were set.

**We very much look forward to visiting Player to Page next year. Following its initial success, I'm confident it will be a regular event in the Longcroft calendar.**



## Headteacher's Welcome

**It has been another busy week in school, with a range of visits and events taking place, including around World Book Day which always provokes a fabulous response from both our staff and our young people at Longcroft. You will see on social media and in next week's Newsletter some of the events and excitement that have filled the school for our literary celebration; not least the tremendous efforts of colleagues in their various character dress that have been a real**

### highlight.

Promoting reading (and indeed writing) will remain a priority for our community, recognising the huge value it has for our young people. Being a secure reader ensures meaningful access to our carefully constructed curriculum, but also to the wealth of information that exists beyond. There is so much enjoyment and fulfilment in stories of all kinds; they can challenge our thinking, deepen our understanding of complex ideas and lived experiences, or just simply entertain and amuse us. Through an improved understanding of ourselves and the world around us, we are better placed to respond both as a community and individuals to our values and demonstrate the characteristics that we associate with our Longcroft Standard.

I encourage you this weekend to talk to your children about reading and perhaps explore something new. Make opportunities to read and make talking about what you are reading a normal part of daily and weekly routines. Please do make use of our fabulous library and the wonderful team led by Ms Carvill to gain access to the wealth of material and resource that we can provide as a school.

In this week's headline article, you can read about another recent literacy initiative called Player to Page, which was hosted at Hull University and later in the Newsletter you'll find the winners and runners up of our 100 word story competition. Huge congratulations go to those who have been selected to go through to the national competition. Well done to all who took part and made judging the competition so difficult, and thank you to our writer in residence Maureen Lennon for her support in reaching those decisions.

This week has also seen a brilliant NHS Careers Day for Year 8 alongside a range of events for National Careers Week which you can read more about next time, our GCSE Science Live trip and lots of activity for Year 11 controlled assessments including brilliant final menus being produced and presented for Food Technology. It is also important to recognise, as we have through our assemblies, that this weekend marks International Women's Day. It is always a great opportunity to reflect on individual stories and draw inspiration from incredible individuals. As a school, we are touched by so many fantastic women supporting education and shaping the future of our community and wider society through all that we do.

One final note regarding this weekend. We will have our FOLS with some of our children and staff at Tesco in Beverley from 10am-1pm raising money for active lifestyles and sports equipment at Longcroft. If you are in the town and want to pop and say hello, our buckets will be shaking!

Do enjoy your latest Longcroft update. 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**

**110,217**

**THOUGHT**

**271,515**

**VISION**

**315,210**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**696,942**





# LOWER SCHOOL



## *Mr Worthington writes:*

**Thank you once again to all the parents, carers and children who joined us last week for our Year 9 Options Evening. It was wonderful to see so many families engaging thoughtfully with the next steps in the Key Stage 4 journey, asking excellent questions and exploring the exciting range of subjects available.**

As our pupils now take time to consider their choices, we are proud to emphasise the rich, broad and balanced curriculum we offer at Longcroft. Alongside the compulsory GCSEs in English Language, English Literature, Mathematics and Science (with pupils able to choose either Combined Science (Trilogy) or the Triple Separate Sciences), we provide a wide variety of option subjects designed to inspire, challenge and support every learner.

This week, we shine a spotlight on several of the creative, practical and people-focused subjects available:

Music offers pupils the chance to deepen their performance, composition and listening skills. Through a mix of practical work and analytical study, pupils explore a diverse range of musical styles. Whether pupils already play an instrument or simply enjoy creating and understanding music, the course provides a supportive environment to grow their musical identity and confidence.

For pupils interested in working with people and making a positive difference, Health and Social Care offers a meaningful and applied pathway. Covering child development, health needs and the wider care sector, the course blends classroom learning with real-world contexts. It equips pupils with invaluable interpersonal, organisational and communication skills that are highly valued in many future careers.

Religious Education provides an opportunity to explore ethics, belief systems and key philosophical questions that shape our world today. Pupils examine different religious traditions, contemporary moral issues and global perspectives, developing critical thinking and respectful debate. It is an excellent foundation for understanding diversity, values and the complexity of modern society.



Product Design is perfect for children who enjoy bringing ideas to life. The course blends creativity with technical understanding, introducing learners to materials, engineering principles, design thinking and manufacturing processes. Pupils design and make high-quality products, developing practical skills alongside innovation and resilience.

In Food & Nutrition, pupils learn essential life skills while exploring food science, nutrition and practical cooking techniques. They gain an understanding of healthy eating, food origins and the science behind ingredients. This is a hands-on and engaging subject that builds confidence in the kitchen and fosters informed choices about lifestyle and wellbeing.



Our Art course encourages creativity, confidence and imagination, helping pupils develop strong practical skills while learning to express ideas visually. Whether working with paint, printmaking, textiles or mixed media, pupils gain both technical expertise and an appreciation of artistic traditions and contemporary practice. Art is ideal for those who enjoy experimenting, problem-solving and thinking differently.

As pupils consider their options, we encourage families to continue conversations at home, exploring interests, strengths and future aspirations. Our aim is to ensure every child feels confident and excited about the next stage of their learning.

On the subject of Art, our curriculum continues to nurture creativity and originality, offering pupils the chance to explore a wide range of media and artistic influences. While our Year 9 pupils consider Art as part of their Options Process, younger year groups are also embracing ambitious and inspiring projects.

Recently, Year 8 have been studying the work of Andreas Preis, a contemporary designer and illustrator known for his bold graphic style and striking skateboard deck artwork. Children have been developing their own designs inspired by Preis' use of pattern, colour and intricate line work.

The results have been fantastic, with many pupils demonstrating real flair and imagination; and, a special mention must go to Freddie, whose detailed and vibrant design was taken to the next level by being applied to an actual skateboard. His piece showed outstanding craftsmanship and creativity, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm for the project.

Art continues to offer pupils the freedom to explore new techniques, take risks and develop their confidence as young artists, and projects like this underline the rich and engaging creativity happening in our classrooms every day. More of our Lower School pupils' work is celebrated in our 'Subject in Focus' feature this week.

**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

Freya French  
Dorra Atkinson  
Ethan Hansley  
Calla Stallard  
Louie Welburn  
Barnaby Bridson  
Edward Stork  
Oliver Croshaw  
Laila El-Sharif  
Imogen Shaw

### Year 8

Annabel Naylor  
Cobie Hancock  
Holly Artley Tolson  
William Battye  
Leon Zielinski  
Amy Charge  
Florence Crabtree  
Naomi Jack  
Evie Pardoe  
Rhys Thompson

### Year 9

Oscar Purchon  
Sabah Madina  
Beth Dawson  
Rose Fitton  
Millie Freer  
Alanah Wardman  
Alexander Waterson  
Sam Cowell  
George Hogg  
Jake Redmond

## 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: Keegan Vernon

Year 8: Annabel Naylor

Year 9: Leo Caley



# UPPER SCHOOL



*Mr Henderson writes:*

**While this week has seen Year 11 pupils starting their GCSE examinations, completing practical assessments in Food and Nutrition and Drama, the last fortnight has seen tremendous success for our Upper School pupils in the fields of sport and mathematics.**

Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 took on the UK Maths Trust Intermediate Challenge and once again earned impressive results. Mrs Low said: "Once again pupils achieved impressive results in these testing challenges. The questions are designed to challenge and engage pupils, and I am delighted with their scores." Our pictures show a selection of Upper School pupils with their certificates.





Our Year 11 netball team have enjoyed five years together and on Tuesday evening they finished as runners-up in their final end-of-season tournament. Congratulations to all the girls, who have always represented Longcroft exceptionally well. Phoebe said: "We've enjoyed playing together for five years, and we have some good memories." Miss Judge added: "The girls can be proud of their performance in the tournament - they're full of enthusiasm and play well together as a team."

Finally, our Year 10 boys finished fourth in the East Riding 7-a-side Finals at Wolfreton School. Mr Nicholls said: "The team competed in six extremely tight games. They won one, drew four and lost one, while James scored the goal of the tournament with a spectacular shot from a long way out."

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School



## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: Food Technologist**

### **What do food technologists do?**

Food technologists are the science experts behind the meals and snacks you see on supermarket shelves. Their job is to make sure food is safe, tasty, and produced to a high standard. They may develop new recipes, improve existing ones, or find ways to make food healthier without losing flavour. A big part of the role is ensuring food meets strict safety and quality rules, testing ingredients in the lab, and checking production processes in factories. Some food technologists focus on research and product innovation, while others work in quality assurance or food safety. It's a career that combines science, creativity, and problem-solving.



### **What can I expect to earn as a food technologist?**

Starting salaries for food technologists in the UK are usually between £20,000 and £25,000. With experience, this can rise to around £30,000 to £40,000, and senior or specialist roles may pay £45,000 or more. Your exact earnings will depend on the type of company you work for and whether you specialise in areas like product development, quality assurance, or research.

### **What subjects should I study to become a food technologist?**

Food technology is a science-based career, so subjects like biology, chemistry, and maths are very useful. At GCSE and A level (or equivalent), aim for strong results in science and maths. Many employers look for a degree in food science, food technology, nutrition, chemistry, or biochemistry. Some universities also offer specific food science and technology courses, which provide hands-on lab and industry experience.

### **How can I start my career as a food technologist?**

There are several ways into this career. The most common route is through university, by studying food science or a related subject. Another option is an apprenticeship in food technology or food and drink manufacturing, which combines on-the-job training with study. Work placements, internships, or part-time jobs in food manufacturing are excellent for building experience and contacts. Once you're qualified, you could work for food manufacturers, supermarkets, government bodies, or research organisations. With experience, you could progress to roles such as product development manager, quality assurance specialist, or even move into areas like food marketing or supply chain management.

If you're curious about how food is made, enjoy science, and like the idea of creating or improving products that millions of people might eat, becoming a food technologist could be a tasty career choice.

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

Details of relevant degree courses can be found on the UCAS website - <https://www.ucas.com/>.

### **Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a food technologist:**

National Careers Service – Food Scientist <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/food-scientist>

Prospects – Food Technologist <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/food-technologist>

Institute of Food Science and Technology – Careers <https://www.ifst.org/education-careers/career-information>

Search for degree and postgraduate courses accredited by the Institute of Food Science and Technology <https://www.ifst.org/organisations/accreditation-schemes/accreditation-degree-courses/accredited-degree-programmes>

Want to know what it's like to work as a food technologist? Watch the video in our [How Did You Get That Job?](#) section to find out more.





*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

Neve Meagher  
Lily Curtis  
Bradley Elvidge  
Evie Sugdon  
Harry Dixon  
Lily Hardman  
Jenson Blakey  
Ava Curley  
Alyscia Leach  
Sam Cai  
Brenton McKie  
Lola Roberts



## 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: Jaydon Botha

Year 11: Harry Cuthbert



## Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT  
THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM

I want to begin this week by offering my warmest congratulations to our Year 13 students, who completed their mock exams last week. This was a major milestone in their educational journey—13 years of schooling coming to this pivotal point. As the results begin to arrive, they offer a crucial snapshot of where each student stands on their path toward their A-levels. These exams are not just assessments; they are a vital moment of reflection, guiding them towards their final summer exams. Their attitude throughout the mocks has been impressive, and as results come through, I want to encourage each student to approach this as a learning opportunity.

So, what should Year 13 do with these results and their exam papers? First, once results come back, I urge students to **sit down with their subject teachers** to carefully review each paper. **Identify where mistakes were made**—whether in exam technique, time management, or content knowledge. Use those insights to **target revision**—create personalised plans, focus on weaker areas, and practice exam-style questions. Also, don't be afraid to **ask for extra help**—teachers are there to support, and these discussions can make a real difference in fine-tuning knowledge. **Keep a positive mindset**—these mocks are not final; they are stepping stones toward success.

Alongside Year 13, I also want to highlight the fantastic progress of our Year 12 students. They have been continuing their PSHE program, known as the Journey of Life. Just before half-term, I conducted an audit of this programme, and I was incredibly pleased with the attitude and effort that I saw. This time in Year 12 is really a moment for consolidating knowledge, deepening learning, and ensuring excellent attendance. It is a crucial time when the foundations for their own final year are laid. Before they know it, Year 12 will be taking their end-of-year exams, and with the right focus now, they'll be ready. And let's not forget—Year 12 will also be embarking on work experience soon, a wonderful chance to develop real-world skills before stepping into Year 13.

So, to both Year 13 and Year 12, keep your focus, remain resilient, and remember that every step you take now brings you closer to your goals. I am incredibly proud of all of you, and I look forward to seeing how far you'll go in these next few months.

Mr Chapman | Head of Sixth Form





# SAFEGUARDING



*Mr Rogers writes:*

This week we are pleased to promote upcoming workshops for parents and carers run by the East Riding Mental Health Support Team. The team invite you to their upcoming online workshops for parents and carers titled:

## ROUTINES & RHYTHMS

This session covers a greater understanding of why boundaries, routines and sleep support children's emotional and behavioural development and how to effectively use boundary setting and routines to support children's development.

**Date:** 16th March

**Time:** 1-3 pm

**Location:** Online (link to register is below)

**Get your tickets here:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/routines-rhythms-a-parentcarer-workshop-tickets-1981332156817?aff=oddtcreator>

## BEHAVIOUR AS A FORM OF COMMUNICATION

This insightful session will explore how children's behaviour can reflect underlying needs, emotions, and communication styles. It's designed to support families in understanding and responding to behaviour in a constructive and empathetic way.

**Date:** 23rd March 2026

**Time:** 1-3pm

**Location:** Beverley Children's Centre

**Join here:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1967567651812?aff=oddtcreator>



## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD'S ANXIETY.

This session will explore what anxiety can look like in children, understanding anxiety and strategies to support your child.

**Date:** 18th May 2026

**Time:** 1pm–3pm

**Location:** Beverley Children's Centre

**Reserve your place:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1967589621524?aff=oddtcreator>

## ROUTINES, RHYTHMS & SLEEP

Do you ever feel like bedtime, mornings, or setting boundaries can be a challenge? You're not alone. Join our MHST team for a friendly workshop exploring:

- » Why routines and boundaries matter
- » How sleep supports children's emotional wellbeing
- » Practical ideas you can use at home

**Date:** 18th June 2026

**Time:** 4:30pm-6:30pm

**Location:** Beverley Children's Centre

**Book your place:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1967583050871?aff=oddtcreator>

## BEHAVIOUR AS A FORM OF COMMUNICATION

This insightful session will explore how children's behaviour can reflect underlying needs, emotions, and communication styles. It's designed to support families in understanding and responding to behaviour in a constructive and empathetic way.

**Date:** 6th July 2026

**Time:** 1-3pm

**Location:** Beverley Children's Centre

**Join here:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1967571821283?aff=oddtcreator>

**The team look forward to welcoming you.**



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

Peace Aladesanmi 7FCO

Luke Anderson 8GRU

William Battye 8ESH

Orlaith Brown 12JHR

Leo Caley 9EFO

Finley Charlton 8JPO

Sophie Clayton 9NFO

Caleb Faulkner 8EIN

Rosie Fitton 9EFO

Joshua Hall 9EFO

Spencer Johnson 10GTA

Stan Kerridge 11ASC

Alisa McKay 8JDY

Annabel Naylor 8JDY

Penny Noyes 8EIN

Leo Pardoe 7JHL

Darcie Polson 11RLO

Callum Rippingale 8JPO

Max van den Ban 9EFO

Evie Williamson 7ARU

Freddie Wood 8EIN



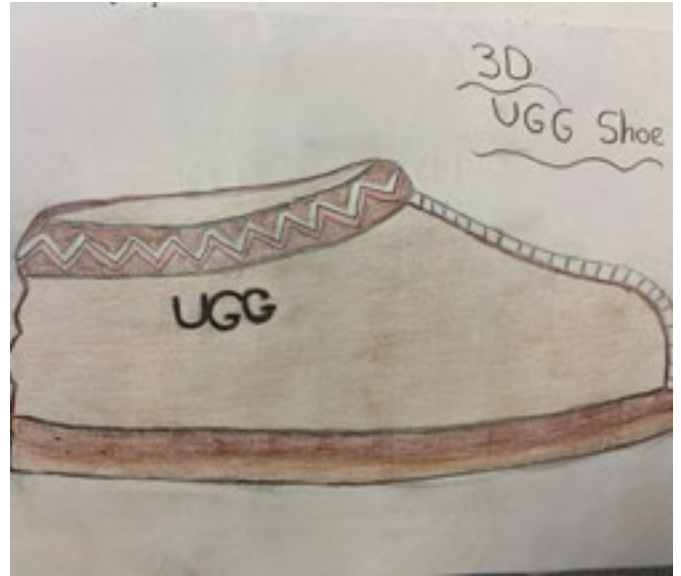


# IN FOCUS

# ART

This week we feature observed shoe drawings by pupils in Years 8 and 9.







## Cyclists Raise Funds for Rob Burrow MND Centre

**A team of cyclists including former Longcroft pupil Pat Howdle completed an incredible test of endurance on Sunday, raising vital funds to support the Rob Burrow Centre for MND which provides specialist care and support for those living with Motor Neurone Disease.**



The ride, billed as '100 Laps for Rob' in memory of rugby league legend Rob Burrow who was diagnosed with MND and died in 2024, saw the eight core cyclists cover 250 miles – the equivalent of riding from Hull to Edinburgh. The team, which also included former professional rugby league player Matt Schultz, started their challenge at 4:00am and finished, having ridden non-stop around a two-and-a-half-mile loop around Molescroft, shortly before 11.00pm.

Pat, who started his years as a Longcroft pupil in 1974, was a corporal in the Royal Engineers when he was selected to be a part of the Great Britain team at the 1984 Sarajevo Winter Olympics. Competing in the biathlon as part of the 4x7.5km relay team, he took the second leg and helped his team finish 12th of 17 nations. Pat also represented his country in World Championships, and is well known in local sporting circles.

A number of former Hull FC players, many of whom played alongside Matt, supported the team by joining them for part of the event. Former Longcroft pupil Richard Wilson, who played professionally for Hull C, Hull KR and York, cycled a fantastic 102 miles. Richard, who left Longcroft in 1991, said: "I enjoyed it. The lads have a mammoth job to do 250 miles."

Mr Cassidy, who played alongside both Richard and Matt for Hull FC, joined the challenge on Sunday morning. He said: "It was tough going, but the ex-players wanted to support the team and it was for a fantastic cause."

Our pictures show Mr Cassidy and Richard Wilson pictured with Matt Schultz, while a special trip down Memory Lane takes us back to the 1970s and features a young Pat Howdle with his tutor group.



The challenge has so far raised more than £11,000, exceeding the riders' original target of 9,200.

Anyone who would like to contribute can do so via this link:

[https://www.justgiving.com/team/100lapsforrob?fbclid=IwY2xjawQUIndleHRuA2FibQ1xMABicmIkETF2V3ZsMVN-jd21GTUw1TjY0c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHqO6IkHG1MEIPuxf4IN3sVYQuBPq5FTwtumL-5WoZh5nl-T6H3740B5noqRGt\\_aem\\_qKd5qTO\\_rWfykin5aGUXng](https://www.justgiving.com/team/100lapsforrob?fbclid=IwY2xjawQUIndleHRuA2FibQ1xMABicmIkETF2V3ZsMVN-jd21GTUw1TjY0c3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHqO6IkHG1MEIPuxf4IN3sVYQuBPq5FTwtumL-5WoZh5nl-T6H3740B5noqRGt_aem_qKd5qTO_rWfykin5aGUXng)



## 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.

Each week we have published the names of the ten pupils who have earned the most points. This week, Ms Shepherd will be rewarding those pupils who have earned the most points during 2025. Ms Shepherd said, "Languagenut is proving extremely popular and is making a difference to pupils' ability and confidence in their French and Spanish.

## Congratulations to this week's top scoring Nutter – Pola Czerwony!

**Pola Czerwony** – 14,800

**Sam Cai** – 11,200

**Harrison Williams** – 10,200

**Muireann Kennedy** – 9,000

**Devon Bryans** – 8,800

**Ritaj Al Shaqran** – 8,200

**Lily Hardman** – 7,400

**Lola Appleby** – 7,200

**James Myers** – 7,000

**Madison Grimshaw** – 6,600





## 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 this week are:

**Isabelle Cunningham** – 4,514XP

**Oscar Dale** – 4,486XP

**Calla Stannard** – 4,339XP

**Elliott Pierce** – 4,203XP

**Caleb Carrison** – 3,584XP

**Mason Bennett** – 3,324XP

**Effi Baldwin** – 3,156XP

**Keira Lamb** – 3,125XP

**Lily Curtis** – 2,935XP

**Benjamin Smedley** – 2,925XP



# Memory Lane

This week we return to 1984 and feature tutor groups pictured with Miss Middleton and Mr Heathershaw.





# The Friends' Corner



Congratulations to the parents of Brenton McKie, who won the FOLS cash draw in February.

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

Charity Reg No. 515674

It only costs £12 to enter for the year, but each month you can win £15. Entries can be purchased via ParentPay.

During the School Production on the 12th March, the FOLS will be selling refreshments before the event and during the interval. If you are attending the event, please come and see us on the stall. Even if you just buy a cup of tea, it all helps raise money for the school - every penny counts.

We'd like to hold a raffle at this event, so if you have any unwanted Christmas gifts or having a clear out of all your left over Christmas chocolates, please consider donating them to the FOLS. Just leave your donation at the school Reception.

## Our next fundraising event



Takes place on **Saturday 7th March**, where we will be carrying out a bucket collection at Tesco in Beverley.

We are raising money for sports equipment, so if you are shopping in Tesco or just passing through on Saturday, please donate any loose change you may have - we'll even have a card reader if you want to donate but don't have any change.



## LIBRARY NEWS



*Ms Carvill writes:*

## The First Story 100 Word Story Competition Results

Thank you to everyone who entered the 100 Word Story Competition 2026. It's always a thrill to read the stories our pupils and students write for this competition; especially when we see the thought and effort that has gone into creating them. It's not an easy task, but for those who succeed it is very rewarding.

As usual the three inhouse winners of the competition will have their stories forwarded to the national competition. A huge thank you to Maureen Lennon, our First Story writer in residence, for selecting three winning stories and four runners up. Well done to all our budding writers and keep writing! Prizes will be handed out this week.

## Winning Entries TRAVELS OF THE SUN BY ORLAITH BROWN

Grazing already buffed soles of shoes, blades of grass speckled with blooming moons and suns orbit my natural athletics track. Your epitaph meets my memories. Dirt softens the blow. Bass blares out my headphones, 'noise cancelling' to none but me. None but me know of this track. This track knows of none but me. My offering swings across my back against each stride, its straps are too loose. My pilgrimage shall be made. The opening of a tree line and softening of rubble signify near completion of my journey, my offering of suns and moons hope to satisfy your rest.

“

I just knew there were stories  
I wanted to tell.”

—Octavia E. Butler





## THE HUB OF LIFE BY OSCAR PURCHON

Cacophonous cicadas sent shockwaves through the forest, extracting all the soothing colours into an idyllic melody. Green ropes entangled around flaking barks, a canopy formed by the dense, verdant wonders.

Sweet scents drifted from this oasis of life, soothing all fears and injecting hope. These were the days where joy hung in the air, where everyone lived not in fear but curiosity.

“That’s what it used to be like,” finished the Elder, a solemn look plastered on his face amidst the barren, rocky wasteland.

“We used to long to go back. How naïve we were, refusing to accept our fate.”



## THE BITTERSWEET BALLAD BY BETH DAWSON

The worn tips of passionate fingers glide across my ivory keys. I bask in the glorious sunlight that floods the room as she creates a harmony, my chords intertwining with her soul. She lets the music spill out of her and a carefree melody escapes my body and floats into the atmosphere. I feel like I’m in a never-ending dream and I don’t want to wake up. Ever.

But I do. I snap back into reality as I’m slowly suffocated under the mass of dust that envelops my soul. If only I’d known that that would be the last time.

## Runners up THE CASE OF THE CRUSHED CHIP BY BEN CLARKE

In the dead of night darkness lurks, waiting to strike. Bobby the Chip lies, crushed monstrously in his sleep. All of the chips awake to the sight of poor Bobby’s crushed crumbs.

His heartbroken mum calls Ollie - super cool crime busting cat - begging him to solve the mystery. “Justice for Bobby” the other chips cry.

Ollie busts through the door with a single scratch of his claws. He starts by licking up each of Bobby’s crumbs, then he headbutts all of the furniture, examining everything

Bowls of milk later he announces to the chips: “The murderer is .....



## THE SANDMAN

BY ISABELLE CUNNINGHAM

It was dull and bitter; the trees shivered. Inside, a devious girl, Ren, was reading in her bed even though her parents had told her not to. "The Sandman will curse you, by taking your eyes out and feeding them to his children on the moon."

Ren didn't care. She thought they were just trying to scare her; so she read all night without any concern whatsoever. Thirty minutes later she was unconscious, but suddenly she felt she'd woken up, but hadn't. Her head was throbbing. She tried to stand but stumbled. She rubbed her eyes. Excruciating pain. They'd gone.

## AN EMPTY BOOKSHELF FULL OF STORIES

BY HOLLY ARTLEY TOLSON

I'm sure there is still some curiosity outside, but all I see is darkness. All I hear now is the never-ending sound of silence gradually driving me insane.

All of a sudden, I don't feel so alone anymore, a rock smashes through a window next to me. Glass scatters. My hope rises. Someone is coming. Maybe someone to read by my side once more.

But, through the window men come with their guns and armour; my ancient, precious books are ripped and destroyed.

The loneliness encircles me even greater than before. I was wrong, there is no curiosity left anywhere.

## LOSS HAS NO LIMIT

BY ELIAS CHAPMAN

Nighttime awaits, just past dinner. Piano silent, breath gets thinner. "Just get a tutor" they all said. "You're horrendous, just go to bed." Crying in my room with music sheets in my hand. Friends have got a guitar; starting a band. Silence in the night with a dull slow pain. Outside's gloomy with a forecast of rain. Why am I awful? Life's so not fair. Smell of fire smoke in the air. Smoke alarm blaring, strobe lights flash. Photo frame of me, burned to ash. My house is gone, just in six hours. I'm only a fool, lacking any powers.



"Writing is the only thing that, when I do it, I don't feel I should be doing something else."

—Gloria Steinem



## East Riding SpringFest Is Here!

As the sun shines and spring arrives there's never been a better time to get out and about and enjoy some culture. East Riding Libraries' Springfest, part of the larger Festival of Words programme, celebrates both local and northern voices. It runs until Sunday March 8th with events in Beverley, Bridlington, Pocklington and Willerby and promises to provide lots of entertainment.

Listings include creative writing workshops specialising in horror, an introduction to pocket-sized novellas and their eerie incidents, author talks with some very spooky narratives, papercraft workshops specialising in pop-up books, D & D campaigns, and conversations about cosy crime.

Tickets are on sale now and range from £3 - £6. Unless otherwise specified, all events require pre-booking.

For more information, to see the full programme of events and to purchase tickets, please visit: [www.eryc.link/SpringFest26](http://www.eryc.link/SpringFest26)



**Tom Davies**  
Tennis School  
 MULTI-SPORTS &  
FOOTBALL INTENSIVE  
 AGES 5 - 14  
 BEVERLEY TOWN CRICKET CLUB - NORWOOD  
**30 MARCH - 2 APRIL**  
**7 APRIL - 10 APRIL**  
 10AM - 3PM  
 £20 A DAY OR £70 A WEEK - £120 FOR BOTH WEEKS  
 WRAP AROUND CARE AVAILABLE FROM 9.30 & TO 3.30 - £5 PER SESSION  
 NORTON SPORTS & TOM DAVIES TENNIS SCHOOL  
**EASTER SPORTS CAMP**

NORTONSPORTSCAMP.COM  
 Beverley  
 MR NORTON'S SPORTS CAMP  
 Beverley Tennis Club



Humber Teaching  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Routines & Rhythms

## Online Parent/Carer Workshop

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 1 – 3 pm

This workshop covers:

The importance of routines, boundaries and sleep to support children's social, emotional and mental health.

Aims and objectives:

Build a greater understanding of why boundaries, routines and sleep support children's emotional and behavioural development and how to effectively use boundary setting and routines to support children's development.

[Book your slot via this EventBrite QR Code:](#)



East Riding: [hnf-tr.eymhst@nhs.net](mailto:hnf-tr.eymhst@nhs.net)



@My MHST



@mymhst



## 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)