



# LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

## NEWS LETTER



"It was good to meet the Mayor. She's got an important role in Beverley."

### Pupils Meet Beverley's Mayor!

Pupils enjoyed a special assembly last week delivered by Councillor Healy, the Mayor of Beverley. Councillor Healy spoke about the importance of local politics and how decisions made within the community can have a direct impact on our daily lives. Councillor Healy also shared insights into the history and responsibilities of the mayoral role, highlighting the significance of this long-standing civic position in Beverley and some former Longcroft students who have held the honour.

### Contents

Headteacher's Welcome

Page 3

Lower School

Page 5

Upper School

Page 9

Sixth Form

Page 13

Mr Rogers writes:

Page 15

In Focus: Careers Education

Page 17

Memory Lane

Page 25

Library News

Page 27



Year 8 pupil Nancy said, "It felt important to wear the Mayor's chain. She made things easy to understand, and she had a good sense of humour. I enjoyed meeting her."

Harriet added, "The Mayor was interesting. I learned there have been mayors for over 400 years."

Mr Rogers explained, "Councillor Healy's visit offered pupils a valuable opportunity to learn more about how local government works and to understand the ways in which they, as young citizens, can begin to engage with and contribute to their community. The assembly was both informative and inspiring, giving pupils a deeper appreciation of the traditions and democratic processes that help shape the town they live in."

Thank you to Councillor Healy for taking the time to visit. As Harry said, "It was good to meet the Mayor. She was kind, and she let me wear her hat. She's got an important role in Beverley." Harry added, "I'd like to be Mayor one day. If I was, I'd get the council to make a bike park in Beverley - like Dalby Forest but on the Westwood with jumps and trails."





# Headteacher's Welcome

**Welcome to the final Newsletter of the Spring Term. As you will see from this week's articles and our recent social media posts, it has been a busy time at Longcroft and it doesn't stop for the Easter break with a comprehensive revision programme in place for those who will shortly be sitting examinations.**

It is great to see that the majority of our pupils in exam cohorts are already signed up to take advantage of the support available from their teachers over the holidays. These sessions provide structured, purposeful and targeted revision with subject specialists who are best placed to respond to questions and offer informed and precise direction. Please do encourage your children to get involved if they haven't yet completed the on-line form that was shared via Arbor to book their attendance. Being in a well-resourced environment, free from temptation or distraction is a great way to maintain focus and be efficient in the revision process over these critical two weeks for exam preparation.

There has been more to celebrate and enjoy this week, with our swimming team becoming East Riding Champions alongside many great performances from our sports teams as they progress in several competitions. There has also been some exceptional class and project work around the curriculum, not least with GCSE and A-Level controlled assessments being finalised in many subjects. We have also had a brilliant chess competition, a number of targeted careers experiences for pupils seeking to explore routes in to specific sectors, our Duke of Edinburgh preparations continuing and Beth in Year 9 has won a place at the prestigious Arvon Young Writer's residential at Lumb Bank in the summer holidays after being selected against children from across the country!

Our sports leaders have again been in action, facilitating a cricket festival for Key Stage 1 pupils in the region alongside a team from Yorkshire Cricket. As always, our impressive leaders did themselves and the school proud. The young children they worked with throughout the event embraced every moment, despite tiring slightly towards the end of the morning - it was a lot of running around for some very little legs!

On Thursday evening, we enjoyed the brilliant school production of 'The Adam's Family' and our amazing pupils and students did not disappoint. With an array of talent on display it is no wonder we have already received so many kind messages of recognition and support. Our FOLS were on hand to serve refreshments which were very well received and a huge thank you to all involved in making the event possible.

This week we have had the latest national attendance reports published from the Department for Education which rank Longcroft again as the most well attended secondary school in the region and above all similar schools nationally for the second year running. We have also received a report following our annual commissioned safeguarding review from a respected and experienced HMI (His Majesty's Inspector (Ofsted)). The feedback is overwhelmingly positive and describes our practice as worthy of national recognition and of a standard that other schools would benefit from us sharing. It celebrates how safe and secure our children feel and the culture that exists within the community.



Our 'attendance challenge' has been an end of term focus for the school and what a great reaction we've enjoyed. So many of our young people received their 'Fire Streak Vouchers' today and made their way to our rewards station for their Easter Egg treats as they left school. There were some excellent outfits on display as staff got well in to the spirit of the occasion and lots of fun was had by all.

I could not be more proud of our school and children and at a time when we have been forced to face some very challenging realities as a community. Clearly this term has presented us with a situation regarding our sixth form position that has been incredibly difficult for those most directly affected. We continue to explore all possible options and have been working with children to ensure there is a plan in place should a temporary pause in Year 12 recruitment be implemented, however I remind you that phase one of the consultation remains live and all responses are much appreciated.

I wish you all a restful Easter and whilst we will be seeing lots of Year 11 and 13, I look forward to welcoming all of our pupils and students back to school in two weeks time for the busy and exciting summer term.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter.

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**

**118,875**

**THOUGHT**

**288,560**

**VISION**

**328,256**

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

**736,691**





## LOWER SCHOOL



*Mr Worthington writes:*

## Rugby Team in Cup Victory!

**Congratulations to our Year 7 rugby team who enjoyed a convincing 28-6 victory over Hornsea in the East Riding Cup.**

Mr Cassidy explained, "It was a tremendous team performance with some impressive individual displays. Front-rowers Bobby and Elliott were a tower of strength going forward. Freddie was outstanding in his new role at hooker, scoring two tries. Scrum half Henry B was the player of the match – outstanding in attack and defence and scoring two tries and two goals. He was closely followed by Henry G-H who scored a great individual try right on half-time. Louis scored the team's other try."

Well done to everyone involved, and best wishes for the next round!

## Eibhlin's Incredible Art!

I was hugely impressed by Year 7 pupil Eibhlin's incredible artwork which was celebrated earlier this week via our Facebook and Instagram pages. Her work, all of which was completed independently beyond her Art lessons, is also pictured here. Well done Eibhlin!





## Megan takes on the country's best!

Congratulations to Year 9 pupil Megan who competed in the English Schools Cross Country Championships on Saturday 14th March at Sefton Park in Liverpool. Megan finished 278th out of 349 competitors covering the 3.10km distance in 12:58. She said, "I liked the course although it was a tough race. I was pleased with my performance. Now I'm looking forward to the summer season when I'll be competing in 800m and 1,500m events."

Megan qualified to represent her county and we are proud that once again a Longcroft pupil has competed in this prestigious event. We're looking forward to reporting on her achievements both this summer and beyond!





## Primary School Visits Continue

This week I had the pleasure of visiting the Year 4 pupils at Willerby Carr Lane Primary School to explore one of my favourite topics: how we generate electricity and the exciting careers linked to this growing industry. The children were brilliantly curious, full of thoughtful questions, and eager to share their own ideas about how we power our homes, schools and gadgets.

We began by looking at the different ways that electricity can be generated, from burning fuels to using natural sources like wind, water and sunlight. The pupils were especially interested in how local companies play a major role in the UK's energy industry. We talked about Siemens in Hull, where skilled workers help build huge offshore wind turbine blades, and Drax Power Station, one of the biggest employers in our region, which is leading innovative work in renewable energy and carbon capture. The children were fascinated to learn about the wide range of jobs in this sector, from engineers and technicians to designers, researchers and environmental specialists, and how the clean energy workforce is continuing to grow.

The highlight of the session was the hands-on experiment the Year 4 pupils were carrying out with solar panels. Working in teams, they tested how different amounts of light affect how much electricity a solar panel can generate. By gradually covering parts of the panel and measuring the results, the pupils were able to investigate how shadows, weather and positioning all influence energy production. It was wonderful to see them making predictions, testing ideas and discussing the science behind renewable power.

Willerby Carr Lane's Year 4 pupils showed impressive enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the morning, and it was a privilege to spend time with them. Their curiosity about how the world works and how they might help shape its future was inspiring.

**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

Seth Grainger  
April Luker  
Barnaby Bridson  
Oliver Bennett  
Rafe Atkinson  
Rupert Atkinson  
Chloe-Rose Bishop  
Jude Doherty  
Alice Scott  
Molly-Belle Bloom

### Year 8

Lottie Johnston  
Poppy Ellis  
Ryan Carter-Rigg  
Sam Logan  
Freya Leaf  
Evie Cunningham  
Annabel Naylor  
Holly Artley Tolson  
Florence Crabtree  
Amelia Vickers

### Year 9

Oscar Purchon  
Beth Dawson  
Sam Cowell  
Frankie Gray  
Olivia Chilcott  
Owen Harper  
Macie Bullamore  
Sophie Clayton  
Henry Coates  
Amalie Wade

## 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: Henry Bartram

Year 8: Isla Garth

Year 9: Ella Page



## UPPER SCHOOL



**Firstly, congratulations to Year 10 pupils Bradley and James who ran a 10K on Saturday to support their friend who lost his mum to breast cancer. It was the first 10K the boys have done and they finished together. This is a fantastic effort – we're proud of them both for supporting an extremely worthy cause.**

Congratulations to our Year 11 Star of the Week! Each week, a pupil will be selected who has shown tremendous progress in Year 11 – this could be academically or based on any aspect of our values of Great Heart, Thought or Vision.

This week Mr Thomson chose Emma Croshaw, who will receive a discount on her Prom ticket!

Congratulations to Emma! Mr Thomson said: "Emma is working incredibly hard and completing revision tasks and homework to an outstanding standard. She has been polite to staff and other pupils, and is receiving lots of positive comments each week."





## EASTER REVISION

Following pupils' outstanding attendance at revision sessions during February's half-term holiday we are very much looking forward to welcoming Year 11 into school over Easter. Revision sessions with experienced staff can allow a change in focus and technique as well providing a change of scenery. Sessions are below:

	AM	Room	Staff	PM	Room	Staff
<b>Monday 30th March</b>	GCSE Design Technology	30	JDY	GCSE Design Technology	30	JDY
	GCSE Food NEA	A7	SGE	GCSE Food NEA	A7	SGE
	Final Catch up			Final Catch up		
	GCSE Art	26	JHL	GCSE Art	26	JHL
	GCSE Physics	A6	AWO			
<b>Tuesday 31st March</b>	GCSE Design Technology	30	JDY	GCSE Design Technology	30	JDY
	GCSE PE – Paper 2	A5	SJU			
<b>Wednesday 1st April</b>	GCSE Spanish Foundation Tier	A2	ESH	GCSE Spanish Higher Tier	A2	ESH
	GCSE PE – Paper 1	A5	JCS			
<b>Thursday 2nd April</b>	GCSE Computing	22	EIN			
<b>Tuesday 7th April</b>	GCSE Geography	A6	LHH			
<b>Wednesday 8th April</b>	GCSE Music/Drama	64	JHR	English Language (both papers)	5/ Theatre	NST
<b>Thursday 9th April</b>	GCSE Maths – Higher Tier	18	RLO	GCSE Maths – Foundation Tier	18	RLO

## YEAR 10 STEOS TO SUCCESS AND PARENTS' CONSULTATION EVENINGS

We have some important evenings for Year 10 families coming up after the Easter break.

The summer term is hugely significant for Year 10 with important end of year mock exams providing the first taste of GCSE formal assessment and of course work experience not far away.

We can't wait to see everyone at our Steps to Success Evening which will set out how parents/carers can support pupils through these formative experiences and provide information about what to expect.

The following week will see our Parents' Consultation Evening on 29th April.

We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at this invaluable opportunity to discuss pupils' progress.

**Tom Davies**  
Tennis School

**NORTONSPORTSCAMP.COM**

**BEVERLEY**  
TOWN CRICKET CLUB

**OUR NORTON'S SPORTS CAMP**

**MULTI-SPORTS & FOOTBALL INTENSIVE**

AGES 9 - 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 AM TO 3.30 PM - £5 PER SESSION

**NORTON SPORTS & TOM DAVIES TENNIS SCHOOL**

**EASTER SPORTS CAMP**



*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

Scarlett Wood  
 Lewis Henderson  
 Jake Hara  
 Muireann Kennedy  
 Isla Addinall  
 James Shiels  
 Neve Meagher  
 Brenton McKie  
 Jack Ayre  
 Alysicia Leach



## 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.

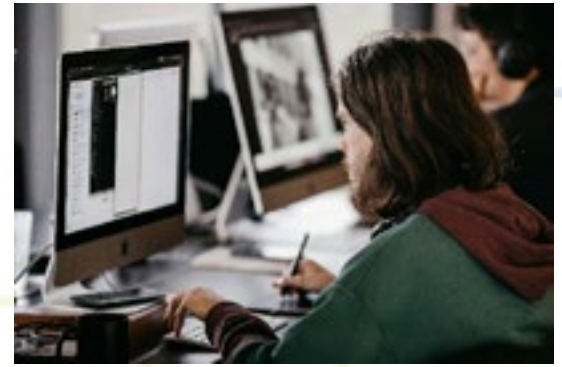
### Last week's winner was:

Year 10: Livvi Amphlett

## **CAREER OF THE WEEK: Software Tester**

### **What does a software tester do?**

A software tester checks computer programmes, apps, and websites to make sure they work correctly. They look for bugs, glitches, or anything that could cause problems for users. Testers run different tests, write reports on issues, and work closely with developers to fix them. Their goal is to make software reliable, user-friendly, and safe. Testing can be manual, where you explore the software yourself, or automated, using special testing tools to check for issues automatically.



If you enjoy problem-solving, attention to detail, and making sure things work as they should, a career as a software tester could be perfect for you.

### **What can I expect to earn as a software tester?**

Salaries can vary depending on experience and location. Entry-level testers can expect around £22,000–£28,000 per year, while experienced testers can earn £35,000–£50,000 or more. Test automation specialists and senior testers may earn even higher, sometimes exceeding £60,000. Freelance or contract testers may also have flexible rates depending on the project.

### **What subjects should I study to become a software tester?**

To become a software tester, studying computing, software development, or IT is a great start. Maths, logic, and problem-solving skills are also really useful, as are good attention to detail and strong communication skills.

In addition to academic qualifications, many software testers also take professional courses in software testing or learn programming languages like Python, Java, or SQL, which can help with automated testing.

### **How can I start my career as a software tester?**

To become a software tester, you can follow several routes. Start with GCSEs in Computer Science, Maths, or IT, then choose A-levels, a BTEC, or a T-level in a relevant course, such as computing. Apprenticeships let you earn while you learn, and higher or degree apprenticeships combine work with study. Degrees in Computer Science or IT are useful for advanced roles. Online courses and ISTQB certification also boost skills.

Curiosity, attention to detail, and practical experience are key for a successful career in software testing.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a software tester, 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 software tester:**

National Careers Service, Test Lead <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/test-lead>

Prospects, Software Tester <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/software-tester>

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



You can find us at



[www.skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk)



### Mr Chapman writes:

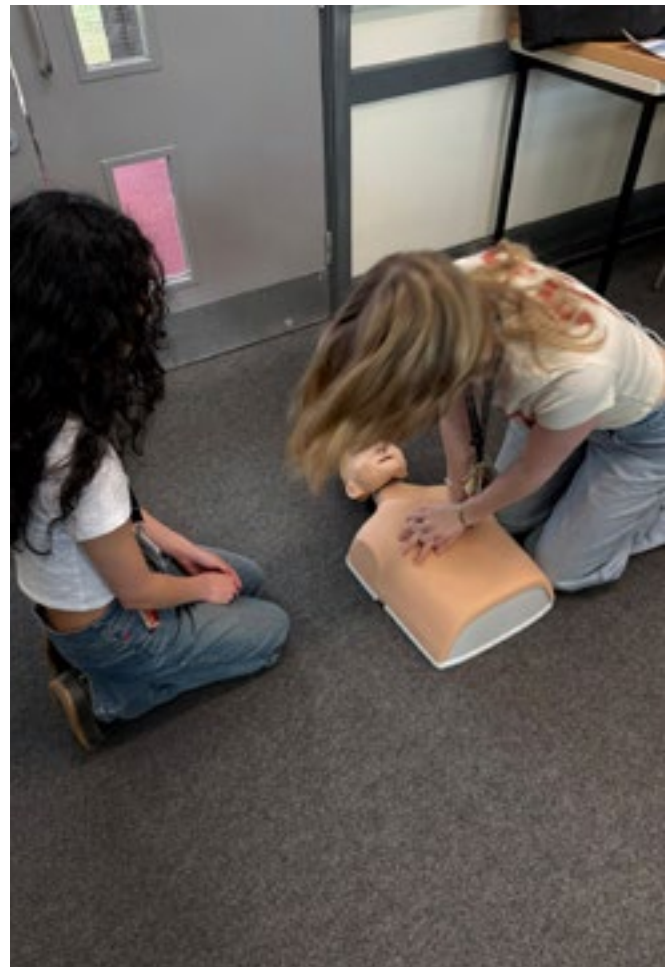


LONGCROFT  
THE EAST YORKSHIRE  
SIXTH FORM

**To our fantastic students...I would like to begin by saying a huge well done to every one of you for your hard work and commitment this half term. It has been a busy and productive period, and you should all take pride in the effort you have shown across your studies.**

We break up this Friday for the Easter holidays, and I hope that the next two weeks provide you with a well-earned opportunity to rest and recharge. Taking time to step away from your studies is important. Make sure you get some fresh air, spend time with family and friends, and build in opportunities to relax. At the same time, a balanced approach is key—particularly for those with important milestones approaching.

For Year 13, this is a crucial stage. After the Easter break, you will be into single-figure weeks before your A-level examinations begin. The holiday period should therefore be used wisely. I would strongly encourage you to create a simple, realistic plan that allows for a mixture of revision, rest, and recreation. Short, focused revision sessions are far more effective than long, unfocused ones. Alongside this, maintaining good routines—sleep, exercise, and time away from screens—will support both your wellbeing and your academic performance.





You have recently received your final Progress Updates, and these provide valuable insight into your current position. Use this information carefully. Identify areas of strength, but more importantly, recognise where improvements can still be made. Many of your courses have now reached the end of content delivery, meaning that the coming weeks will be centred on revision and consolidation. These lessons are incredibly important, and full attendance is imperative. There is still significant progress to be made, even in a short space of time, and marginal gains can make a real difference when it comes to final outcomes.

As you prepare, focus on the elements you can control. Make sure you understand the structure of each exam paper, including the timing of questions and the expectations of different sections. Be confident in your knowledge of key topics and practise applying that knowledge under timed conditions. Developing familiarity with exam technique can be just as important as revising content.

I would also like to highlight the importance of your NEA (coursework). The deadline is fast approaching, and this represents a valuable opportunity to secure additional marks. You have invested a great deal of time and effort into this work over an extended period, so it is essential that you take the final stages seriously. Attention to detail, careful checking, and making the most of feedback can all contribute to improving your final submission.

Turning to Year 12, there is also much to look ahead to. When you return after Easter, you will have one term remaining in the academic year. This is a shorter term than usual, as your end-of-year examinations will take place in the penultimate week, followed by your work experience in the final week.

My ambition is that every Year 12 student not only approaches their examinations with focus and determination, but also completes a full week of meaningful work experience. This is an extremely valuable opportunity. Work experience allows you to develop key life skills such as communication, organisation, and professionalism. It also provides important insight into potential career pathways and strengthens applications for university, apprenticeships, and future employment.

Over the coming weeks, I encourage you to begin preparing for both elements. Start thinking carefully about revision strategies for your subjects, and ensure that your work experience placement is confirmed and organised. Taking a proactive approach now will make a significant difference later.

As a Sixth Form community, this is an important time of year for both Year 12 and Year 13. There is much to look forward to, but also much to focus on. The Easter break should provide a valuable pause, but it should also be used with purpose.

You'll see some photographs from this week when Year 12 students participated in a "Street First Aid" session - they engaged in this session and benefitted greatly. Taking vital skills with them into later life.

Well done again on everything you have achieved this half term. I wish you all a restful and productive break, and I look forward to seeing you return ready for the final stretch of the year.

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form





# SAFEGUARDING



*Mr Rogers writes:*

## The Importance of Water

This week, our assemblies have focused on World Water Day, which took place on Sunday March 22nd. The assemblies gave pupils the chance to think about something we use every single day but don't always stop to consider—water.

Pupils have been learning about where our water comes from, how it's used around the world, and why it's so important that we don't take it for granted. For many people globally, access to clean water is not guaranteed, and this has helped pupils reflect on how fortunate we are and how we can all play a part in not wasting it.

We've also spent some time talking about something much closer to home—making sure pupils are drinking enough water each day.

It might sound simple, but staying hydrated makes a real difference. Drinking enough water helps pupils stay focused in lessons, keeps their energy levels up, and supports their overall wellbeing. Even being slightly dehydrated can affect concentration, which is why we regularly encourage pupils to bring a water bottle to school and use it throughout the day.

You can support this at home by encouraging your child to drink water regularly and by ensuring they bring a refillable bottle into school each day.

It's been great to see pupils engaging so thoughtfully with this topic, and hopefully it's prompted a few conversations at home too.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



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

Isla Addinall  
Holly Artley Tolson  
Samuel Artley Tolson  
Theo Baldwin  
Barnaby Bridson  
Ben Bryans  
Elsbeth Collin  
Bradley Elvidge

Josh Flockton  
Sofia Frampton  
Owen Harper  
Caleb Harrison  
Jasime Hind  
Muireann Kennedy  
Patrick Marham  
Annabel Naylor

Louie Pay  
Evelyn Pennock  
James Shiels  
Evie Sugdon  
Benjamin Taylor  
Holly Watson





## IN FOCUS

## CAREERS EDUCATION

**A group of Year 9 pupils interested in careers in healthcare visited the Learning and Innovation Centre at Castle Hill Hospital last week. Miss Sinclair and Mrs Cooke, who teaches Health and Social Care, accompanied the pupils. Thank you to Miss Sinclair for this report.**

The pupils were excellent; they were involved in a simulation with Lego to practise their communication skills under challenging conditions.

They then visited a ward to assess the environment, identify hazards, health and safety issues and ethical concerns. The pupils were fantastic at not only finding the problems but vocalising their concerns and challenging the nurses in charge of the ward.



The pupils were then given the job of fixing the ward and making the patients comfortable.

We visited the suture lab with Donna Major to learn about how the lab allows staff to learn about the types of sutures needed for different wounds. Pupils then were challenged to use the laparoscopy boxes to stack cubes of sugar; this task required teamwork and patience.

Finally, we visited the simulation lab with a state-of-the-art mannequin listening to heart rate, breathing, and circulation to access condition. Pupils then attempted to measure their own pulses.





Ruby said, "I really enjoyed the Lego challenge because we got to experience what they do during an interview to test our communication skills."

Jasmine added, "It was a really good experience and we're all going to benefit from it; it will really help us in future."

Beth explained, "My favourite part was working with the mannequins and the technology used to mimic conditions such as injuries and diseases."

Miss Sinclair awarded Ellie the Golden Buzzer for being the only pupil to ever complete the communication activity and ask for the music to be turned down to better complete the task. Mrs Cooke awarded Jasmine the Golden Buzzer for her honest and direct feedback, showcasing her confidence and communication skills.

Mrs Cook concluded, "It was wonderful for the pupils to experience what a ward looks and feels like, and be able to use their critical thinking skills to assess hazards and remedy these issues."





## 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 publish the names of the ten pupils who have earned the most points. 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 – Seth Donnelly!

**Seth Donnelly** – 115,400

**Alfie O'Neill** – 72,400

**Evelyn Pennock** – 68,800

**Edward O'Neill** – 60,700

**Rosie Shiels** – 48,600

**Holly Artley Tolson** – 48,200

**Alice Scott** – 39,100

**Oscar Purchon** – 38,400

**Charlee Taylor** – 33,100

**Riley Coates** – 28,200





## 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!"

**This week we are celebrating and congratulating our highest scoring Year 11 pupils for their work this term!**

**Congratulations to our fantastic Year 11 pupils and top scorer Benjamin Smedley!**

**Benjamin Smedley** – 16,641XP

**Emily Moon** – 13,056XP

**Ben Carlyle-Smith** – 16,465XP

**Ellie Eaton** – 12,430XP

**Gracie Pawson** – 16,065XP

**Aden Olivier** – 11,810XP

**Lexi Burke** – 16,028XP

**Charlotte Burnett** – 10,936XP

**Xavier Jenney** – 14,756XP

**Amy Docherty** – 10,920XP

**Jack Allport** – 14,005XP

**Joel Dyason** – 10,701XP

**Evie Woad** – 13,910XP

**Keira Lamb** – 10,562XP

**Kathryne Sowerby** – 13,765XP

**Ellie Fordham** – 10,420XP

**Levi Petherbridge** – 13,580XP

**Ammarah Rehman** – 9,520XP

**Ava Bryce** – 13,077XP

**Harry Cuthbert** – 8,646XP



## Swimmers Excel

**Longcroft's swimming team finished first in the Secondary Schools' East Riding Swimming Gala held at Beverley Leisure Centre on Tuesday.**

Mr Nicholls explained: "There were a number of individual successes in both the heats and finals, contributing to a fantastic overall team win."

Henry, who is in Year 9, said: "I won the 25m breaststroke and 50m front crawl. I compete for Beverley Barracudas, and my favourite events are 50m freestyle and 50m breaststroke. It was good to be part of a team, and I was happy to win."

Max is also in Year 9 and, like Harry, swims competitively for Beverley Barracudas. He said: "My favourite stroke is breaststroke. On Tuesday I competed in the 25m breaststroke and 25m front crawl." He added: "I've been swimming competitively for about three years. I enjoy the social aspect, and when you see the results of your hard work."

Congratulations to everyone involved in a fantastic performance!



## Becky's Ultra Experience!

**Congratulations to former Longcroft student Becky Briggs on earning a fantastic seventh place in the World 50km Championships in Delhi, India.**

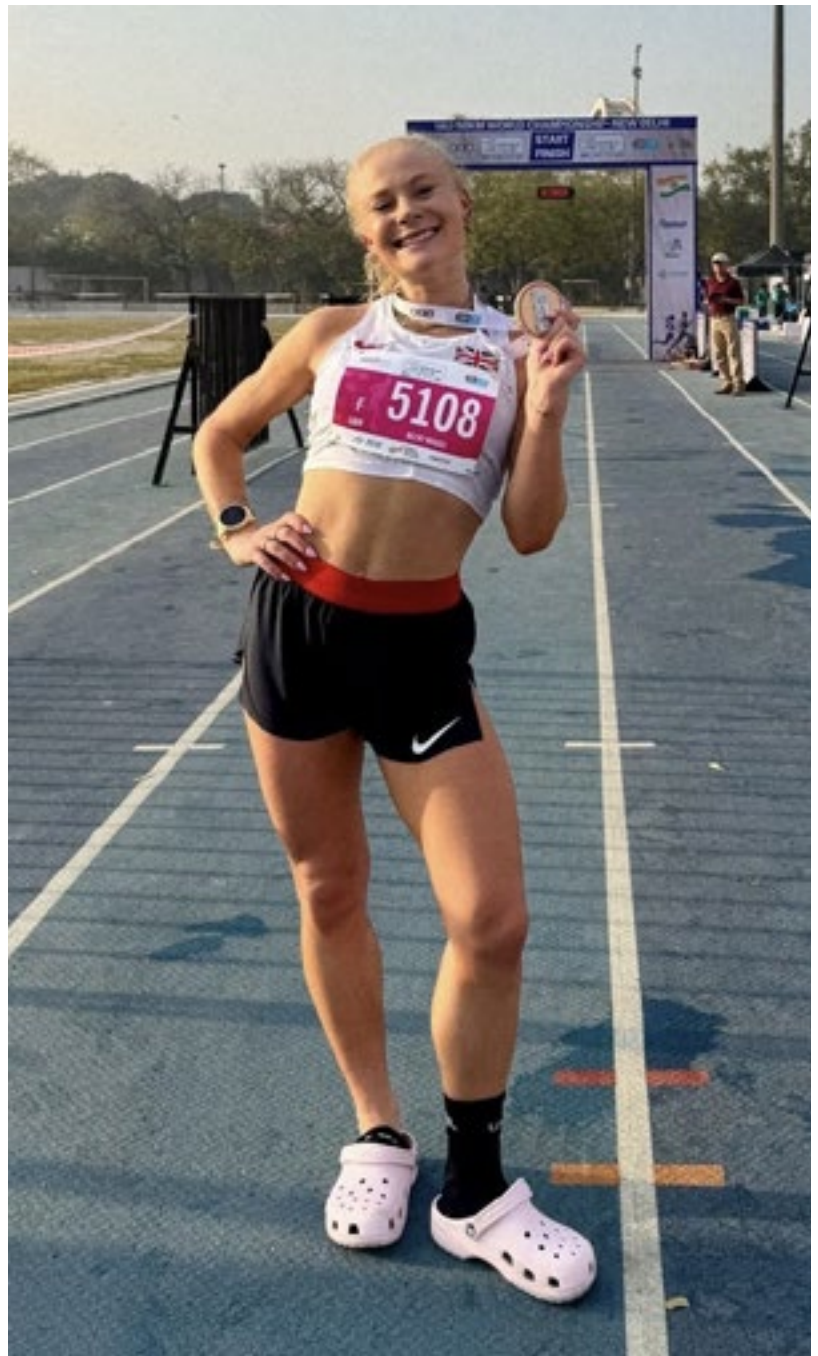
In 2022, at just 22, Becky completed her first major marathon for Great Britain at the European Championships in Munich where she clocked 2:39:02 to finish an impressive 31st. The European U23 Marathon and British U20 Half Marathon record holder, Becky has also represented her country in cross country at 2019's World Championships and earned England international vests over 5km, 10km and cross country.

The team for these Championships was selected with the stated aim of achieving individual and team medal success. In the team event that counted the top three finishers from each country, Team Great Britain were victorious beating second-place Poland. Japan finished in third. Becky earned a gold medal as her country's third-placed finisher.

Becky explained, "It was my first ultra - some of the toughest conditions I've ever raced in. The race started at 4.00am, which meant a 1.30am alarm. None of us slept - with the time difference from the UK it was nearly impossible to get the body clock synced. The 4am start also meant that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the race was in the dark. And I mean dark. A 10-lap course of 5km loops, out and back along a dual carriageway." Becky described the terrifying experience of running alongside barking street dogs, adding, "Then there was the pollution. Each breath had a sharpness to it, and when daylight finally came you could see it hanging in the air like a fog that smelled of burning."

Becky concluded, "An experience I'll hold close for many years...but race conditions I never wish to relive."

**Congratulations to Becky who, while based in London having earned her BSc Sport and Exercise Nutrition at the prestigious St Mary's University, is originally from Leconfield. We look forward to following her progress and celebrating more success in the future!**





## The Longcroft Environment Group

**Friday 13th may be unlucky for some, but for the Longcroft School campus it was a great day – all thanks to the Environment Group. Mrs Fisher and Mr Dixon run the group – thank you to Mrs Fisher for this update.**

Meeting on Friday afternoons, this group have Period 4 and 5's lessons outside of a standard classroom. We use a corner of the school site, next to the new housing project, and enjoy a range of different activities.

On this particular day, we decided that a half hour or so could be spent litter-picking. The builders – Lovell Homes and their landscape company, Groundtech – had volunteered time and effort during the half term break to clear our 'base camp' of broken fencing, wire, old tyres, broken pallets and some particularly vicious nettles. The result was an open space that offers all kinds of opportunities, but we noticed a lot of litter. For our little team of pupils, this was a challenge they were definitely prepared to tackle!

What we thought would be a short task, thinking our pupils would tire of litter picking and want to do something different, turned into an afternoon's mission. The group took up the challenge with energy and ingenuity. Armed with black bin bags, some had pick-up tools, others found straight sticks that they used like chopsticks to collect litter.

Watching pupils find different ways to get litter from the outside of the border fencing to the inside, in order to bag and bin it, amazed us as we accompanied them around the perimeter of the school site. Six black bin bags were filled, the pupils rightly proud of their efforts and achievements. The treats awaiting them back at our base camp were very well deserved.





## Primary Pupils Enhance Core

## Skills at Organised Cricket Session

**Young pupils from three local primary schools came together last week for an exciting Key Stage 1 cricket skills development session, aimed at building confidence and fundamental sporting abilities. Longcroft worked with YCB to run the session.**

The event saw children rotate through eight engaging activity stations, each carefully designed to develop core cricket skills such as accurate throwing, batting, and bowling. The sessions provided a fun and supportive environment, allowing pupils to practise techniques while enjoying friendly, active learning.

"The pupils had a fantastic time and were fully engaged in every activity," a staff member commented. "It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they developed new skills."

A key highlight of the event was the leadership shown by Longcroft pupils, who were responsible for delivering each of the activity stations. Their organisation, encouragement, and ability to work with younger pupils were praised highly by staff and visitors alike. "The Longcroft leaders did an amazing job," the staff member added. "They were excellent role models and helped create a positive and inclusive atmosphere for everyone involved."





# Memory Lane

This week we return to 2002 and feature two Year 7 tutor groups. 7O and 7N are pictured with their Form Tutors Miss Willcocks and Mr Prescott.





## An Invitation to Get Active!

Active Sports will be running free skateboarding sessions over Easter in collaboration with Healthy Holidays Hull - all information can be found below on the sign up form.

<https://forms.gle/Qehaukc5pvPMJyLF9>

As part of the programme Active Sports offer food and drinks refreshments and provide activities as well as enrichment for healthy food and the importance of a balanced diet at the end of the session.

All sessions are for ages 6-16 years. Beginners and experienced participants are welcome, and once signed up your child can attend any session.

More information can also be found via the HHH Website, for each area of the city under the Activities/Events tab:

<https://healthyholidayshull.org>

For any other information please contact Paul Regan:

Email: [Info@active-sports.co.uk](mailto:Info@active-sports.co.uk)

Tel: 07454 785661



## LIBRARY NEWS



*Ms Carvill writes:*

## Eat Chocolate and Read

**For many people Easter is their favourite time of the year, a period of renewal and rebirth; part of the regenerative cycle of life. For Christians it marks Jesus' supernatural resurrection from the dead.**

Easter traditions vary across the world and different cultures. Many have their origins in ancient pagan festivals celebrating the arrival of spring, and have evolved over centuries. The offering of delicious cakes and treats like hot crossed buns, Easter Babka, Paskha, Tsourekis, and Colomba di Pasqua, sweets, and especially chocolate is just one of many customs marking the new season.

Chocolate was revered by ancient civilisations like the Egyptians and the Aztecs, as a divine extravagance, and is associated with fertility and abundance. In the early 19th century, chocolatiers in France and Germany began creating intricate chocolate eggs to celebrate Easter. These eggs were initially solid and quite large, emblematic of the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb. The first hollow chocolate egg is generally credited to JS Fry & Sons, a British manufacturer, who produced a special machine in 1873 which allowed production on a huge scale.

Today chocolate eggs inundate our supermarket shelves and are the most popular of Easter treats. As your children enjoy eating their eggs please remind them that the Easter holidays are also the perfect time to catch up on some reading. Reading, like Easter and Spring, offers renewal through escape, fresh perspectives, and inner growth. Below are a few suggestions with a flavour of chocolate.

Enjoy your Easter holidays!

“Will looked horrified. “What kind of monster could possibly hate chocolate?”  
—Cassandra Clare, *Clockwork Angel*



## Dyslexia Friendly

**Chocolate Moon by Mary Arrigan**

**AR Colour Code - Green**

Gran has Alzheimer's and is living in a home. Chris hates seeing her there, and listening to his parents make silly small talk to her, as if she's a child again. One night after a really bad row with his parents Chris runs away to Ireland with Gran in tow. He wants her to revisit her birth home and rediscover the 'chocolate moon' she keeps talking about.

This dyslexia friendly quick read handles a complex subject with sensitivity.



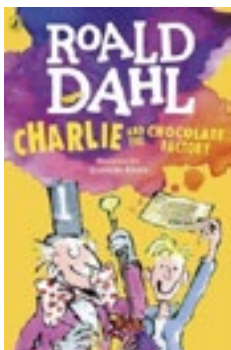
## Year 7

**The Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene**

**AR Colour Code - Blue**

This zany, fun book is great for reluctant readers and has been delighting children for generations. John Midas has a magical gift. Yes, rather like King Midas and his golden touch, everything John touches turns into something else, only this time it's chocolate. Can you ever have too much of a good thing?

First published in 1952 this is a truly enduring classic. Lots of laughter.



## Year 8

**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl**

**AR Colour Code - Blue**

This fabulous classic, packed with colour and imagination, is a great read at any age; especially for KS3 pupils to read aloud to younger siblings. When Charlie wins a golden ticket to visit the eccentric Mr Willy Wonka's chocolate factory it's a dream come true. The factory is packed with mind blowing inventions and a river of heavenly melted chocolate. There's lots in store for Charlie and the other young visitors; including a few important life lessons!

A joy from start to finish. Mischief and mayhem run wild!



## Year 9

**Essential Chocolate Edited by Jane Donovan**

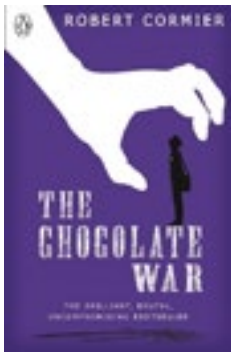
**No AR**

This cookery book is essential reading for chocolate enthusiasts and packed with mouth wateringly delicious ideas. Traditional recipes like Mississippi mud pie share the table with mocha chunk cookies, Florentines, Viennese whirls, and velvety chocolate fondue. The instructions are easy to follow and well-illustrated.

Time for a few chocolatey treats!

**"Chemically speaking, chocolate really is the world's perfect food."**

**—Michael Levine**



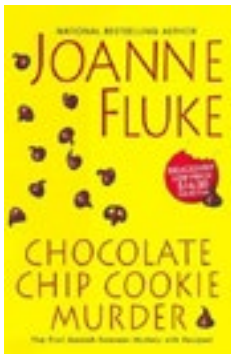
## Year 10

**The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier**

**AR Colour Code - Red**

This bestselling YA classic, first published in the 1970s, is a provocative and controversial novel that details the dangers of conformity and corruption in an elite prep school in the USA. When the headmaster of Trinity College asks Archie Costello, the leader of the Vigils, to help with the selling of 20,000 boxes of chocolates in the annual fund-raising effort, Archie seizes the opportunity and the prospect of power, but freshman, Jerry Renault, a newcomer to the corrupt regime, refuses to sell chocolates.

An explosive tragedy unfolds. Totally compelling and not for the faint hearted!



## Year 11

**Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder by Joanna Fluke**

**No AR**

This mystery is the first in a series of detective reads featuring Hannah Swensen, a desert baking sleuth who runs The Cookie Jar bakery in Minnesota. When Ron LaSalle, the beloved delivery man from the Cozy Cow Dairy, is found murdered behind her bakery surrounded by her Chocolate Chip Crunchies, her life just can't get any worse. No way are her cookies going to damage her culinary reputation, it's time for Hannah to track down a killer.

Lots of humour to savour, and great characters in this entertaining read; it even includes some delicious recipes.



## Year 12

**Chocolat by Joanne Harris**

**No AR**

This timeless bestseller set in a puritanical and prudish French village, sees the arrival of newcomer Vianne Rocher and her tempting chocolate shop in tiny Lansquenet. As bonbons burst forth; villagers' tastebuds are awakened and play havoc with Lenten vows.

Is Vianne a witch? Where is the father of her child? Elements of magical mystery, passion, and intrigue culminate with a dramatic face-off between Easter solemnity and the pagan gaiety of a chocolate festival. Pure delight.



## Year 13

**Like Water for Hot Chocolate by Laura Esquivel**

**No AR**

This Mexican bestseller is a banquet of a book, packed with romance, magic, wit, sensual delights and recipes. In the all-female house of the La Garza family Tita, as the youngest daughter, is condemned to a life of servitude and according to Mexican tradition must look after her mother until the day she dies. But Tita loves Pedro and for the next twenty-two years must wait until fate finally sees the pair united in love. Enchanting and ingenious.



## Longcroft's Book Cover Design Competition 2026

### An Offering of Suns

Can you design a cover for Longcroft's new First Story anthology?  
The title is **An Offering Of Suns**, but all we need is an image.



**Words to inspire you:** Suns, the universe, stars, fireworks, fruits, raspberries, grapefruits, volcanoes, pianos, guitars, stringed instruments, books, bookshelves, the Mona Lisa, magic, giants, Zeus, dinosaurs, fire.

**The Rules:** Please use A4 paper to create your original image.

Do not write the title of the book on your design.

You can use any media (pen, pencil, paint, crayon, charcoal, textiles, photography, collage etc.) to create your design.

**Entries must be submitted by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April before 12.00 pm to Mrs Holmes or Ms Carvill in the Library.**

**The Prizes:** Your design will feature as the cover of the anthology. Copies will be housed in the British Library. You will receive two free copies of the book, a selection of artist's materials, and sweets.

# SUMMER SOUNDS

## -Music Festival-

## YOUNG MUSICIANS WANTED!

ARE YOU AGES 12 - 17, A CONFIDENT SOLO PERFORMER OR BAND, AND INTERESTED IN PERFORMING A SHORT SET ON WITHERNSEA'S VALLEY GARDEN STAGE ALONGSIDE PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS AT OUR MUSIC FESTIVAL?

- AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE JACK GLEDHILL CENTRE IN WITHERNSEA ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL!
- ARRIVAL TIME: 12PM    START TIME: 12.30PM

PREPARE 1 SONG THAT BEST SHOWCASES YOUR ABILITY. SINGERS MUST PROVIDE A BACKING/KAREOKE TRACK. BANDS MAY BRING THEIR OWN GUITARS ONLY, WE WILL HAVE ALL OTHER EQUIPMENT SET UP READY FOR YOU.

LUNCH WILL NOT BE PROVIDED, BUT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, MESSAGE @ELEVATIONYOUTHBAND ON INSTAGRAM, OR GET PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO EMAIL [WITHERNSEAYOUTHACTIONGROUP@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WITHERNSEAYOUTHACTIONGROUP@GMAIL.COM)



## 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)