



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Celebrating Our Mathematicians Success!

Last week Mrs Powell, Maths Excellence Coordinator, shared the success of our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils in this year's UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge.

The results were outstanding:

- » 29 pupils achieved Bronze
- » 14 pupils achieved Silver
- » 10 pupils achieved Gold

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As an **NRICH Problem Solving School**, working in partnership with **The University of Cambridge**, we place problem solving at the heart of our mathematics curriculum. These are **the best results we have ever achieved in the UKMT Junior Challenge, and they clearly demonstrate that our problem solving focused approach is paying off.**

We are incredibly proud of all pupils who took part, and offer Leon, Madison and Pallavi who have all **qualified for the next round, the Junior Kangaroo**, which will take place in **June** our best wishes!

In addition, a group of Year 7 pupils are enjoying a different experience of doing maths. Axiom Maths believes in the power of maths to transform lives and nations. In weekly maths circles pupils benefit from a space where they can meet and encourage each other's interest. They help each other to succeed in a social group that nurtures mathematical talent, where pupils feel at home and valued. In a maths circle every problem is enjoyed for its own sake. Pupils involved are pictured below with their certificates.





Supporting Safer Cycling

in Memory of Riley Ketley

As a school community, we continue to hold the family and friends of Riley Ketley in our thoughts following the tragic road traffic accident that took Riley's life.

In the face of such heartbreaking loss, Riley's younger sister Amelia has shown remarkable courage, determination, and maturity in campaigning for improved cyclist safety awareness within our local community. She has appeared on local news platforms, delivered assemblies to fellow pupils, and spoken passionately to anyone willing to listen about the importance of protecting cyclists and promoting safer habits on our roads.

We are incredibly proud of Amelia's tenacity and fully support the message she is working so hard to share.

At school, we insist that any pupil cycling to and from school wears a helmet. This expectation is enforced because we know helmets can save lives and significantly reduce the risk of serious injury. However, we also want pupils and families to recognise the importance of wearing helmets whenever cycling - not just on the journey to school.

Last week, the family launched an online petition calling for further discussion at Parliament regarding cyclist safety. Their initial goal is to reach 10,000 signatures, but we would love to see the campaign achieve 100,000 signatures so that the issue can be formally debated in Parliament.

We are proud to stand behind this important campaign and encourage our community to support the petition and continue promoting safe cycling habits for all.

Together, we can help create safer roads and ensure Riley's memory continues to inspire positive change.

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/767256>

Make helmets legal requirement while riding a bicycle or scooter on public roads

Created by **Amelia Ketley**
 Closes on **13 November 2026**

My brother Riley died following a fatal collision in 2021. I believe my brother would still be with us today if he was wearing a helmet. Make it a legal requirement to wear a helmet when you are on a bicycle or scooter.

Wearing a helmet can save lives and reduce head injuries in the event of an accident. This could be called Riley's Law.

[Sign this petition](#) [Share this petition](#)

1,287 signatures



[Show on a map](#)

Petition progress

View all updates for this petition, with the most recent first.

13 May 2026

Petition published

This petition can now be signed.

If this petition gets 10,000 signatures, government will respond to it.

If this petition gets 100,000 signatures, it will be considered for debate in Parliament.

This petition will stay open until **13 November 2026**.



Headteacher's Welcome

This half term has brought us so many memorable moments and successes to celebrate, from charity initiatives to sporting success, performance showcases to high-profile visits. It has also been fabulous to receive further recognition for the school including for the continued progress driven by our reading, writing and maths programmes and importantly for levels of attendance which remain the highest anywhere in the region and amongst the top schools nationally. Our community brings us inspiration and joy through each and every day, and it has been great to share just a small snapshot of that with you through our weekly newsletters.

This week we have welcomed some new additions to our school, as the regular pair of ducks that frequent our quad terrace pond have brought us some beautiful ducklings. As with all new arrivals at Longcroft we have been working hard to ensure they feel welcome, safe and valued as members of our community and Mr Trown our site officer has hand built a stunning duck house which they are now enjoying exploring. We will of course be looking forward to welcoming over 160 new arrivals into Year 7 in September, and over the next half term they will be joining us for transition activities which we are all very excited for.



Over the last week I have had the privilege of presenting various certificates, including around 60 to children in Year 7 and 8 following the 'Junior' round of the UKMT National Mathematics Challenge. This is a prestigious accolade and places our award winners amongst the highest performers across the country. Our Axiom accelerated maths enrichment programme also goes from strength to strength with the first cohort achieving their term 2 accreditations. Beyond maths our Scholars Programme has recently graduated with a celebration event at the University of Leeds, we have enjoyed more success in national literary competitions and as we trailed in last week's Newsletter, our amazing U13 girl's football team are now Humberside Champions! It really has been a great end to a busy half term.





These events reflect our sustained commitment to a holistic school experience at Longcroft and we continue to be impressed not only by the levels of general engagement, but also the success of our young people across various events. Our sports teams have done really well this summer so far and our sports leaders have been pivotal in making opportunities available beyond our school for the wider community. So many of our values are reflected in the joy, sportsmanship and discipline of sport and we are really proud of the status our offer holds within our community. As we look ahead to the summer and the Men's Football World Cup, we are working with pupils to design our own version of a Longcroft sweepstake, an idea brought forward by our children. More to come on this in the coming weeks but the event creates a great opportunity to explore countries, cultures and traditions from around the world.

As the weather improves our outdoor learning programme, like our stunning estate, is bursting into life. Lovell Homes have been supporting the initiative providing machinery and time from their team to clear and develop areas of our outdoor learning environment. We are hugely grateful that today they have also awarded us £500 towards creating a shelter / poly tunnel so that we can further our offer and create a space to negotiate the elements. More on this to come as the project develops but we are hugely grateful for their support and time for this important part of our school offer.

Whilst we remain in the midst of the examination season there is a laser focus around ensuring pupils and students are well prepared to bring their very best. Mrs Ellis continues to provide breakfast every day and our teachers are working continuously in response to the first papers content to adapt and refine lessons and intervention sessions and ensure all of our experience and expertise is directed towards supporting our children to achieve. Thank you to our parents/carers for supporting children to be in school every day and for them to benefit from this targeted work during this final push.

It will not be long until all of our pupils in Year 7-10 will have the opportunity to join us for our celebration trip to Flamingo Land! With the Year 11 and 13 Proms and our School Games Day also on the horizon as well as lots of other exciting things planned, it is always a great end to the academic year at Longcroft.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming pupils and students back to school on Monday 1st June, rested and ready for another important 7 weeks of learning. In the meantime, I wish you a brilliant Bank Holiday in the sunshine and a happy half term break.

Mr D Perry
Headteacher





LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Firstly, congratulations to Year 7 pupils Jude and Mason who played for SG Pathway Academy against Ipswich Town's Academy team. It was a very close match and the boys just lost out 6-4. Jude managed to score one of his team's goals.

SG Pathway Academy is a football academy with official links to Coventry City and Sheffield United.

As the football season draws to a close, it's fantastic to see other sports stepping into the spotlight and capturing the enthusiasm of our pupils and community.



I recently had the pleasure of walking down to Beverley Braves' impressive new facility on Thurlow Avenue to watch Beverley ARLFC in action. It was a real highlight to see former Longcroft pupils on the pitch, alongside current pupils and families showing their support on the sidelines; a great reminder of the strong sporting spirit that runs through our school and beyond.

I am delighted to share some fantastic news about Madison, who has recently represented herself with great determination and resilience on the national stage. On Friday she prepared for the prestigious National School Girl Boxing Championships, held in Newcastle on Saturday. Competing at this level is a significant achievement in itself, and Madison rose to the challenge with real courage.

Going into the competition, Madison faced a particularly tough opponent who had already competed in last year's Championships and had taken part in twice as many bouts. Despite this, Madison embraced the opportunity to test herself against high-level competition.



Performing in front of an audience of around 2,000 spectators, with bouts taking place across three rings simultaneously, Madison handled the pressure of the big stage impressively. Showing great composure and determination, she fought her way to secure a bronze medal.

To achieve a national bronze medal after only a handful of fights is a remarkable accomplishment, and we are incredibly proud of her success. Madison has already set her sights on returning next year, with a clear goal of aiming for gold.

To make the experience even more memorable, Madison also had the opportunity to meet Heavyweight Champion of the World, Daniel Dubois, who made a special guest appearance at the event. We look forward to following Madison's continued progress and celebrating her future successes.

It has been fantastic to see a number of our pupils stepping up into adult sport this season, and we are delighted to congratulate Josh, Dexter, Oscar and Toby on making appearances for Beverley Town Cricket Club's adult teams this year. Representing a senior side is a significant milestone, and all four boys should be incredibly proud of their progress and commitment.



This weekend saw them turn out for the 5th XI against Hutton Cranswick CC, where they more than demonstrated that they belong at that level. Competing against experienced adult players is never easy, but they approached the game with great maturity, confidence and skill, contributing positively and showing exactly why they have earned these opportunities. Their performances are a real credit to both their own hard work and the support of their coaches and clubs.

On Saturday, they won, and it was great to see a Longcroft Year 9 combination taking the first wicket, with Dexter taking two overall. Josh also made 9 not out, coming into bat at seven.

A special mention must go to Toby, whose cricketing journey continues to go from strength to strength. At the end of 2025, Toby was selected for the prestigious Yorkshire CCC pathway programme, and since then has been representing the East & Central Yorkshire Under-15s, competing against other regional sides across the county. His performances have clearly stood out, as he has also recently been entrusted with the responsibility of captaincy, a testament to both his ability and leadership on the field.

Alongside his representative commitments, Toby has remained a key player at Beverley Cricket Club, featuring across the 4th XI, Sunday XI and Under-15 teams, showing remarkable dedication and consistency across all formats of the game.

Looking ahead, Toby's development opportunities continue to expand. During the Easter holidays, he was selected to attend a North East England MCC Academy training camp in Bradford, where he trained alongside some of the region's most promising young cricketers. This experience will lead into further fixtures over the summer, and he is also set to represent Hull MCC Under-15s later in the season.



We are incredibly proud of Toby's achievements, as well as the exciting progress of Josh, Dexter and Oscar. Their commitment to the game, willingness to challenge themselves at higher levels, and positive attitude are excellent examples to others across the school.

We are also delighted to celebrate Melody, who has been representing Beverley Town Cricket Club Women's team alongside some of our upper school pupils Amy, Lily, and sister Charli, as well as sixth former Anika. Melody travelled to York on Sunday to take part in a competitive fixture, continuing to develop her game at a strong level. It is always fantastic to see our pupils contributing within women's cricket and embracing opportunities to compete beyond school, and Melody's commitment and involvement are a brilliant example of this.



Year 9 Key End of Year Science Assessment

During the week commencing 1st June, the first week after half term, Year 9 pupils will sit an important end of year exam which will be key in deciding Triple Science groups for September.

The topics below will be in the assessment, and links to BBC Bitesize and past papers are on Arbor.

Biology: Cells

Chemistry: Atomic Structure and Bonding

Physics: Electricity

Pupils are expected to provide evidence of revision. This could be:

- » BBC Bitesize Quizzes
- » Exam Questions (all on Arbor)

The website 'Physics and Maths Tutor' has fantastic summary notes to save pupils time!

If pupils need anything printing, they should see Mrs Scott in B7.

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

Barnaby Bridson
Ethan Hansley
Andorra Atkinson
Calla Stallard
Edward Stork
Oliver Croshaw
Laila El-Sharif
Seth Grainger
Louie Wellburn
Imogen Shaw

Year 8

Leyon Moulson
London-Leigh Baker
William Newsam
Florence Crabtree
Freya Leaf
Annabel Naylor
Joe Ruston
Harvey Graham
Evie Pardoe
Nathan Pineda

Year 9

Emilia Hopkin
Jake Redmond
Isabelle Johnson
Imogen Trolle
Tymofii Merkulov
Megan Morley-Smith
Charlie Innes
Isaac Savage
Lottie Skinner
Harry Hugill

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: Oscar Dale

Year 8: Jessica Tennyson

Year 9: Mahmood Al Shaqran



UPPER SCHOOL

Revision continues...

We look forward to welcoming our Year 11 pupils into school over half-term to enjoy focused revision.

Working in school during the holiday provides a valuable change in environment as well as the opportunity to discuss topics with experienced teachers and to share ideas with fellow pupils.

These sessions are extremely popular and complement the revision pupils are doing at home.

	AM	Room	Staff	PM	Room	Staff
Tuesday 26th May	A Level Psychology	A9	Mr Baker			
Wednesday 27th May	A Level History (Unit 2)	C1	Mr Pearson	GCSE History (Unit 2)	C1	Mr Pearson
Thursday 28th May	GCSE Geography	A9	Mr Haworth	A Level Geography (Paper 3)	A9	Mr Haworth
	A Level Biology	A6	Mr Perry	Foundation Science	A5	Mr Rogers
				Higher Science	A6	Mr Perry
Friday 29th May	A Level PE	Sports Hall	Mr Cassidy			

CAREER OF THE WEEK: Forklift Driver

What does a forklift driver do?

Forklift truck drivers use powered industrial trucks to move goods and materials safely and efficiently, usually in warehouses, factories, storage yards or ports. A forklift truck (FLT) can lift, lower, stack, and transport heavy loads that would be impossible to move by hand.

Your tasks might include:

- Loading and unloading lorries.
- Moving goods between storage areas and production lines.
- Stacking pallets in racking systems.
- Checking loads for damage.
- Following strict safety procedures.



You'll spend much of your shift operating the truck but may also carry out basic maintenance checks and keep records of stock movement. The role requires focus, good spatial awareness, and the ability to work as part of a team.

What can I expect to earn as a forklift driver?

Starting salaries for trainee forklift truck drivers are typically around £20,000–£22,000 a year. With experience and additional skills, you could earn £25,000–£30,000, and specialist or supervisory roles can pay more. Overtime, shift allowances, and night work can significantly boost earnings.

What subjects should I study to become a forklift driver?

- You don't need specific school subjects to operate a forklift, but the following can help:
 - English – for understanding safety instructions and completing paperwork.
 - Maths – for stock counts and measuring load sizes.
 - Design & Technology or Engineering – useful for understanding how machinery works.

A good grasp of health and safety principles is also valuable, so any courses in this area can give you an advantage.

How can I start my career as a forklift driver?

You can start as a warehouse operative or labourer and train on the job, or go straight into a forklift role if you already hold a licence. To drive a forklift truck, you must complete recognised training, such as an RTITB, AITT or ITSSAR-approved course. These cover theory, safety, and hands-on operation, and can take from a few days to a week to complete.

Many employers pay for your training if you join them in another role first. You'll usually need to be over 18 to operate a forklift in most workplaces, though training can start earlier. A full UK driving licence isn't always required but can be useful.

With experience, you could move into team leading, warehouse management, or specialise in operating other types of industrial vehicles, such as reach trucks or container handlers.

To research local education and training opportunities that could lead to a career as a forklift driver, visit our partner website www.logonmoveon.co.uk

Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a forklift driver:

National Careers Service, Forklift Driver <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/forklift-driver>

Go Construct, Forklift Driver <https://www.goconstruct.org/construction-careers/what-jobs-are-right-for-me/forklift-driver>

Lantra, Forklift Driver <https://www.lantra.co.uk/careers/JobProfile/JobProfileDetails/159>

RTITB <https://www.rtitb.com/>

AITT <https://www.aitt.co.uk/>

ITSSAR <https://www.itssar.org.uk/>





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
George Coughlin
Devon Bryans
Ava Curley
Lily Hardman
Lily Curtis
Dominic Crawford
Hermione Read
Bradley Elvidge
Harry Dixon





Mr Chapman writes:



As we reach the end of this half term, I want to begin by offering my heartfelt congratulations to all of our Year 13 students. As a cohort, you have now completed two weeks of your final A-level exams. I know that for many of you, the journey is just beginning, as the majority of your exams lie beyond the half term break. However, for some of you, the halfway mark has already passed.

I want to take a moment to say how incredibly impressed I have been with your organisation, your attitude, and your punctuality in arriving at exams fully prepared. You've shown up with the right equipment, you've been prompt, and your focus has been second to none. I'm particularly proud of how many of you have maintained regular lesson attendance even amidst the exam schedule. You understand that every bit of contact with your teachers is vital, and it will pay off. Keep going—you are all doing brilliantly, and your resilience is truly inspiring.

Next week, of course, is half term, and with nine days of the break—from Saturday through to the following Sunday—I want to help you all map out a balanced and purposeful schedule.

So, let me suggest a proposed plan.

- On **Saturday**, begin with a focused, three-hour revision session. After lunch, get outside—go for a walk, or maybe a short run—to clear your mind.
- On **Sunday**, have a relaxed morning reviewing flashcards or key concepts, and then in the afternoon, watch a documentary or a film related to a topic you're studying.
- **Monday**, dive into a past paper practice in the morning, and then in the afternoon, connect with a study friend for a group review.





- **Tuesday**, focus on a subject you feel less confident in, and after a solid morning, take a break with a creative activity or a short hobby.
- **Wednesday**, balance revision with creativity—maybe create a mind map or write summary sheets—and in the evening, wind down with a good book or your favourite series.
- **Thursday**, get moving—go for a bike ride or a swim in the morning, and after lunch, return to exam questions.
- **Friday**, set a timed mock exam to simulate the real conditions—then relax outside afterward, maybe with friends or a short walk.
- **Saturday**, review your progress—look over practice tests and adjust your schedule if needed—and...
- **Sunday**, rest and recharge, doing something you enjoy, because balance is key.

Now, turning to Year 12—what a fantastic group you are. You've played a vital role in supporting Year 13, and you've been flourishing in your own successes. I think back to that incredible energy we saw during the night walk, and I feel immense pride in the footballers who gave their all. Beyond that, you are making a positive impact every day—whether it's as lunchtime supervisors, supporting younger pupils with their reading, or assisting in Key Stage 3 lessons. You serve as true role models to the younger pupils, and you bring so much to the school community. When we return after half term, it's a huge time for you. First, UCAS applications are now open—this is the time to start planning those university visits. Most universities are holding open days in June and July, so I strongly encourage you to book these now—whether it's a one-to-one with me or Mr. Baker or simply planning visits yourself.

This half term is also **your** opportunity to really cement your revision plan. These weeks matter, and you need a solid schedule so you're not caught in a last-minute rush. I've shared the exam timetable with you, so you know exactly when each paper is. Make use of that knowledge now. And, just so parents are aware, on Friday, June 19th, we will be taking all of Year 12 to the University of Hull for a careers fair—please do check the ParentPay app for the payment and necessary forms. And finally, a big reminder: Year 12, your work experience week is coming up. If you haven't yet secured a placement, make it your priority this half term. A meaningful work experience will be a fantastic way to gain insight into your future careers. I'm really excited about what lies ahead—keep up the amazing work, and I'll see you all after the break.

Mr Chapman
Head of Sixth Form





A huge congratulations to our latest Golden Buzzer winners!

Bukunmi Afolabi-Dada 7SJU
 Lawrence Afolabi-Dada 9NFO
 Memet Akkus 7JHL
 Jack Allport 11PDR
 Ella Boothby 10RTO
 Barnaby Bridson 7DPE
 George Buckle 8EIN
 Ava Curley 10PDV
 Emelia D'Andilly 11PDR
 Issac Daniel 10GTA
 Hermione Elvidge 7FCO
 Ruben Gabell 10PDV
 Lila Garniss 10SGE
 Henry Gawthorpe-Hubbard
 7FCO

Frankie Gray 9EFO
 James Groves 8GRU
 Lily Hardman 10GTA
 George Hicks 7DPE
 Harvey Jones 7DPE
 Amelia Ketley 10RTO
 Laura Kuzuoka 10RTO
 Marcus Lawley 10RTO
 Olivia Lax 10PDV
 Bertie Lee 7DPE
 Ryan Lucas 9ACR
 Neve Meagher 10EMN
 Poppy Moxon 10GTA
 Lottie Moy 9LWO

Skye Norton 10SGE
 Evie Page 7DPE
 Hollie Peterson 7JHL
 Oscar Purchon 9LWO
 Lilly Pyle 10RTO
 Sienna Rasen 10RTO
 Mia Robinson 10PDV
 Emma Selleck 9ACR
 Amy Simpson 10PDV
 Olivia Walker 10EMN
 Logan Watkins 8GRU
 Lillie Wheeler 10RTO
 Poppy Woolfitt 10PDV



IN FOCUS

ART

This week we are proud to feature and celebrate outstanding work by Year 12 student Aneena Seby.







Leo's Starring Role!

Congratulations to Year 8 pupil Leo who will be playing Friedrich von Trapp with Opera North in The Sound of Music this summer!

Worlds collide when free-spirited nun Maria is made governess in the strict household of Captain von Trapp. Through music, play and an infectious zest for life she wins the confidence of the seven von Trapp children, and even softens the Captain's guarded heart. But beyond the warmth and humour of this beloved musical lies a powerful tale of love and standing together when it matters most. Opera North, a national opera company based in Leeds, is a leading UK arts organisation. The company's production of the classic musical will be brought to life by a live 40-piece Orchestra and a stellar cast at Leeds Grand Theatre for three weeks from 9th July.

An incredible 29,000 children auditioned and rehearsals are already underway. Leo said, "I auditioned because I want to go as far as I can and I really like music and musical theatre. I wanted to do something big."



Leo is a member of Inspire School of Dance and Drama, where each week 380 pupils enjoy an extensive timetable of seven different disciplines in venues across Beverley and East Yorkshire. The friendly, supportive and inclusive school offers training in Classical Ballet, Tap, Contemporary Modern, Street Dance, Musical Theatre and Acrobatic Arts and has its own performance company.

Leo added, "When I heard, I felt really lucky. I'm excited to get going."

Congratulations again to Leo on securing such a wonderful opportunity - we look forward to reporting on what is sure to be an amazing experience and the start of an incredible career!

SUMMER SCHOOL
Dance & Musical Theatre
Ages 5-18yrs

Inspire
SCHOOL OF DANCE AND DRAMA

PRESENTS
A Spotlight THROUGH TIME
A JOURNEY FROM 50s - PRESENT DAY MUSICALS

50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 00s PRESENT DAY

24th, 25th, 26th
AUGUST 2026

9.30AM - 3.30PM

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SING, DANCE AND ACT IN OUR EXCITING SUMMER SCHOOL
LEARN ROUTINES, BUILD CONFIDENCE AND MAKE FRIENDS
AS WE CREATE AN AMAZING SHOW TO PERFORM

No experience needed!
EVERYONE WELCOME!



Memory Lane

This week we return to 2011 and feature two Year 11 tutor groups. 11C and 11R are pictured, the former with their Form Tutor Miss Zeffertt.





The Friends' Corner



A very big thank you to everyone who has used the Easy Fundraising App to do their on-line shopping as this week the FOLS got a donation of £43.91!!!!

fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

The FOLS didn't have to do any work for this donation and it didn't cost anyone any money. It's an easy way for the FOLS to raise much needed money for the school.

Please consider download the Easy Fundraising App and name the FOLS as it is who you'd like to raise money for. Then, each time you do any on line shopping go through the App. It doesn't cost you anything or change how you shop, but the retailer will make a donation. And the donations all add up!!!

The FOLS would like to say a massive thank you to the Christopher Eden Foundation who have granted the FOLS funding to run the BookBuzz project for the new Year 7 pupils in September.

This is a great opportunity for Year 7, so we are delighted to be able to fund it for another year.

The FOLS would also like to say congratulations to the parent of Summer Buckley, who won £15 from the FOLS cash draw in May.

If you would like to enter the draw, please enter via ParentPay. It is a one-off payment of £12, which gets you an entry in the draw each month for a year.

Another easy way to support the FOLS, as you pay and we'll sort the rest!!!!





LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

The Carnegie Medal 2026 Books Have Arrived

It's always exciting when new books arrive in the library; especially when they are vying for the Carnegie Medal, the UK's longest running and best-loved book award for children and young people.

The Carnegie provides a wonderful showcase of all that is best in children and young adult literature. Moreover, it's run by the UK's library association, CILIP, and includes one award for writing and one for illustration. It's a great opportunity for writers and artists to promote their talents and solidify their careers.

There are some familiar names on this year's shortlist which includes previous winners Patrick Ness, Jason Reynolds, Katya Balen, and Tia Fisher as well as some fresh new writers. Over the next few weeks, we'll provide brief reviews of all the titles which are on display in the library. They can be borrowed straightaway. Do encourage your children to read them.

“The only way to do all the things you'd like to do is to read.”
—Tom Clancy





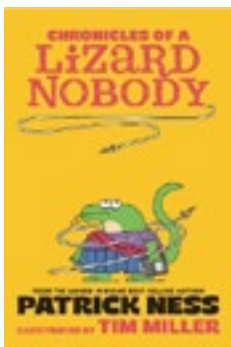
Ghostlines by Katya Balen

AR Colour Code - Red

Tilda lives on a little island, where everyone knows everyone. She loves the peace and security, but when new boy Albie arrives he can't imagine anything worse than Ayrie. He's bored out of his mind!

So, what can Tilda show him to engage his interest? She has one last idea. The nearby secret island, where children are forbidden to explore because it's so dangerous; some even say haunted.

A wonderful ghostly adventure awaits you!



Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody by Patrick Ness, Illustrated by Tim Miller

AR Colour Code - Blue

This amusing adventure features an eclectic cast of animals attending school together. When lizards Zeke, Daniel, and Alicia are made Hall Monitors, they are forced to oversee some distressingly arrogant behaviour; especially from the lions. It's not a job that breeds popularity and the threats and bullying come fast; especially from supervillain Pelicanassus.

Can our three monitor lizards save their school and outwit the megalomaniac pelican? You'll have great fun finding out. Dyslexia friendly font and fun illustrations. Great for reluctant readers and zany comedy fans.



Birdie by J. P. Rose

AR Colour Code - Red

Birdie tells the tale of Birdie Bagshaw, a mixed-race child who goes to live with her great-aunt in a small village in Yorkshire after spending her life in a care home in Leeds. The novel is set in the 1950s, sadly a decade when racism was prevalent in the UK, and Birdie is considered an outsider and racially bullied by the local community. One day, hiding down a coal mine to avoid her taunters, she stumbles on the last remaining pit pony in the area, Mr Duke. The two form a close bond, but Mr Duke's future is in danger. Will Birdie be able to rescue him?

This touching tale about identity, racism, hope and courage will delight animal lovers, and fans of Michael Morpurgo. A gentle and moving book.

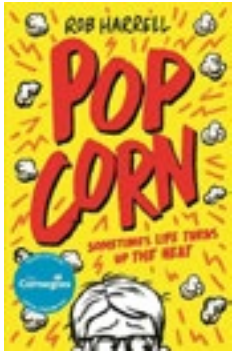


The Boy I Love by William Hussey

No AR

It's the summer of 1916 and nineteen-year-old Stephen is back in the trenches, despite his wounds, and must lead a platoon. Broken-hearted, following the loss of his first love, he feels he has nothing to fight for, but a meeting with Private Danny McCormick changes that. There is an instant attraction between the two young men, but such relationships are forbidden. Can Stephen protect Danny from the prejudice that surrounds them?

Hussey's tender and sensitively written Young Adult novel will stay with you.



Popcorn by Rob Harrell

AR Colour Code - Blue

Andrew's tummy is a whirl of butterflies and worry as he faces school photo day. All he needs is a decent photo for his mum, but everything's going wrong today! There's a bully on the rampage, his science experiment has gone wrong, and then there's his grandmother to fret over. He feels like he's going to pop.

This laugh-out-loud short novel, with great illustrations, highlights what it's like to have anxiety and OCD, and provides some great coping tips. Very funny, educative, and empathy building.



Wolf Siren by Beth O'Brien

No AR

Wolf Siren, inspired by the tale of Little Red Riding Hood, is a brilliant re-working of a classic work. Red is not supposed to go in the woods, but since her grandmother disappeared she's increasingly drawn to them. It seems the woods are hiding a secret, just like her, and the wolves that inhabit them are coming ever closer, circling the village. Fear is rife, and only Red seems capable of helping, but that means revealing a secret that could damage her family forever.

An evocative and inclusive debut novel, with an empowering disabled character at its core.



Shrapnel Boys by Jenny Pearson

AR Colour Code - Blue

It's 1939, and the war has arrived in London. Ronnie Smith has mixed feelings, he's scared of the bombs that fall at night, but excited exploring for shrapnel with his mates every morning. The battles in the skies are not the only ones bothering him though: there are troubles at school and home, and Ronnie's convinced his little brother is in with the wrong crowd.

An explosive page turner with a great plot; set in the most testing and turbulent of times, that have parallels with today.



Not Going to Plan by Tia Fisher

AR Colour Code -Blue

This powerful, and at times hilarious verse novel sees an unlikely friendship grow between bad girl Marnie and super nerd Zed. Recently expelled Marnie is forced to change schools where the only empty seat is next to loner Zed, who is brilliant at maths and science. Marnie, who is adept at languages and the arts struggles with numbers, so a trade in tuition is struck so both can achieve good grades. An unlikely friendship develops and when Marnie needs real help it is Zed she turns to.

Sexual consent, unplanned pregnancy and breaking taboos are central themes in this timely and vital read for teenagers. Recommended for readers of 14+ years. Brilliant.

"It is not enough to simply teach children to read; we have to give them something worth reading. Something that will stretch their imaginations—something that will help them make sense of their own lives and encourage them to reach out toward people whose lives are quite different from their own."—Katherine Patterson



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



Year 8

Mrs Thwaites

07444 847881

gemma.thwaites@longcroft.eriding.net



Years 9 and 10

Mrs Newsam

07827 587483

zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net