



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Longcroft Celebrates National Recognition for Exceptional Attendance!

“Exceptional attendance comes from building a culture where young people genuinely want to be in school and can thrive academically, socially and personally.”

Contents

Headteacher's Welcome
[Page 7](#)

Lower School
[Page 8](#)

Upper School
[Page 11](#)

Sixth Form
[Page 14](#)

Safeguarding
[Page 16](#)

Memory Lane
[Page 25](#)

Library News
[Page 27](#)



We are celebrating further national recognition for our exceptional attendance standards, reinforcing Longcroft's position as one of the country's highest-performing schools in this crucial measure of educational success.

The latest accolade builds on a period of sustained success for our school. In 2023, Longcroft was recognised by officials from the Department for Education as one of the most improved schools in the country for our excellent academic outcomes, reflecting the significant progress made by pupils, Sixth Form students and staff over recent years. Since then, the school has continued to strengthen its performance across a range of measures and has now received national recognition for sustaining their outstanding attendance standards.

At a time when attendance remains one of the most significant challenges facing schools nationally, Longcroft continues to buck both regional and national trends. According to the latest Department for Education data, attendance across state-funded secondary schools during the 2025-26 academic year stood at 91.43% (an absence rate of 8.57%), with almost one in four pupils classed as persistently absent. Moreover, Yorkshire and the Humber is currently amongst the worst attending regions in the country, second only to the South West for its levels of absence and persistent absence.



Against this backdrop, Longcroft has again achieved figures which are significantly above the national average with the school now entering its third consecutive year as the most well-attended secondary school in the East Riding of Yorkshire boasting current attendance over 96.5%. In addition, Longcroft was impressively ranked number one nationally amongst similar schools for 2025/26 by the Department for Education, a measure which compares schools with similar contexts across England.



This week, Longcroft received confirmation that the highly respected Fisher Family Trust (FFT), an organisation that works closely with schools and the Department for Education to provide benchmarking and performance analysis, has awarded the school the highest possible recognition across every available attendance measure. The achievement amounts to an impressive nine top FFT attendance awards across the academic year, placing Longcroft amongst the highest-performing group of schools in the country.



FFT and Department for Education data also show that, for the third consecutive year, every pupil group at Longcroft significantly outperformed national averages. This includes disadvantaged pupils, those eligible for free school meals and pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Nationally, these groups experience substantially higher absence rates than their peers, making Longcroft's sustained success particularly noteworthy.

Mr Perry said, "We are incredibly proud of our children, families and wider community for this latest acknowledgement of their achievements. Attendance will always remain one of our highest priorities because we know the profound difference that being in school can make to a young person's life."

He added, "What makes this recognition particularly special is that it reflects the experience of our pupils themselves. Our children tell us that they enjoy coming to school, feel safe, valued and respected, and see Longcroft as a place where they belong. Exceptional attendance is not achieved through systems alone; it comes from building a culture where young people genuinely want to be in school and can thrive academically, socially and personally."

Chair of Governors Dr Patrick Marshall said, "We are immensely proud of the school, its staff and, above all, its young people. These accolades are richly deserved and reflect years of unwavering commitment to ensuring every child has the opportunity to succeed. It is no surprise that schools and educational leaders from across the region and beyond continue to visit Longcroft to learn from our approach. Our dedicated staff, including an exceptional pastoral team, work tirelessly with children and families to overcome barriers to attendance, and the impact of that work is evident in these outstanding outcomes."

Deputy Headteacher Mr Rogers leads on attendance. He said, "Everybody at Longcroft understands the important role they play in supporting great attendance. Our culture is built upon ambitious expectations matched by exceptional levels of care and support."

He added, "The success we are seeing is the result of a whole-school commitment to ensuring every child is known, valued and supported. These awards are a celebration of that collective effort and another example of how strong attendance contributes directly to high educational standards and improved life chances for the children and families we serve."





Careers Expo!

We are very much looking forward to next Wednesday evening when over 30 employers and education and training providers will visit Longcroft to support our programme of careers education and guidance.

Pupils in Years 9 and 10 will enjoy an introduction during Period 5, but pupils from all year groups and Sixth Form students are then invited to join us after school between 4.15 and 7.00pm with parents or carers.

You can book your place using the QR code on Careers Expo Flyers or using the Career Expo Invite sent to all pupils, Sixth Form students, parents and carers.

As well as a tremendous range of providers, we are delighted to welcome colleagues from Log On Move On who offer support and guidance on finding the right post-16 or 18 course, writing applications and preparing for interviews and Hull and East Riding Skills who can inform you of local upcoming jobs, apprenticeships and growth in different employment sectors.

Our Careers Adviser will also be there to have a 1:1 talk about your child's future!





LONGCROFT CAREERS EXPO 2026



When

October 21st, 2026

4.15pm to 7.00pm

Who

Years 9-13

NB All pupils are invited from Year 7 and 8 should they wish to attend and the event is not exclusive to Longcroft pupils/students. Primary age children are also very welcome.

What to expect

A wide range of exhibitors from all sectors of education and employment, available to share routes into their profession and insights into day-to-day work experiences, as well as any training pathways and study opportunities.

- ✓ Employers
- ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ Colleges
- ✓ Universities



Booking

Book your place by scanning the QR code or clicking on this link:

BOOK NOW ➔



We are committed to...

... enabling our young people to engage with more providers, professionals and potential future opportunities than ever before.



Pupil engagement..

... is important to us. We will provide structured introductory sessions for Year 9 and 10 during the afternoon so that they are well prepared to make the most of the main event.



The future is bright..

... for our amazing young people. This is a great opportunity to establish potential career / training pathways for all in our community and invest in their incredible potential.



Burton Road
Beverley
East Riding of Yorkshire
HU17 7EJ



longcroftschoo.co.uk



careers.leader@longcroft.eriding.net



GREAT HEART, THOUGHT AND VISION

Different
People
Different
Paths
Brighter Futures

CAREERS & EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Explore • Meet Employers • Discover Opportunities • Plan Your Future

Real Opportunities
Real Skills
A Stronger
Tomorrow



HEALTH & CARE

Care • Support • Improve Lives

Organisations:

- City Health Care Partnership CIC
- NHS
- ERYC - Choose Care
- ERYC / Public Health
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council Public Health Team

Example careers:

- Nurse
- Midwife
- Doctor
- Healthcare Assistant
- Occupational Therapist
- Physiotherapist
- Paramedic
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Public Health Practitioner
- Care Worker
- Community Health Worker



EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

Nurture • Teach • Support

Organisations:

- Early Years & Childcare ERYC
- East Riding Yorkshire Council - Early Years Team

Example careers:

- Early Years Practitioner
- Nursery Worker
- Teaching Assistant
- Family Support Worker
- Child Development Officer
- Play Worker



PUBLIC SERVICES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Communities • People • Change

Organisations:

- East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Example careers:

- Administrator
- Social Worker
- Community Support Officer
- Environmental Health Officer
- Policy Officer
- Housing & Planning Roles



CAREERS & EMPLOYABILITY SUPPORT

Guidance • Skills • Next Steps

Organisations:

- >log on | move on> (ERYC)
- GP Careers Consultants Ltd - Careers Advisor
- Skills Hull & East Yorkshire

Support available:

- Careers Guidance
- Labour Market Information
- Apprenticeship Advice
- CV & Employability Skills
- Post-16 & Post-18 Pathways
- Interview Preparation



ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURING & TECHNICAL

Build • Make • Innovate

Organisations:

- HETA
- Swift Group

Example careers:

- Mechanical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Manufacturing Technician
- Welder / Fabricator
- Process Operator
- Product Designer
- Project Engineer



BEAUTY & PERSONAL SERVICES

Creativity • Confidence • People

Organisations:

- PALM

Example careers:

- Nail Technician
- Beauty Therapist
- Salon Assistant
- Salon Owner
- Customer Service
- Social Media & Marketing



AUTOMOTIVE & MOTOR VEHICLES

Repair • Maintain • Keep Moving

Organisations:

- Motor Trades GTA

Example careers:

- Vehicle Technician
- MOT Tester
- Auto Electrician
- Service Advisor
- Workshop Manager
- Parts Specialist



RETAIL, BUSINESS & CUSTOMER SERVICE

People • Service • Opportunity

Organisations:

- Tesco

Example careers:

- Customer Service Assistant
- Team Leader
- Store Manager
- Logistics Coordinator
- Retail Buyer
- Business Operations



EQUINE & HORSE RACING

Horses • Care • Performance

Organisations:

- National Horseracing College

Example careers:

- Racing Groom
- Jockey
- Stable Manager
- Equine Instructor
- Horse Care Specialist
- Racing Administrator



CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Design • Build • Create

Organisations:

- Salt Architects Limited

Example careers:

- Architect
- Architectural Technologist
- Quantity Surveyor
- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Electrician
- Construction Manager



LONGCROFT CAREER EXPO

21st OCTOBER 2026

Explore Today
Brighter Tomorrows



FURTHER & HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Learn • Develop • Progress

Organisations:

- East Riding College
- Hull College
- EY6 (East Yorkshire Sixth Form)
- University of Hull
- University of Yull
- York St John University
- HETA
- National Horseracing College

Pathways available:

- A Levels
- BTECs
- T Levels
- Apprenticeships
- Degrees
- Higher Apprenticeships
- Professional Qualifications



Ambition
Opportunity
Skills
Success

REAL PEOPLE • REAL OPPORTUNITIES • IN EAST YORKSHIRE

Where will
your path lead?



Headteacher's Welcome

A week of celebrations and new adventures at Longcroft has seen the school receive an unprecedented nine national attendance awards from the highly regarded Fisher Family Trust. This is a wonderful reflection of our community and the commitment to education that our young people continue to demonstrate. You can read much more about this exciting achievement in our headline article.

Alongside welcoming guest speakers, seeing our Active Travel Ambassadors launch their programme for the year, and securing our fabulous new Author in Residence (more to come on that soon!), we have enjoyed giving our Year 11 pupils an insight into what life beyond 16 could look like.

On Thursday, we hosted our East Yorkshire Sixth Form Taster Day, which enabled Year 11 pupils to experience life in a post-16 environment by sampling lessons and enjoying the dedicated spaces allocated exclusively to sixth form students. Some pupils also visited Hull College to explore wider education, training and career opportunities that are not typically available within sixth form settings.

On Tuesday 3 November, we will welcome Year 11 families to our Sixth Form Open Evening. This is another significant event for our school, providing prospective students with the opportunity to explore our offer in greater depth and learn more about the benefits of becoming part of the East Yorkshire Sixth Form @ Longcroft.

This is a particularly exciting time for our Sixth Form, which we continue to develop and shape around the needs of our community. With so many outstanding outcomes across last year's examination cohorts, it is, of course, a pathway that many of our Year 11 pupils will wish to consider. Further information on booking a place at the Open Evening will be shared this week.

Also on Thursday, we welcomed more families to Longcroft who are considering applying to the school for September as part of our alternative open evening. It was wonderful to spend time with those who joined us, celebrating everything that makes Longcroft special and receiving some fantastic feedback about the school. Places are once again expected to be in high demand for September, which is a wonderful position to be in.

Next Wednesday, 22 October, we will welcome a wide range of contributors from across the business, voluntary and education sectors to our impressive Careers Expo. We are encouraging everyone to get involved. Doors will open at 4.00pm, so please do join us if you can.

Our commitment to "Great Vision" is centred on preparing young people for life beyond school by broadening horizons and ensuring that every member of our community can recognise and realise their potential. Recent weeks have provided many opportunities for wider enrichment, with participation levels continuing to rise.

Our sports teams have been exceptional in both their performances and attitudes, and increasing numbers of pupils and students are engaging with clubs and academic interventions. Preparations for this term's performing arts showcases have been absolutely wonderful, and visitors attending a meeting after school this week were treated to the incredible sounds of rehearsals ringing out from the theatre.

Do join us on Monday evening, 2 November, for one of our annual highlights, as our amazing Year 7 pupils take to the stage for Disney Dazzle. We also look forward to welcoming audiences to our events next half term, including our Christmas Celebration at St Mary's Church on 3 December at 7.00pm.

In the coming weeks, our Student Council will be presenting to the Senior Leadership Team, and we will also be launching a range of new student leadership opportunities. Please look out for further details and continue to encourage your child to get involved.

Enjoy this week's newsletter, which is once again packed with celebrations of our fabulous young people and their amazing achievements.

Mr Perry | Headteacher



LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Chapman writes:

It has been another really pleasing week across the Lower School at Longcroft.

Firstly, I am delighted to see so many of our Lower School pupils enjoying extra-curricular opportunities.

A number of Year 9 girls played in last week's victory for the Under 15 football team against Drifffield in the National Cup, while Years 7 and 8 played against Beverley High School – Penny and Charlotte in particular putting in outstanding performances for their respective teams.

Our rugby teams have made excellent starts to their seasons. This week Year 9 took on Kingswood and Mr Cassidy said, "I was proud of the boys' effort – the five Year 8 boys all played well and we scored some good tries. Cobie scored twice and kicked a goal, while Jack J, Max and Jack W also scored tries. Henry kicked three goals."



Badminton and table tennis clubs are extremely popular, while it has been a pleasure to spend time with pupils at our various performing arts clubs and events.

It was wonderful to hear that all forty places on our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme programme were snapped up in record time by Year 9 pupils. They are sure to enjoy this fantastic opportunity!



Congratulations to all our pupils on another successful week. We continue to build a positive culture across Years 7, 8 and 9 and our feedback data reflects this.

Positive comments far outweigh negative ones, more than ten to one, which is very encouraging. Well done to everyone contributing to that standard.

Over recent weeks, we've welcomed Year 6 families for tours as they consider the next stage of education. I've been overwhelmed by the interest from families hoping to join us. It reflects Longcroft's secure reputation in the community, and our commitment to making sure every pupil feels safe, supported, and challenged to achieve their best, both academically and personally.

Next week brings our first Year 7 Halloween disco, supporting fundraising for a Sixth Form project that will see students take part in an expedition to Peru. Tickets are available on ParentPay.

Next week also sees our Year 7 Meet the Tutor online event. If you haven't booked, please contact the office for details. These conversations help us work together as pupils settle into new routines.

As half term approaches, keep good study habits in mind, arrive ready to learn, do your homework with care, manage your time and ask for help when needed. Parents can support by encouraging routines and balance. And remember, effort, kindness, and respect matter, just as much as academic progress.

Well done everyone. With one week to go, let's finish this half-term as positively as we started and with amazing attendance!!!



Arbor

REWARDS

Congratulations to our Lower School pupils on the number of Arbor rewards they are receiving each week. The pupils who earned the most rewards last week are listed below.

Year 7

Grace Hatch
Georgia Hopkin
Georgia McLeavy
Martha Phipps
Tilly Patterson
Katie Tatton
Theia Cammish
Caine Todd
Maria Stoyanova
Peter Cuthbert

Year 8

Seth Grainger
Henry Bartram
Ethan Hansley
Eddie Addinall
Oscar Hunt
Layla Malloy
Evie Page
Barnaby Bridson
Andorra Atkinson
Harvey Jones

Year 9

Kayla Murambiwa
Jess Jameson
Isla Garth
Luke Taylor
Lexi Gamble
Tristan Lister
George Buckle
Layla Blakey
Charlee Taylor
Max Castley
Lenny Harvey

Attendance Matters!

Each week we reflect on the importance of attendance at school by giving 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 was:

Year 9: Emma Spencer



UPPER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Year 10 Steps to Success Evening

A sincere thank you to all Year 10 parents and carers who attended our Steps to Success Evening last week. The event was designed to provide practical guidance on navigating Key Stage 4, including effective revision strategies, homework routines, wellbeing, digital learning resources and work experience opportunities. The level of engagement on the evening was fantastic, and we have already started to see a positive impact. Pupils are arriving better organised, asking thoughtful questions about their upcoming mock examinations next year, and demonstrating a growing awareness of the habits and routines that support success at GCSE. These early signs highlight the importance of strong partnerships between home and school.

The evening also reinforced a key message from our examination analysis: parental engagement makes a significant difference. Pupils whose families engage with school support events consistently achieve stronger outcomes, and we are grateful for the continued support you provide for your children at home.

Looking ahead, we will be launching our Year 10 Work Experience programme in assembly next week through a presentation delivered by Ms Sinclair. Work experience will take place during the week commencing 5th July 2027, with every Year 10 pupil expected to complete a placement. The programme offers children a valuable opportunity to explore future career pathways, develop workplace skills and gain first-hand experience of the world of work. Families are encouraged to begin discussing possible placement opportunities with their children as early planning often leads to the best experiences.



Meanwhile, our Year 11 pupils enjoyed their Sixth Form Taster Day yesterday. The event provided pupils with an insight into post-16 study, helping them to explore subjects, expectations and future opportunities as they begin making important decisions about their next steps beyond Year 11.

Alongside their academic preparation, our Year 11 pupils recently attended an assembly focused on mental health and wellbeing. The assembly highlighted the importance of planning ahead, establishing healthy routines, maintaining balance, and seeking support when needed. Pupils were encouraged to recognise that feeling pressure around mocks and GCSEs is entirely normal, and that resilience is often built through small, consistent positive choices rather than dramatic changes. A key message was that no child should struggle in silence, with pupils reminded of the many support networks available both in school and at home. As we move further into an important year, we will continue to emphasise that while academic success matters, the wellbeing of our children remains just as important.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. By working together, we can continue to help our pupils approach the opportunities of Key Stage 4 with confidence, ambition and success.

Year 11 Recognition Award

This weekly award rewards and celebrates Year 11 pupils' improvement, proactivity, commitment to their studies and contribution to our school community.

Last week's winners were **Sophia Brown** and **Reagan De Kock** – congratulations!

Key dates:

Tuesday 3rd November: EY6 Sixth Form Open Evening.





Arbor

REWARDS

Congratulations to our Upper School pupils on the number of Arbor rewards they are receiving each week. The pupils who earned the most rewards last week are listed below.

Year 10

Ashley Griffin
Oscar Lawson
Leonid Vaskov
Oscar Purchon
Spencer Uzzell
Benjamin Taylor
Oliver Albrow
Tymofii Merkulov
Emma Selleck
Amber Beard

Year 11

Lily Curtis
Charli Drage
Lily Hardman
Olivia Walker
Brad Elvidge
Ruby Rogers
Madilyn Duff
Max Pollard
Sam Cai
Amelia Ketley

Attendance Matters!

Each week we reflect on the importance of attendance at school by giving 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: Melody Drage

Year 11: Dorothy Makey



Mr Haworth writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Update: Small Steps, Big Ambitions

It has been another busy and exciting week in the Sixth Form, with plenty of opportunities for our students to reflect on their ambitions, explore new possibilities and take important steps towards their futures.

One of the week's highlights was an inspiring assembly delivered to Year 13 by Mr Perry. Drawing on the example of his sporting hero Alun Wyn Jones, the former Welsh rugby captain, Mr Perry explored the qualities that underpin success. His message was a simple but powerful one: achieving great things rarely happens overnight. Instead, success is built through the consistent completion of lots of small actions, repeated day after day. Whether that is attending every lesson, meeting deadlines, revising regularly or simply choosing to give your best effort, the foundations of success begin with individual choices. Most importantly, students were reminded that progress starts with them. It was a timely message as Year 13 continue to navigate the demands of their final year with increasing maturity and determination.

This week also saw us welcome Year 11 pupils into the East Yorkshire Sixth Form for our annual EY6 Taster Day. The corridors and common room were buzzing as prospective students experienced life as a sixth former, sampling four different subjects across the day. For many, this provided an opportunity to try subjects they have never encountered before, including Criminology, Sociology, Law and Media Studies. Alongside the lessons, pupils enjoyed spending time in our dedicated Sixth Form area during breaks, lunch and a free period, chatting with friends, meeting our excellent Sixth Form Ambassadors and asking plenty of questions about life at EY6. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and curiosity, and we hope the day gave pupils a real flavour of the opportunities, support and community that make our Sixth Form such a special place to study.





Meanwhile, Year 13 students have been turning their attention firmly towards their next steps beyond the Sixth Form. Over recent weeks they have been drafting and refining their UCAS personal statements, and preparations are now underway for a series of one-to-one meetings with Mr Charlton, our commissioned Careers and UCAS Adviser. These meetings, taking place ahead of our internal UCAS deadline at the end of November, will provide students with expert guidance on strengthening their applications and ensuring that they present themselves in the best possible light to universities and higher education providers.

Particular congratulations go to Sam Smedley, who became the first member of the year group to submit his university application. Sam has applied to Oxford University to read Mathematics and this week sat the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA), a challenging two-and-a-half-hour assessment used by leading universities to identify applicants with exceptional mathematical potential. The test requires students not only to demonstrate their mathematical knowledge but also to apply logical reasoning and problem-solving skills to unfamiliar situations. We are incredibly proud of Sam's ambition, commitment and willingness to embrace such a demanding challenge, and we look forward to following his application journey over the coming months.

As this week's events have shown, whether students are taking their first steps towards the Sixth Form or preparing for university applications, success is often the result of many small actions taken consistently over time. We look forward to seeing where those steps lead our students next.





SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

On Thursday pupils in Years 9 and 10 benefitted from presentations from two external visitors during our Mental Health assembly.

Our school nurse reminded pupils of her support and when they can speak to her while Charlotte, the East Riding Engagement Lead for Xyla (smoking and vaping services), offered proactive advice and signposted support as pupils join the first smoke-free generation. Smokers visit their GP nearly a third more frequently than non-smokers, and smoking contributes to almost half a million hospital admissions annually. Xyla has a proven track record in delivering effective tobacco-related awareness workshops to young people and adults, and I am confident our pupils will have benefitted from Charlotte's presentation.

I have included with my article a well-being update from the Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust's Autumn Term Newsletter. I hope the tips from the School Nurse Team will prove useful as we consider ways to proactively address and improve aspects of our health and well-being.

Finally, I am pleased to promote a parent anxiety workshop run by the Mental Health Support Team.

This is one of three workshops booked to be delivered at our school.

1. Anxiety (2 hours)
2. Behaviour as a form of communication (2 hours)
3. Understanding parent led CBT (2 hours)

Run by - MHST team

Venue - Longcroft School and Sixth Form College

Date - Thursday 12th November

Time - 5pm -7pm

Access - book online via the link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1998737111505?aff=oddttdtcreator>



LONGCROFT SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

A SPOOKTACULAR ATTENDANCE TREAT!

HERE EVERY DAY

Attend every day for the last two weeks of term and enjoy a chocolate treat on the last day!

Two weeks. Every day. One tasty reward.

GREAT HEART • GREAT THOUGHT • GREAT VISION

Your Year, Your Health, Your Future

A new term is a great time to try something new, build healthy habits and look after your wellbeing.

Small steps can make a big difference.

Here's some tips from your School Nurse Team on how to look after yourself this year.



Move Your Body

Moving your body can:

- ☒ Boost your mood
- ☒ Improve sleep
- ☒ Increase energy
- ☒ Help you focus in lessons



Things to try:

Walk or bike your journey to school

Join a club or sports team

Dance to your favourite music for 15 minutes

Sleep Challenge

Did You Know?

Most teenagers need around 8-10 hours of sleep each night.

Four Sleep Tips:

- ☒ Put your phone away 30-60 minutes before bed
- ☒ Have a regular bedtime
- ☒ At night, keep your bedroom more on the cool side and dark
- ☒ Get some natural daylight after waking up

If you're struggling to reset after the summer try shifting your bedtime 15-30 minutes earlier each night.

Fuel Your Body

Quick healthy swap ideas for school:

Sugary/caffeinated drinks → Water bottle

Chocolate bars/sweets → Fruit and yoghurt

Daily takeaway → Packed lunch a few times a week



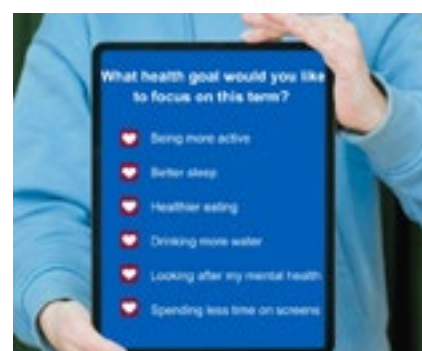
Top Tip: your brain needs energy and water to focus and learn. Eat regularly throughout the day and drink 6-8 glasses at least, to help!

Mind Matters

Looking After Your Mental Health

Try:

- Spending time with people that you trust
- Taking breaks from social media
- Getting enough sleep
- Spending time outdoors
- Build routines around school, such as homework, clubs, packing school bags, brushing teeth, getting a bath or shower and remember to include the things you enjoy!
- Ask trusted adults around you for help when needed



Top Tips for Educators

PUPIL WELLBEING CONVERSATIONS

It can feel difficult to know how to start a conversation with a pupil about their wellbeing, either because you do not feel equipped with the information you think you need, or because you do not feel confident opening it up. You do not need to be a specialist. This guide covers how to start, what to say about confidentiality, and what to do with what you hear.

1 NURTURE WARM, TRUSTING, & KIND RELATIONSHIPS

When pupils have a consistent, emotionally available adult who shows they care and who holds them in mind, they thrive. They are also far more willing to open up and seek support. Positive, trusting relationships are an important part of supporting pupil wellbeing and complement more formal wellbeing programmes or sessions.

2 KEEP CALM, EVEN IF YOU'RE WORRIED

When a pupil discloses, stay calm while showing that you take it seriously. Panic can raise their anxiety and teach them that telling an adult makes things worse. Your steadiness can help them to keep calm and give them enough space to say the rest. Calm does not mean unmoved, and it is fine to tell them that what they have said is important and will be heard.

3 HAVE SIDE-BY-SIDE CONVERSATIONS

Many pupils find it easier to talk when a conversation does not require them to sit face to face with an adult. For example, conversations might take place while walking, tidying the classroom, or taking part in a lunchtime club. Sitting alongside someone removes the demand of eye contact, allows longer thinking time and lowers the intensity of the exchange. This can be particularly true for neurodivergent pupils, and for anyone who needs a moment before answering.

4 THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU ARE

Consider whether the pupil can speak without being overheard or interrupted. If a pupil has already started talking, avoid unnecessarily disrupting the conversation by moving elsewhere. Where a more appropriate location is needed, explain why you need to move and give the pupil the opportunity to continue what they were saying.

5 BE HONEST ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY

Never promise to keep information to yourself. Schools have a legal duty to share information relevant to a pupil's safety or welfare. Tell them at the start that you may need to pass something on, and who to. Then involve them in what happens next, as far as their age and understanding allow. Ask what they want to happen, what they want to say, and who they want to be told. Be honest that some things will need to happen whether they agree or not. A pupil who helped shape next steps is far more likely to tell someone again.

6 CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Provide a classroom free from belittling and shame-based behaviour management. Pupils who expect to be humiliated will not disclose. Where they feel listened to and see that difficulties are acted upon, they share worries earlier and whilst those worries are still small. If pupils hear adults belittling or talking about other pupils openly, it damages trust and they are likely to assume their worries will also be handled this way.

7 DO NOT CARRY IT ON YOUR OWN

Hearing something difficult can stay with you. When informing your designated safeguarding lead, share with them how it left you feeling and whether you feel you need further support. Your role as a trusted adult is what makes all of the above possible, and just as you have a responsibility to protect pupils' welfare, your school has a responsibility to protect yours.

HELPFUL OPENERS

- I've noticed you've been quieter. How's your week been?
- You don't seem your usual self, when might be a good time to catch up today?
- Sometimes it's hard to know what to say, but I'd like to understand?
- You don't have to talk now, I'll check in with you later?

Meet Our Expert

Anna Boteman is a mental health and wellbeing specialist with nearly thirty years in education. She is a multi-academy trust director, special adviser, and a former adviser to the Department for Education on its mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

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Golden Buzzer Winners!

At Longcroft, recognising pupils' hard work, positive choices and kindness is an important part of our school culture. We want our young people to know that their effort matters and that the positive contribution they make to our community is noticed.

Each week, every member of staff can award a Golden Buzzer to a pupil who has stood out for a special reason. This might be for:

- » producing exceptional work;
- » demonstrating outstanding effort or resilience;
- » making significant progress;
- » showing kindness or supporting another person;
- » displaying excellent conduct and leadership; or
- » consistently demonstrating our school values.



Golden Buzzers are not reserved solely for the highest academic achievement. They recognise the different ways in which pupils contribute positively to school life and show **Great Heart, Great Thought and Great Vision**.

Every winner is invited to our popular **Hot Chocolate Friday**, held during tutor time. This provides an opportunity for pupils to celebrate their success with others in a relaxed and positive setting. It remains one of the highlights of our weekly rewards programme and is always a pleasure for staff to share with pupils.

A huge congratulations to our latest Golden Buzzer winners!

Holly Abel 10NFO

Jasmine Allen 7GTA

Jaydon Botha 11NST

Babucarr Ceesay 9ABA

Lily Curtis 11PDR

Charli Drage 11NST

Bradley Elvidge 11NST

Lexi Gamble 9EIN

Olivia Gunby 7JWI

Ava Hutchinson-Chan 9ABA

Esmae Johnson 10NFO

Harvey Jones 8DPE

Esma Kherbek 10EFO

Oscar Lawson 10ACR

Eloise McIntosh 8JHL

Freddie Peacock 8JHL

Freya Phipps 10JNC

Reggie Pierce 8SJU

Nathan Pineda 9ESH

Ruby Reilly 9ABA

Evelyn Rumford 9RTE

Naomi Rushton 9ABA

Alexander Waterson 10EFO



Remembrance Poppy Art Competition.

Create • Remember • Support

To mark **Remembrance Day** and show our support for **service children and their families**, we are inviting students to create their own original **poppy artwork**.

Your Challenge:

Create a *poppy*, or a piece of artwork inspired by poppies, using **a medium of your choice**.

You could use:

- Paint, watercolour or ink.
- Pencil, coloured pencil or pastels.
- Collage or mixed media.
- Textiles, stitching, wool or fabric.
- Clay or other 3D materials.
- Photography.
- Digital art.
- Recycled or found materials.
- Or another creative idea of your own!

What are we looking for:

Your artwork should:

Feature the **poppy** as the main inspiration.

Show **creativity and originality**.

Be carefully made and well-presented.

Communicate ideas of **remembrance, reflection and support**.

Make effective use of your chosen materials.

Exhibition:

Selected entries will be **proudly exhibited in the Main Foyer** as part of our school's Remembrance display.

Make your poppy personal, powerful and memorable.

Deadline: Tuesday 3rd November.





Primary Schools Enjoy

Sport at Longcroft!

Small Schools Football Competition

Longcroft hosted seven schools for the Small Schools' Football Competition last week.

Mrs Henderson, who combines her role as a PE teacher here at Longcroft with that of School Sports Co-ordinator, said: "There was some really competitive team play and also some individual player strength. The games overall were enjoyable to watch with some close scoring games taking place."

She added: "Well done to all involved and to Woodmansey on winning the competition this year after making the final on a number of occasions previously. They now go on to represent Beverley at the SSP final next week. Thank you to the Longcroft pupils giving up their time to referee the games, the weather certainly was not kind during the final!"

Congratulations to everyone involved!





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.

The platform provides a comprehensive suite of resources for exam preparation and language mastery. With thousands of expertly designed activities, Languagenut ensures pupils develop core language skills, offering 8,000 comprehensive exam-style questions, an extensive vocabulary bank of more than 2,500 words in French and Spanish, verb conjugation exercises across a wide range of 60 verbs and tenses, a phonics section where pupils can practise their pronunciation across a range of engaging activities, a sentence building section with chunks and whole sentence activities, and much more!

We are delighted with the enthusiasm shown by pupils for Languagenut and last year saw the introduction of a new award as we celebrated the Language Nutter of the Week.

Congratulations to this week's top scoring Nutter – Holly Artley Tolson!

The top ten are:

Holly Artley Tolson – 85,400 points

Frankie Gray – 73,800 points

Lottie Johnston – 60,400 points

Ebony Gill – 59,700 points

Oscar Purchon – 58,700 points

Erin Costello – 57,100 points

Mia Walters – 56,000 points

Angelo Stenson – 55,000 points

Megan Morley-Smith – 54,600 points

Edward O'Neill – 54,200 points





After School Clubs

TUESDAY

Choir (all year groups)

Dungeons & Dragons (all year groups)

Boys' Football (all year groups)

Netball (all year groups)

WEDNESDAY

Girls' Football (Years 7-9)

Orchestra (all year groups)
– starting 7th October

Rugby (Years 7-9)

THURSDAY

Girls' Football (Years 7-9)

Musical Theatre (all year groups)

Table Tennis (all year groups)

FRIDAY

Badminton (all year groups)



Duke of Edinburgh Award Places Filled in Record Time!

We are delighted to be able to support pupils to complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award. The DofE award is a great chance for young people to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned award.

DofE is non-competitive – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Through their DofE, young people make friends and memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They'll gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that's recognised by top employers and can help them stand out when applying for university or future employment. To achieve their Bronze Award, participants must complete four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and Expedition.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. Pupils complete these sections in their own time, often without the direct involvement of school. We will provide guidance and support, and pupils can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.

The expedition section involves participants working as part of a small team to plan their expedition and complete a training programme to make sure they're fully prepared before spending two days and one night in the countryside.

Ahead of this, pupils will take part in a number of in-school sessions covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment. The group will decide on the aims of their expedition and plan their own bespoke route.

We were delighted that the forty places available this year were snapped up in less than 30 minutes on Monday! Pupils can look forward to an amazing journey filled with challenges but undoubtedly lots of fun as they work together to create life-long memories!





Memory Lane

This week we take a trip back ten years to 2016 and feature our Year 13 students on their last day and celebrating at their Prom.





The Friends' Corner



fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

The FOLS next project is to refresh two welfare rooms at the school and we made an active start this week to get the project completed.

The FOLS repurposed furniture that had been donated to create an informal seating area and provided the room with some TLC. The next step is to give the rooms a lick of paint after half term and then the project will be complete.

The FOLS could not take on projects like this without the financial donations provided by the Longcroft community.

One way you can help us is by doing your on-line shopping via the Easy Fundraising App. It doesn't cost you a thing and is only one extra click when you are doing your shopping.

If we get 10 new people downloading the App before the 1st November, Easy Fundraising will give us £50 - please be one of those 10 people!!





LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

Halloween Reads

Witches and warlocks, demons and doppelgängers, and venomous vampires are among the characters inhabiting our Halloween book display this week. Turn the pages and you'll read the spookiest of tales, learn about monster myths, pots and pans flying around poltergeists, and ghosts from around the world.

Scary books are not everybody's cup of blood, but many of our pupils are thrilled by them. The chance of reading a novel that makes the hairs on the back of their neck stand on end can be exhilarating. They're gripped by the danger and uncertainty, and that wonderful sense of relief once cosy normality has returned.

In reality, life itself can be quite frightening at times, and reading scary stories can help prepare pupils for the real world; question how they might cope if something alarmed them, and what they are capable of. Such books can build emotional resilience, teach morality, and stretch the imagination. What's more, Halloween inspired books can be terrific fun!

A selection of fiction and nonfiction books are in the library, and can be borrowed straightaway. Please encourage your children to visit the display. Below are a few recommendations.

“

Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.”

—Macbeth



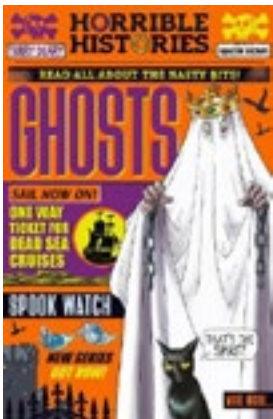


KS3

Horror Height – The Slime by Bec Hill – Dyslexia-friendly

Connie hopes that by adding some extra ingredients to her slime collection she might discover a talent, but sadly it's nothing but a stinky mess, so it's straight in the bin! But when she wakes the next morning that slimy mess is alive! It can talk, and it's getting bigger, and bigger, and bigger.

Scary and super slimy. It's all happening at Horror Heights. A fun read.



Horrible Histories – Ghosts

This horribly hilarious read is packed with spooky stories: the ancient evils of Egypt, Anne Boleyn and ruthless royals, and Celtic sacrifices included. There are Horrible Halloween facts, and top tips on how to get rid of gruesome ghouls.

Lots of fun illustrations and information. Great for reluctant readers too as you can dip in and out.



The Hound of the Baskervilles – A Sherlock Holmes Graphic Novel

This graphic version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic Sherlock Holmes novel is a great introduction to the original book. Sir Charles Baskerville had died in mysterious circumstances and Holmes and Watson are called in to investigate, as a ghoulish hound wanders the Devonshire moors at night. Superb illustrations capture the eerie landscape. Great for reluctant readers. Copies of the original work are also available.

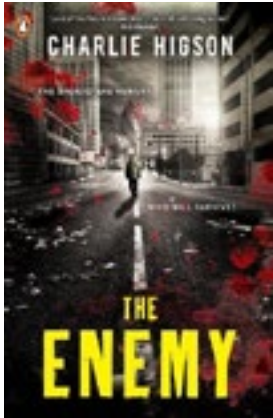


The Witches by Roald Dahl

Real witches look perfectly normal, they have normal jobs; some are even school teachers! But they are far from normal.

The secret witch convention is about to take place and the Grand Witch has a spell to cast. She wants to make every child, everywhere, disappear. Can an orphaned boy and his eccentric Norwegian grandmother stop her evil plan?

Simply superb. Dahl at his deliciously disturbing best.



KS4

The Enemy by Charlie Higson

Everyone over fourteen has been struck by a sickness that has ravaged their minds and bodies, and turned them into crazed zombies. The young must hide in gangs, dodging the preying zombies that roam London's ravaged streets. But when word gets out that there is a safe house on the other side of the city, hope flickers. Can the young escape their Enemy.

A gripping, fast-paced post-apocalyptic novel



The Woman in Black by Susan Hill

This terrifying tale is one of the best ghost stories I've ever read. It's completely chilling. Arthur Kipps, a young solicitor, is sent to attend the funeral of Mrs Alice Drablow, and must stay in her former home Eel Marsh House, located at the end of a causeway, shrouded in mist and mystery. When Arthur catches sight of a ghostly young woman, clad in black, who the locals are reluctant to talk about, he begins to feel an increasing sense of unease.

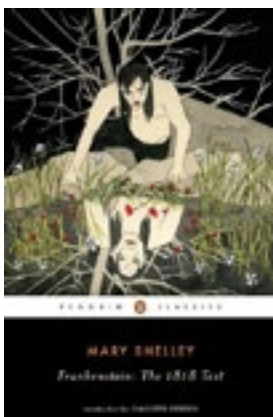
Incredibly eerie. You won't be able to put it down.



Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

First published in 1886 as a 'shilling shocker', a cheap sensationalized book for the masses, Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde is a terrifying exploration of depravity that has remained enduringly popular. The novella has been produced in all manner of formats, as well as serialised on radio, TV, and made into a number of successful films.

The book, which gave birth to the idea of a split personality, tells the tale of Dr Jekyll's search for a chemical to divide his nature between good and evil, and the horrific consequences that ensue.



Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Shelley's ground breaking novel about a scientist obsessed by the idea of creating life questions what it means to be truly human. The tragic monster he creates, one denied love and companionship, determines to destroy his maker and those he loves.

The world's most famous work of horror fiction is perhaps even more relevant today than when first published, and has had a massive influence on literature. Copies of the novel are available in the library in a range of formats, including dyslexia-friendly, abridged, and graphic.



KS5

Songs For Ghosts by Clara Kumagai – Young Adult

When Adam, a Japanese-American teenager, discovers a hundred year old diary, he is fascinated by its account of a young woman's life. Like him, she is caught between two cultures, love and heartbreak; what's more she writes of ghosts!

An extraordinary young adult novel, blending magical realism and lyricism. Bewitching.



Dracula by Bram Stoker – Young Adult and above

This masterpiece of the horror genre, probes into questions of insanity, identity and morality in Victorian society. It's cast of characters, are forever immortalised in our imagination through numerous adaptations of the novel.

Written in the form of diaries and letters, with some violent imagery this is psychological horror at its most tense.

"Quiet people have the loudest minds."

—Stephen King





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

Miss Harsley

katie.harsley@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

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 Nick Raybould | PGA Professional
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 nicholasdavidgolf@gmail.com
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