



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Expo Sees Pupils Look to the Future!

"The Expo gave me an opportunity to talk to people who are actually doing the job I hope to get when I leave school."

We were delighted to welcome over 30 employers and education and training providers to our latest Careers Expo on Wednesday evening.

Contents

Headteacher's Welcome
Page 3

Lower School
Page 4

Upper School
Page 8

Sixth Form
Page 11

Safeguarding
Page 14

Memory Lane
Page 26

Library News
Page 28



Pupils in Years 9 and 10 enjoyed the opportunity to meet our visitors and ask questions during Period 5 but many returned, joined by pupils from other year groups and Sixth Form students for the evening session.

As well as the tremendous range of providers, we welcomed colleagues from **Log On Move On** who offered 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 provide information on local upcoming jobs, apprenticeships and growth in different job sectors.

Our **Careers Adviser** was certainly busy, and the event was once again a huge success!

Thank you to all the visitors who gave up their time to support our young people and enhance our programme of careers education and guidance.



AOC Archaeology Group
Army
Beverley Combat Academy
Bostonair Group Limited
British Army – DST Leconfield
C&D Foods
East Riding of Yorkshire – Librarian
East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Children's and Adults Social Work
Emma Charlotte Nails
ERYC – >log on | move on>
EY6 – Longcroft
First Intuition
Fresh Design International
Groupe Atlantic
HETA

Hull College
Humber NHS – Nurse
Humber NHS – Nurse Specialist
Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust
Humberside Fire and Rescue Service
McArthur Dean training
Quick & Clarke Estate Agents
Reckitt
Rockets Nails by Vicki
Royal Navy
Skills Hull and East Yorkshire
Smailes Goldie
Springfield Healthcare
Tesco
The National Horseracing College
Yorkshire Ambulance Service



Headteacher's Welcome

With such a busy start to the academic year time is passing quickly and it's hard to believe we've reached the half term break already!

It has been wonderful to welcome so many families into school this term across the range of events that have taken place.

Many from our wider community have visited for the first time, particularly for our Year 6 Open Evening which drew in record numbers from many different schools and local areas. With our Sixth Form Tasters, Drop Down Days and incredible Careers Expo taking place just this week, there continues to be a real sense of excitement for the future at Longcroft and the very positive feedback we have received has been hugely appreciated.

After the excitement of the East Riding Cross Country Championships on Tuesday, there has been a flurry of fixtures, clubs, events and activities through this final week of the half term, many of which you can read more about in our Newsletter. Again we have seen a tremendous week of sporting success with our children doing us proud in so many different arenas.

On Wednesday, over 500 pupils and many families engaged with the brilliant Careers Expo which was a hugely impressive event. Feedback from providers about our children has been humbling. Our Careers programme is now extensive but this remains a marquee event in the calendar and we are very grateful to everyone who supports us and makes the experience possible.

Thursday brought our Halloween Disco for Year 7 which was simply just brilliant and so much fun. The event was supported by a group of our student leaders as part of their fundraising efforts for our charity expedition to Peru next year. They did a brilliant job and there were so many highlights, not least the incredible range of outfits on display both from the pupils and staff!

We also had Christian from the East Riding Council's Road Safety Team in school this week. Assemblies on Thursday again demonstrated just how important wearing a cycle helmet can be. As ever, this was a poignant reminder for all in our Longcroft community. Friday morning then brought

the annual give away of new helmets, locks and lights to keep children safe as we enter the winter months. We are hugely grateful to Christian and the Road Safety Team for their support in funding and delivering this critically important programme and if anyone missed out, please get in touch and we will do all we can to support.

All of these events form part of our personal development offer at Longcroft. Whilst these are higher profile events for our school, sat behind them is a carefully crafted curriculum that seeks to develop in our children, not only a breadth of knowledge and skills, but the confidence and character to safely negotiate the world beyond Longcroft. The way that they have presented themselves this week is a great indicator that we are making real progress in that endeavour.

There has been so much this half term to celebrate and be proud of. We have again received a raft of awards, most notably for our brilliant attendance and it remains a tremendous privilege to be a part of this community. There have been nearly 250,000 acts of Great Heart, Thought and Vision registered already, which is just one indicator of the sustained demonstration of our values by our wonderful pupils and students each and every day.

It was also great today to see over 550 pupils collecting their Halloween rewards for meeting our 100% attendance challenge this Friday lunchtime; not just because of the smiles on their faces, but because we know how critically important being in school is and the impact it has on our children.

I wish all in our community a restful half term, and do hope you can enjoy some time together as families. We can't wait to welcome everybody back to school, recharged, reenergised and ready to make the most of every moment on Monday 2nd November.

Mr Perry | Headteacher



LOWER SCHOOL

*Mr Chapman writes:*

Firstly, congratulations to our talented Year 7 artists – Mrs Holmes was incredibly impressed by pupils' Van Gogh inspired mark-making drawings, a selection of which are featured here, and they are truly exceptional!

As we reach the end of our first half term, I want to celebrate the brilliant start our pupils in Years 7, 8, and 9 have made.

Moving up a year group can bring its own challenges. New timetables, different expectations, unfamiliar routines, and increased academic demands can sometimes feel daunting. However, it has been wonderful to see how quickly our Year 7 pupils in particular have found their feet. Starting secondary school is a big step. It's completely normal to feel both excited and nervous.

Six weeks in, it's clear Year 7 are secure. They're not simply turning up and completing homework, they're beginning to make their mark, trying new things from sport to performing arts, and even joining clubs like Dungeons & Dragons. I was especially proud to see some of them helping to welcome prospective families at our recent open evening. Only a few weeks into secondary school and already confidently supporting others. That's a real achievement, and it's helped them build confidence and a sense of belonging.







Year 8 have also made a strong start. This is a year to build on the foundations of last year, making the most of new opportunities and keeping up consistent effort. I've been pleased to see a real sense of purpose in their learning.

Then there's Year 9. This is an important stage, because the choices they make soon will shape their GCSE path. It's a good time to keep an open mind, give every subject a fair go, and think carefully about where their strengths and interests lie.

Beyond the classroom, it's been fantastic to see so many pupils involved in clubs, fixtures, music, and drama. These experiences, several of which are featured in this Newsletter, help young people grow in ways that are just as important as academic work.

I'd encourage every pupil to think about trying something new next half-term, and to do it with confidence, whether or not they've done it before. I'd also like to thank the staff who give up their time to offer these opportunities; their commitment shapes the positive culture we're building.

A quick note as you head into half-term – reading matters. It builds vocabulary, curiosity and confidence across all subjects. You don't need a big plan, just little things, sharing a book, reading a recipe together, talking about something you've seen or heard. Make reading enjoyable, it really does add up.

And finally, it's been a great end to the half term. The Year 7 Parents' Evening was a good chance to talk about progress and the Halloween disco was a lot of fun. Well done, everyone. Have a restful break. You've earned it.





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

Jemima Frankish
 Billie Taylor
 Libby Thompson
 Jimmie Husband
 Lily-Mae Mix
 Layla Kilby
 Adam Snowley
 Imogen Collingwood
 Olivia Gunby
 Jade Jacks

Year 8

Edward O'Neill
 Bradley Took
 Eddie Addinall
 Oliver Croshaw
 Peace Aladesanmi
 Mia Wong
 Emelia McNish
 Seth Grainger
 Louie Welburn
 Sam Artley Tolson

Year 9

Harry Stevens
 Nancy Dale
 Pallavi Whyte-Burman
 Harriet Lugg
 India Wilson
 Ava Hutchinson-Chan
 Erin Bousfield
 Ryley George
 Naomi Rushton
 Fay Beverley
 Anabel Blyth

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 points to exchange in our Arbor shop.

Last week's winners was:

Year 7: Harry Nash

Year 8: Myla Millington

Year 9: Charlotte Wray



UPPER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Firstly, congratulations to Year 11 pupil Charlie on becoming British Champion! Charlie is now a double Junior Rotax UK and British Champion having won the British Championship at Silverstone. He had a very difficult final round and it all came down to the last race of the season. He kept his determination and drove amazingly to secure the championship and also win a ticket to the world finals in Portugal!

Local rugby league club Beverley Braves has produced some outstanding players, notably former Longcroft pupil Jack Charles who has played for both local Super League clubs and is currently at Hull KR. Having visited their home ground Thurlow Avenue on several occasions, I was delighted to hear that Year 10 pupil Kai had enjoyed success after his team won the Group Cup Final on Sunday.





The success of our Careers Expo this week demonstrated the value of bringing education, industry and future opportunities together under one roof. Children and families had the chance to meet a wide range of employers, colleges, universities and support organisations, exploring potential career pathways and gaining first-hand insight into the skills, qualifications and experiences needed for a variety of professions. The event brought together more than 30 exhibitors representing sectors including healthcare, engineering, aviation, construction, childcare, public services, architecture, retail and renewable energy.

Throughout the event, pupils and their families engaged in meaningful conversations with employers and education providers, asking thoughtful questions about career routes, training opportunities, apprenticeships, work experience and further study. Representatives from organisations including Bostonair, Swift Group, Humber NHS, Tesco, Lovell Partnerships, HETA, East Riding College, Bishop Burton College, the University of Hull, York St John University and many others helped showcase the breadth of opportunities available to young people across the region.

The event provided an excellent opportunity for Year 11 pupils to explore their post-16 options, speak directly with subject experts and begin considering their next steps. As our own Sixth Form looks ahead to welcoming its next cohort, it was fantastic to see current and prospective students discussing future pathways and discovering what life at Longcroft can offer.

A particular strength of the Expo was the opportunity for children and families to explore multiple progression routes in one place. Whether considering A Levels, vocational qualifications, apprenticeships, university study or direct employment, pupils were able to gather information, challenge assumptions and begin thinking more carefully about their future aspirations. The event also highlighted potential work experience opportunities and the importance of developing employability skills alongside academic success.

The Expo also reinforced the importance of work experience, particularly for our Year 10 pupils, who will complete a week-long placement later this academic year. Conversations with employers helped our children understand how valuable work experience can be in developing employability skills, increasing confidence and informing future career choices. Many exhibitors were able to offer insight into their industries and discuss potential opportunities, helping pupils make meaningful connections between their studies, future pathways and the world of work.

Thank you to all of the employers, education providers and careers organisations who gave their time to support the event, and to the staff who helped our children make the most of the experience. Most importantly, thank you to our pupils, whose enthusiasm, curiosity and professionalism made the Careers Expo such a positive and worthwhile occasion. We hope the conversations started this week will inspire many future ambitions and help pupils make informed decisions about their next steps.

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 **Tym Krotik** and **Poppy Moxon** – 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

Oscar Purchon
Elias Chapman
Holly Abel
Elizabeth Dale
Henry Konieczko-Hansom
Oliver Albrow
Ashley Griffin
Amelia High
Megan Smith
Spencer Uzzell

Year 11

Lily Curtis
Sam Cai
Brenton Mckie
Daniel Kemp
Aaron Davies
Lily Hardman
Devon Bryans
Harry Dixon
Charli Drage
Muireann Kennedy

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 points to exchange in our Arbor shop.

Last week's winners were:

Year 10: Toby Buckle

Year 11: Poppy Hussey



Mr Haworth writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

Looking to the Future!

The East Yorkshire Sixth Form Taster Day on 15th October was an overwhelming success, providing Year 11 pupils with an exciting and authentic insight into life as an EY6 student.

Throughout the day, prospective students attended four taster lessons in subjects they are considering studying post-16, allowing them to experience the challenge, independence and enthusiasm that characterise sixth form study. In addition, each student enjoyed a free study period in our dedicated sixth form area, making use of the computer suite, social spaces and fully operational canteen while experiencing the greater independence that comes with sixth form life.

The atmosphere throughout the day was exceptionally positive. Year 11 pupils embraced the opportunity with maturity and enthusiasm, engaging fully in lessons and making the most of the chance to explore their future pathways. Staff were equally impressed by the attitude and conduct displayed by participants.

The feedback received has been extremely encouraging. Will Balmforth commented:

"I thought I might go to sixth form elsewhere, but I've really enjoyed the day and EY6 is now one of my top two choices."



@EYSixthForm



@Longcroft6th

Issue 281 October 2026

Page 11



Sophia Brown also reflected positively on her experience:

"I really enjoyed the day and it gave me a genuine insight into life at EY6 and studying different A levels. EY6 is my number 1 choice."

Staff shared the same enthusiasm. Mrs Scott praised the pupils, saying:

"Year 11 conducted themselves brilliantly and there was a real positive energy from the day."

The event highlighted many of the qualities that make East Yorkshire Sixth Form such a popular choice: high-quality teaching, a welcoming and supportive community, excellent facilities and the opportunity for students to develop both academically and personally.



Following the success of the Taster Day, we are looking forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to the **East Yorkshire Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 3 November from 6.00pm to 8.00pm**. The evening will provide a fantastic opportunity to meet staff and current students, explore subject options and discover why so many young people choose to continue their education at EY6.

We would like to thank all pupils and staff who helped make the Taster Day such a memorable occasion and look forward to seeing many families at our Open Evening. As we often say at EY6, when it comes to post-16 education, **you need look no further than Longcroft.**



THE EAST YORKSHIRE SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2026

Award
Winning
Education



ABOUT US

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Great academic outcomes
- **100%** students access their selected universities and undergraduate courses
- Every student known as an individual
- Small class sizes
- Superb enrichment
- Wide range of subjects available
- State of the art facilities
- Over 40 acres of stunning estate

READY TO APPLY FOR SEPTEMBER 2027?

*Use this QR code to
make your application
now and we'll be in
touch with next steps:*



01482 862171



WWW.LONGCROFTSCHOOL.CO.UK

BE AMBITIOUS

18:00 - 20:00

EYSF@LONGCROFT



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:



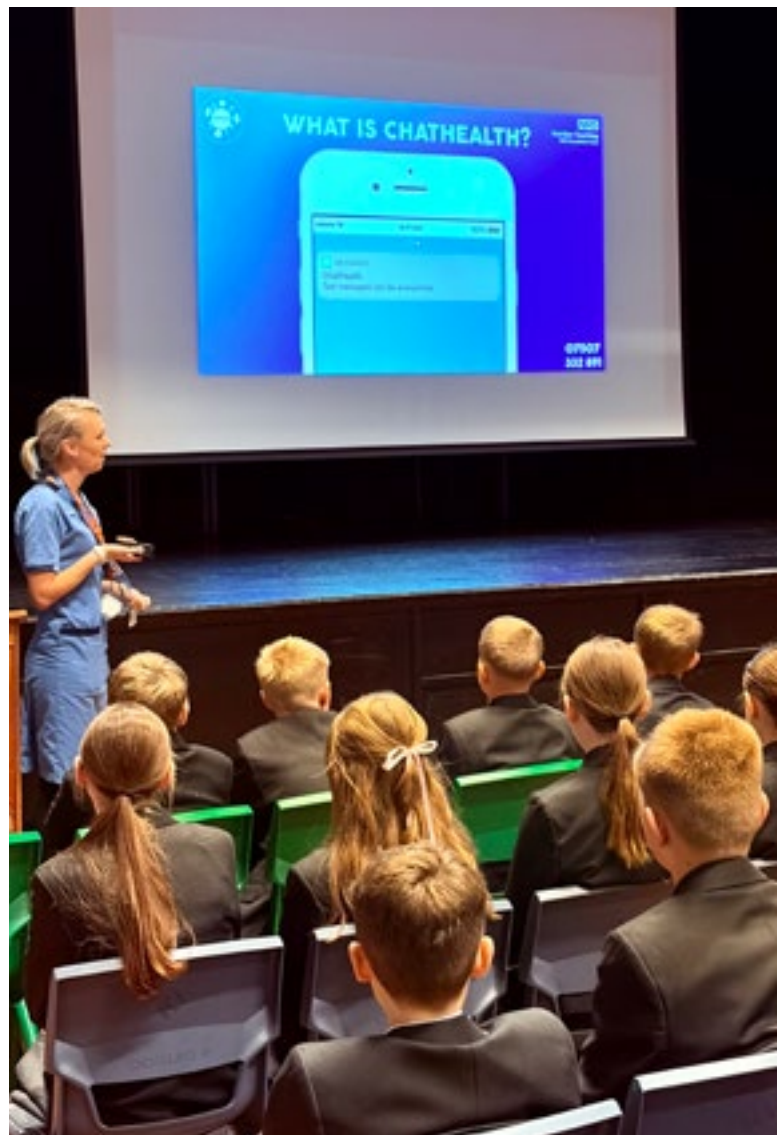
Humber Teaching
NHS Foundation Trust

Last week, our wonderful School Nurse team visited assemblies to remind pupils about the wide range of physical and mental health support available to them at Longcroft.

At Longcroft, we believe that promoting healthy bodies and healthy minds is a vital part of a truly holistic education. Academic success is important, but so too is ensuring that every young person feels safe, supported and able to access help when they need it. We are incredibly fortunate to work alongside outstanding professionals from the NHS and a range of trusted partner organisations who help us provide that support.

As part of our continued commitment to our pupils' wellbeing, we are making further investment in our Wellbeing Centre, which now hosts an expanding range of services designed to support our young people. These services provide additional opportunities for pupils to access advice, guidance and professional support in a welcoming and accessible environment.

During the week's assemblies, pupils were reminded about the School Nurse Drop-In Service, which takes place every Thursday lunchtime. This offers a confidential and informal opportunity for pupils to seek advice or discuss any health concerns with our School Nurse team.





Pupils also learned about ChatHealth, a confidential text messaging service that connects young people directly with school nursing professionals. Available on demand, ChatHealth allows pupils to seek advice, ask questions or access support quickly and discreetly whenever they need it.

These opportunities sit alongside the extensive support already available through our pastoral teams, including referrals and appointments with our fantastic Mental Health Support Team (MHST). Through our curriculum, assemblies, tutor programme and pastoral structures, we encourage pupils to explore important issues affecting young people and know where to turn when they need help. However, services such as the School Nurse Drop-Ins and ChatHealth can provide an essential additional anchor, ensuring that a range of specialist support is always within reach.

We are enormously grateful to our School Nurse team and all of the professionals who work alongside us to help ensure that every young person at Longcroft can flourish, work to overcome any barriers to their education and well-being, and ultimately achieve their potential.





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!

Memet Akkus 8JHL

Peace Aladesanmi 8FCO

Rafe Atkinson 8ARU

Babucarr Ceesay 9ABA

Elias Chapman 10EFO

Jacob Eaton 9RTE

Hermione Elvidge 8FCO

Freya French 8ARU

Cobie Hancock 9ESH

Jimmie Husband 7GTA

Ava Hutchinson-Chan 9ABA

Alisa McKay 9JDY

Emelia McNish 8FCO

Poppy Pryderi 7MHE

Hudson Quail-Sanders 7MHE

Leo Rena 9RTE

Zak Robinson 9RTE

Harry Stevens 9ABA

Rebecca Stewart 9JDY

Olivia Tucker 7MHE

Pallavi Whyte-Burman 9ABA

Harrison Williams 8JHL

Scarlett Wood 11RLO



Pupils Support Partnership

Congratulations to Year 8 pupils Myla and Sofia who joined the East Riding Mental Health Support Team for two days of interviews this week.

Sarah Dennison, Team Lead, said: "Their professionalism, sound judgement, and valuable contributions have been truly exceptional, making them a highly valued asset to the school community."

She explained: "We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Longcroft for providing pupils with the opportunity to take part in our service interview process. By enabling young people to engage in these experiences, the school continues to support the development of important life skills, confidence, and personal growth."

Sarah added: "The Mental Health Support Team greatly values this partnership and looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with young people, parents and carers, staff and the wider school community in the future."





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.





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 – Max Richards!

The top ten are:

- Max Richards** – 244,900 points
- Finley High** – 123,000 points
- Holly Artley Tolson** – 106,000 points
- Stanley Millen** – 87,000 points
- Kaitlyn Waiter** – 85,100 points
- Penny Blakeston** – 79,700 points
- Seth Lindsay** – 78,800 points
- Frankie Gray** – 76,200 points
- Lottie Johnston** – 75,800 points
- Lily Forster** – 74,000 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)



Table Tennis Success!

A group of Longcroft pupils travelled to Headlands School to compete in the East Yorkshire Schools' Table Tennis Tournament. Longcroft entered teams in both the Under 13 and Under 16 age categories, facing strong opposition from South Hunsley, Headlands, Driffield and Bridlington schools.

The tournament showcased a high standard of table tennis throughout the evening, with some excellent matches and competitive performances from all schools involved. Longcroft's pupils represented the school superbly, demonstrating great skill, determination and sportsmanship in every match.

Their efforts were rewarded with a number of successful performances, and we are delighted that the Under 13 Boys' Team has qualified for the Humberside Schools Finals, which will take place in the new year.

In the individual competition Ben, Seth, George and Max all produced excellent performances to secure qualification for the next round.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and represented Longcroft with pride. We wish our qualifiers the very best of luck in the Humberside Schools' Finals.

Each week pupils of all abilities enjoy playing and improving their skills at our popular table tennis club led by Mr Fox and Mr Henderson.





Congratulations to our amazing cross country runners on their fantastic performances at Tuesday's East Riding Schools' Championships, including a victory for Megan, fourth places for Ella and Lottie, ninth for Sebastian in the Under 16 boys and Lily in the Under 18 girls' events, tenth for Holly and twelfth for Olivia. Mr Nicholls said, "Everyone represented Longcroft exceptionally well - I was proud of all our runners." Miss Judge added, "The Under 16 girls, five of whom are in Year 9 and eligible to compete in the same race next year, were amazing! They all earned places in the top 30 and Megan won to be crowned East Riding Champion!"





LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS LETTER





Netballers Too Strong for Driffield!

Our amazing Lower School netball players enjoyed fantastic victories against Driffield. Year 7 won 12-1, Year 8 11-3 and Year 9 21-11! Well done girls!





Girls' Football Tournament a Success!

A fantastic evening of girls' football saw teams from five primary schools come together to compete in a tournament.

Mrs Henderson said, "It was particularly encouraging to see more than 50 girls taking to the pitch, enjoying the game and embracing the competitive spirit of the event. The tournament provided a brilliant opportunity for players to showcase their skills, gain valuable match experience and develop their confidence in a supportive environment."



She added, "There were a wide range of abilities on display throughout the evening, with players demonstrating different levels of experience and skill. However, what stood out most was the progress made by all the teams and individuals as the tournament went on. As the matches progressed, the girls showed improvements in their confidence, teamwork and understanding of the game, highlighting the value of competitive opportunities in supporting their development."

Congratulations to Molescroft Primary School who won the tournament and go through to the SSP round to represent Beverley.

Thank you to Longcroft pupils Alex and George, two of our referees, for giving up their time to referee the games.





Memory Lane

This week we take a trip back to 2012 and feature two Year 11 tutor groups. 11L and 11C are pictured, the former with their form tutor Miss Thorley.





LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS

LETTER



Friends of Longcroft School

AGM



Friday 13th November
at 6.30pm



The Hayride Pub

A way of meeting members
of the FOLS.

All Welcome!





LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

Welcoming Cassandra Parkin – Longcroft's New Writer in Residence

"First Story is the sort of programme I wish I could have been part of as a young writer.....I'm really looking forward to my time in Longcroft Library. It is a beautiful space – a true haven from the bustle and noise of the outside world."

—Cassandra Parkin

A massive thank you to Beverley Town Council and FOLS for supporting one of Longcroft's favourite enrichment programmes. First Story 2026/2027 will begin on Monday November 16th in the library, and pupils and staff couldn't be happier.

This year we have a new writer in residence, the multi-talented Cassandra Parkin, who will be facilitating weekly creative writing workshops and support the editing of a professionally printed anthology created by Longcroft's young writers. It's an exciting prospect and we can't wait to get started.

First Story was officially launched in 2008, and is now England's leading creative writing charity for young people. It was founded to give a voice to secondary school pupils and students who might not have the opportunity to work with a professional writer or express their talent. The programme is about giving them the confidence and safe environment they need to tell their own story, recognise its value, and understand that by expressing who they are and what they have experienced, they create better writing.



Longcroft has been fortunate to work with First Story for the last six years and staff have seen just how many benefits it has brought to our children and school. What positive impacts does Cassandra feel First Story brings?

"First Story is the programme I wish I could have been a part of as a young writer. It's an opportunity to carve out dedicated time to explore the craft of writing, and to connect with other people who also love to write. Writing in a room filled with other writers is a magical thing. Plus, there is nothing more joyful than seeing your words in print for the first time."



Cassandra has seen a lot of her own words in print. Her debut short story collection, *New World Fairy Tales* won the 2011 Scott Prize for short stories; she's gone on to have eight novels published, and also writes poetry. Indeed, she was appointed the first Poet Laureate of the East Riding in 2023. Unsurprisingly, Cassandra is also an avid reader and has been since childhood; her family home was opposite a library when she was a child:

"If Anlaby Park branch library hadn't closed, I would genuinely have never gone home. It was my happy place and my haven, and I still return there now in my dreams. Spaces dedicated to words have a sacred quality for me. I'm really looking forward to time in Longcroft Library. It is a beautiful space – a true haven from the bustle and noise of the outside world."

It takes a special type of person to inspire and give young people the confidence they need to write, but Cassandra has lots of experience, and is an excellent role model. She clearly loves what she does and has huge enthusiasm:

"Over the last ten years or so I've worked with writers of all ages, and I find that working together and sharing what we've written is always a special experience. There's a different energy in the room that comes from hearing other people's words and recognising the power and quality of what they've created."

As well as working with a cohort of pupils across year groups, Cassandra will also do additional workshops, marking events that are important to Longcroft and enabling her to extend the First Story reach. There will also be whole school opportunities, including competitions and trips, a favourite is the Young Writers Festival at the University of Cambridge, as well as opportunities to attend writing residencies and secure mentorships. Cassandra is a great believer in the power of creation and truly enjoys teaching others:

"It feels as if today's young people don't get as much space or time as they deserve to simply create the work they want to make. Creation is what makes us human. It connects us with ourselves. Helping other writers to find their voice and their confidence is a wonderful experience to be a part of."

Despite her literary successes, Cassandra knows that being a writer is not the easiest career path, but what it may lack in financial rewards it certainly makes up for in satisfaction and engagement:



"For the record, I tried Not Being A Writer for fifteen years, working in international marketing, and – while I got a very good price for my soul – I have never once regretted the choice to stop doing it, and write instead. I wish I could go back and tell my fifteen-year-old self that I was, in fact, meant to be a writer. Until someone invents time travel, I'll settle for being able to be a part of the amazing First Story programme, helping to give young writers the support I would have loved to have. Making a living from the arts is hard (as it always has been). But if it's what you were sent here to do, do it anyway."

Not everyone wants to be a writer, but if your child does, or is simply interested in developing and improving their writing skills, then joining First Story is a great option; it's also a wonderful way of raising self-esteem and building confidence. The workshops will be held in the library on Mondays after school from 3.15 until 5.00, with refreshments provided.

If you feel your child would benefit from joining First Story please ask them to come to the library for a chat, or telephone or email for more information sonia.carvill@longcroft.eriding.net

"First Story helps young people discover their own unique voices. This has certainly been the experience at Longcroft. Last year, this resulted in a student taking part in the panel interviewing AM Dassu at our Young Writers Festival; commendations for students in both the 100 Word Story and Tiny Poems competitions, and a student having a life-changing experience on the Residency at Lumb Bank."

—Naomi Frisby First Story Programme and Partnerships Manager Yorkshire





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
 07541 608927
 nicholasdavidgolf@gmail.com
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