

LONGCROFT

SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



Nathan Secures Poetry Prize

in National Competition!

"I was really happy and surprised to come third."

Congratulations to Year 8 pupil Nathan who earned 3rd place in the First Story National Eco Poetry Competition 2024.

Nathan explained: "I wanted to make people think about global warming and what they could do about it. I knew I wanted to use a nature theme, so I thought I would write about things that are important to me"

Headteacher's Welcome

Lower School

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Personal Development

In Foucs: Geography

Memory Lane

Library News





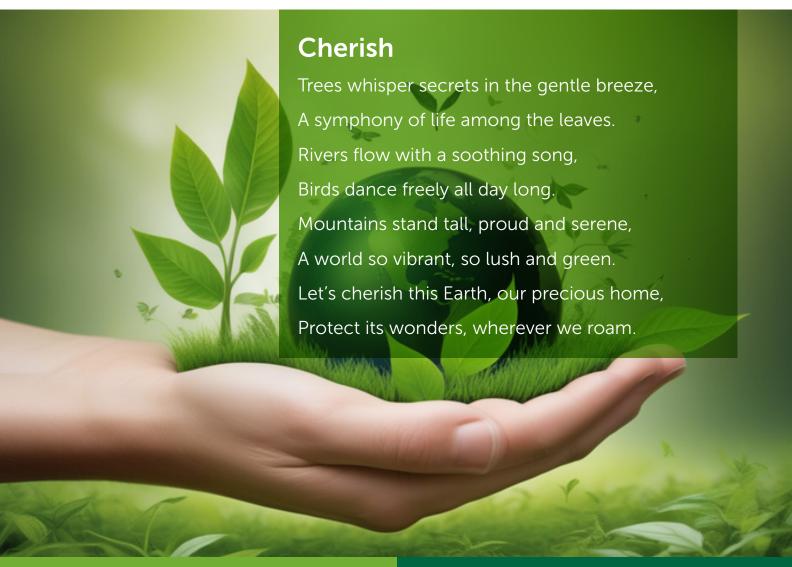
He added: "I was really happy and surprised to come third."

Ms Carvill said: "It's a beautiful poem, which will be published online. This is an incredible achievement, and we very much look forward to reading more of Nathan's writing in the future."

Kayleigh Jayshree, one of the national judges, said: "This poem to me feels like a declaration, one that could be engraved or carved in concrete on the side of a statue or work of art. A poem of both protest and love, delicacy edged with threat."

Nathan's winning poem will be published online on the First Story website.





Craig Leads Beverley to Cup Success!

"I built some strong friendships at Longcroft through sport."

Craig Hancock enjoyed a twentyyear association with Beverley RUFC as a player and latterly as First Team Coach, demonstrating throughout the loyalty, enthusiasm and desire to improve that characterised his years at Longcroft.



Mr Baker said: "Craig took every opportunity to play sport. He was a pleasure to teach and coach, and you could always rely on him. I'm delighted, but not surprised, to see that he's been so successful as both a player and a coach."

Craig said: "The highlight of my career as a player was playing in the National League for Beverley. A small market town without the reach of clubs in the cities, I enjoyed competing against much tougher, semi-professional opposition."



Craig explained: "I didn't take a normal route to the coaching role. About then years ago I became Beverley RUFC's Development Officer – a voluntary role that involved going into schools such as St Mary's Primary School. One of the teachers at St Mary's, Mr Wood, had been my teacher when I was at Swinemoor. When Beverley Under 16's needed a coach, I coached them on a Sunday for one season then concentrated on playing again. After Covid, which had a massive impact on the club, the coach decided he didn't want to do the job anymore. It was just before the start of the season and the club tried to get someone but couldn't. I'd just retired so they asked me and I wasn't going to let them down."

When asked about his coaching style, Craig said: "I'm more a man-management coach – building relationships and connections with players and getting them to play attacking rugby." He added: "Beverley's a family club and rugby's a family sport so I try to get everyone involved."

Craig explained: "Beverley is a very supportive club. All the volunteers - parents that coach their children's team. We have women's and girls' teams now. Covid left a massive hole, but we've rebuilt the club thanks to an ongoing effort from a group with experience in different areas. The club is such a family club and a part of the community. It's opened its doors to the community and we're a base for Andy's Man Club, art classes, salsa classes – such a broad range. We hosted Beverley's Pride event last year.

When asked about the highlight of his coaching career, Craig was clear: "My last game as Head Coach in the Papa John's final. It was a hard season – lots of postponements due to waterlogged pitches and we played the best we had over the three seasons. Everything went right on the day and it showed what we could do – they've got a foundation to build on."



Having defeated Didsbury and Old Rishworthians, Beverley took on Peterborough Lions at Darlington Arena in the Counties 1 North Shield Final on Sunday 12th May. On a day that will live long in the memories of everyone involved with the club, Beverley won 58-33. Mr Baker said: "As well as Craig, it was good to see a strong contingent of former Longcroft pupils involved in such a big occasion including younger players such as Sam and Max Bayes who are the club's future and those with more experience such as Dale Hodgson and Andrew Meagher. Craig's delight at the final whistle and the pride he showed in his players was great to see, and he thoroughly deserved to finish this chapter of his coaching career on a high. I'm sure the players would have wanted to win for him."

Craig explained: "The decision to step down was taken earlier in the season. I'll stay involved in the game. I want to recharge my batteries and learn a bit more. I plan to shadow some coaches – I'm still new to it and I'm keen to expand my knowledge in coaching." Clearly still attached to his local club, Craig added: "I'll still do odd sessions."

When asked about his memories of Longcroft, Craig said: "I've got lots of good memories. I enjoyed the sport and the friendships I made through sport. I was pretty sporty and enjoyed it. I made some strong, lasting friendships."

Mr Baker said: "What comes across so strongly when speaking to Craig, or to anyone about him, is his loyalty – he cares so much about people and they know they can always rely on him. I'm sure he could have tested himself at a higher level as a player, and he played both rugby league and rugby union to a high level for Beverley, but community and friendships are so important to him and he can be extremely proud of everything he's achieved. It's people like Craig that make the

difference between a successful team and a successful club – he's played in and now coached successful teams, but clubs endure challenging times and he's played a key role in Beverley's resurgence. He can be proud of that."

Congratulations to Beverley RUFC on a fantastic cup final victory, and to Craig on a wonderful career to date. Best wishes to both for the future.



Headteacher's Welcome

Our 'Longcroft Standard' is a statement of intent and enables us to characterise the expectations we place on ourselves as individuals and as a community. It reminds us to recognise the importance of the small things we can do each day which reflect that standard, reflect our values and reflect our commitment to being the very best of ourselves – 'living in to being' Great heart, Great thought and Great Vision.

There have been many examples of our young people rising to the challenge again this week and it is always great to hear about how brilliantly they represent our school. Year 12 for example are enjoying work experience and for some a trip to New York! Year 10 have had a busy period with fieldwork in Geography at Mappleton and Hornsea, and then a visit to Hardwick Hall for our historians. We've had KS3 cricket at Beverley cricket club and our wonderful Year 9 Brilliant Club Scholars featured in our Newsletter this week at Leeds University for their graduation. In all cases, the feedback I receive about our children, when they are away from school, fills me with pride and I regularly have communication from those we work with to celebrate their behaviour and conduct. It is great to see our young people embracing opportunities and demonstrating our values both in school and beyond.

We have received the excellent news this week that Nathan in Year 8 has secured third prize in the prestigious national First Story Eco Poetry competition. He features as the lead article with his entry 'Cherish' which beautifully captures the wonder of our natural world and the responsibility we have as custodians to protect it. We are hugely impressed and proud of Nathan to have achieved this accolade at such a young age and are excited for what more he will produce in the years to come.

On Wednesday it was a joy to see so many of our young people take the stage for our Summer Performing Arts Evening. From across the school there were a range of talents on show and the varied bill kept the audience captivated throughout. I am always so incredibly impressed by the quality, courage and confidence demonstrated by our children during our showcase events and this week was no different. A huge well done to all involved, from those pupils taking their first steps in public performance to others who are now seasoned on the stage. I would also like to thank Mrs Harris, our performing arts team and the wider peripatetic music team who helped prepare our young people for the event and accompanied them throughout. We are incredibly lucky to have so many dedicated colleagues who make these brilliant opportunities possible. For those who enjoy such events, we have a concert at Leconfield Church on Friday 5th July from 7pm and would love to see you all there.

It is often impossible to imagine what we are actually capable of, or where life may take us. At Longcroft we want to ensure a culture and an educational experience that empowers our young people to constantly reimagine what is possible for them and the world around them, to be confident and happy, committed and courageous, willing to take risks and accept failure as a path to success. As ever this week's newsletter is full of inspiring examples, celebration and opportunity. Please encourage your children to get involved and try something new... every journey starts somewhere.

Mr D Perry Headteacher

Reward Totals

So far this term our pupils have been awarded the following rewards for acting with Great Heart, Thought and Vision:



Acts of Great

HEART

93,247

THOUGHT

456,639

VISION

297,122

GRAND TOTAL: 847,008





In the summer term, one of the aspects of the Head of Lower School role I enjoy the most is preparing for our new, prospective pupils and parents visiting the school. This week I have had the pleasure of visiting Tickton Primary School, Skidby Primary School, Minster Primary School and, finally, Woodmansey Primary School. These visits are vital for me as part of the transition process to ensure that our new pupils get an outstanding start; one where we offer excellent care in order for our children to thrive in September.

Mrs Barry, who has also visited several schools over the last few weeks as Head of Year 7, said: "It has been really lovely to get to know the children and they all seem very keen to get started!" As part of our visits, we answer all the questions that our new starters have for us on the day and provide any reassurance and support needed ahead of this big next step.

Thinking closer to home, our children have been wonderful ambassadors for the school, and have been of great assistance in aiding with school tours during the day, communicating and articulating well with regards to what makes Longcroft School so special. We know and care for every child as an individual. We actively encourage our children to demonstrate readiness for the future by developing the skills and qualities that will lead to success in life beyond school. Our children have settled back into school life well after half-term; during lesson time, the atmosphere is calm and peaceful, with pupils focused on their learning and striving to make good progress.

This week, St Mary's C of E have visited our Design Technology department to build a model version of Baghdad as part of their studies in Technology and in Religious Education too. The pupils enjoyed getting to grips using our tools to make shapes to contribute towards a large model of the city. Last year, we also invited the school to join us for a day of technology, and are pleased to see that their models are displayed inside the school's reception area.

We absolutely want what is best for our pupils. As a school, we are aware that every interaction is important and every conversation is an opportunity to help our children to grow and develop into well-rounded young people with enhanced futures beyond schooling.

For all parents, irrespective of year group, we continue to offer a high level of support through our Care and Achievement Coordinators. If you have any questions, or if there are any ways we can support your child, please contact the school via the lines of communication at the end of the newsletter. We pride ourselves on our individual care for each and every pupil at Longcroft School.

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

Jake Redmond

Owen Harper

Alexander Waterson

Holly Watson

Oliver Albrow

Harry Hugill

Shanice Munaku

Oscar Purchon

Isaac Savage

Robert Grimes

Year 8

Evie Sugdon

Annabel Shepherd

Nathan Steele

Lilly Waiter

Mia Robinson

Henrik-Bror Berntsson

Kamila Canniffe

Reagan De Kock

Amy Thornton

Scarlett Wood

Year 9

Alicia Hicks

Levi Petherbridge

Aiden Clayton

Ava Harris

Sam Al Budri

Ben Smedley

Lily Logan

Leon Hardy

Ben Carlyle Smith

Fvie Woad

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: Lily Smedley

Year 8: Zachary Denton

Year 9: Hayden Lax





As Year 11 pupils have now completed their exams, and well done to those pupils who had Food, Design and Technology, Statistics and Further Maths this week, I want to offer a massive well-done to the whole year group who have put in so much hard work. Pupils' focus and effort has been fantastic in the morning briefings before exams in the Theatre, the exam preparation sessions and in the exams themselves.

Today we had our Leavers' Assembly for Year 11, the last time pupils will all be together before the Prom on the 3rd July. Mr Cassidy recalled events and pictures from the last five years to celebrate all that they have achieved and experienced with us.

I hope you enjoy reminiscing as much as the pupils did today, as we have included several pictures from the Year Six Induction Day in this week's Newsletter.

GCSEPod still remains available for our Year 11 pupils and offers excellent transition units and work designed specifically for those moving from GCSE to A Levels.







Year 10 Mock Exams have started; these exams' main purpose will be to identify gaps in knowledge well in advance so pupils, parents and staff can plan to address these.

GCSEPod winners this week were Daniel and Riley. Congratulations and vouchers are coming your way.

With this in mind, every lesson and every week matters all the way up to the exams next May and June. Revision guides have sold so well, these can be ordered in school using ParentPay, and GCSEPod remains a fantastic resource. GCSEPod, for those still unfamiliar,

provides short videos on different topics. It is a great revision resource with tangible outcomes – it improves GCSE grades. I recommend it unconditionally and feedback from pupils is incredibly positive. Videos can be downloaded to save on data use and the short 5-minute video format is especially useful for pupils who find sitting down at a desk to revise arduous work. It can be used anywhere, and one pupil told me they would get through five videos just travelling to school on the bus.

Longcroft School usage remains good but still needs to improve. It will be vital for pupils currently in Year 10 to use it over the summer term to address weaker areas in subjects, so we hit the ground running in September. The more we do now the easier it will be later. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in this. Pupils are also being asked to access SENECA - Mrs Scott has been working hard to ensure all pupils can access this resource for GCSE learning.

Mr Henderson Head of Upper School



























New York, New York!

This week, while the majority of Year 12 have enjoyed Work Experience, a group of students have experienced the city that never sleeps!

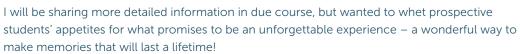
I am looking forward to reporting on their visit to New York in next week's Newsletter, but this week I am delighted to promote next year's visit to current Year 11 pupils who will be studying with us as members of our Sixth Form from September. Our trip in 2025 will be the third such opportunity, offered in collaboration with colleagues from Woldgate School and Sixth Form College - our partners in The East Yorkshire Sixth Form.

Previous trips have seen students visit iconic landmarks such as the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, the Museum of Modern Art, Times

> Square and Ground Zero - the former site of the World Trade Centre.

This year's trip also included a meal at Broadway's Hard Rock Café followed by a performance of Wicked at the incredible Gershwin Theatre!





In the meantime, I hope Year 11 enjoy their end of year celebrations including of course a wonderful Prom. My colleagues and I look forward to seeing many of you at our forthcoming Sixth Form induction events!

Mr Chapman | Head of Sixth Form











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Congratulations to our Year 9 Graduates!

This year we've once again worked with the Brilliant Club to put a number of pupils through their Scholars' Programme. This programme is based around pupils working with a PhD tutor to research and consider an area that the tutor is currently researching for their PhD. A PhD, or Doctorate of Philosophy, typically involves students independently conducting original and significant research in a specific field or subject, before producing a publication-worthy thesis. The programme is open to pupils in Year 9 who have been selected as being particularly likely to benefit from exposure to the university route and who may have not previously considered attending university as an option.

This year, our Year 9 pupils worked with Gary their PhD tutor to study a sociological question that he is researching for



his PhD based around the use of social media by people to present favourable impressions of themselves. Pupils were asked to consider the ways in which YouTube is used by variety of content providers and grappled with some deep philosophical and sociological questions about the nature of human interaction with technology. Having worked through a series of tutorials with their tutor and completed research assignments, pupils had to complete a final essay which was graded by the tutor using university grades. Pleasingly, all our pupils passed gaining a 2:2 grade or above, and most pupils achieving a 2:1 grade or a first!

Having achieved so highly on their university assignments, we had the pleasure of taking our young people to the prestigious University of Leeds for their Graduation Ceremony. This involved a number of interesting events such as a careers guidance session, a tour of the university, and lunch in the university restaurant. Pupils were able to experience aspects of university life and had a chance to meet university students. A particular highlight for many of our pupils was seeing the interesting assortment of architectural styles that make up the university campus in the heart of the city of Leeds. In the afternoon our pupils had a graduation ceremony where they received their certificates and quite rightly, celebrated their achievement in completing the Scholars' Programme.

This programme is run nationwide and seeks to raise aspirations and introduce pupils to the university route. This is the second year we have run the programme, and it has been a great success. Our pupils have grown and benefited massively from the experience, and we hope that it has given them a window onto the style of university teaching and study. More generally, it's really important that all pupils understand the range of options ahead of them as they leave secondary school education, and we feel that exposing pupils to all the possible routes is the best way to ensure that they are available to find their own way into their bright future.

Green Team Working to Promote Active Travel!

The Longcroft Green Team needs your help to promote our environment, active travel and Road Safety!

The pupils are working hard to raise awareness about the struggles that our environment is going through right now. They have organised a competition, 'Posters for Progress', to design posters to raise awareness. The winning posters will be printed out and published on school grounds to be seen by people who are walking past, parents that are collecting or dropping off children and children going to and from school.

The Team explained: "Active Travel is all about us actively travelling, such as biking, scooting, walking and so much more! We want everyone to be actively travellers to help the environment, so we are inviting you to compete and participate in a poster competition. This competition is all about safety on our planet; we will need everyone's help to accomplish our target."

There will be prizes for the winners:

- >> 3x £10 3rd place vouchers
- >> 2x £15 2nd place vouchers
- >> 1x £20 1st place voucher.

These prizes will be given to the best posters that promote either caring for the planet, travelling actively or staying safe while cycling and walking.

To enter, either bring your posters to Longcroft's Reception or send your posters by email to **school@longcroft.eriding.net** by Friday 12th July.

We know that active travel is good for the planet and for your physical and mental health, so why don't you support The Green Team on their journey to restore the power of active travel!

Mr A Coupe

Head of PSHE and Careers Education







Memory Lane

This week we return to 1965/66 and feature two of our rugby teams. The top picture shows Longcroft's Senior XV, while the Under 15 team is pictured below. The pictures undoubtedly include several boys who went on to continue enjoying their rugby with Beverley RUFC.





IN FOCUS GEOGRAPHY

Pupils studying GCSE Geography participate in two fieldwork opportunities. One is based on physical geography, and the second human geography. Both aspects are assessed through the Paper 3 examination in Year 11.

This year's Year 10 fieldwork trip combined the physical and human elements and was carried out at Mappleton and Hornsea.

Pupils visited Mappleton beach to measure various coastal processes and the town of Hornsea to study flows of people, traffic and its sustainability.



















St Mary's Visit Longcroft's Library.

A huge thank you to St Mary's Year 6 pupils and their staff for visiting Longcroft Library last week. They were amazing. It was lovely to hear them talk about the importance of reading and how much they enjoy books.

Pupils are currently learning about WW2, and its links to the local area in their history lessons and were eager to examine our library display of literature and artefacts.

Working in small groups they researched a choice of themes. Mrs Clarke contacted the East Riding Archives department, and secured street plans of Beverley in wartime, so pupils could see where wardens were posted, locate shelters, and discuss preparations for emergencies. They also investigated the plight of evacuees, the role of women in WW2, and the Ministry of Food and its various initiatives, like Digging for Victory, to ensure everyone was fed.

As well as using books, pupils were shown replica artefacts like ration cards, clothing coupons, and gas masks, and also looked at original magazines from the 1940s, including War Illustrated.

After completing a series of questions they shared their knowledge and then wrote poems about their topics. You can read some of their fabulous work below. Finally, pupils listened attentively to Chapter One of Safiyyah's War by Hiba Noor Khan which has been shortlisted for the Yoto Carnegie Medal 2024.

It was lovely to hear from their teacher, Mrs Hodgson, how much they'd enjoyed their time in the library and how thrilled they were to be awarded prizes for their poems.

"We all really enjoyed the sessions yesterday - thank you for the time you spent preparing this for us."

An Evacuee by Leo

I packed my bags

In my dirty rags

And went off to my train.

I was sad to say goodbye.

I felt like my eyes

Were going to rain.

A Woman's War Work by Eliza

The days were long.

Milking, ploughing, and planting.

The days were long.

Weapons, aircraft, sweaty hands.

The days were long.

Nursing, saving lives, seeing people die.

The days were long.

Big crowds, music, playing and dancing.

The days were long,

But now they are gone,

Left behind.

But we still have the pride.

There was not enough time before

We had to say goodbye.

The Tastes of Wartime by Mia

Welsh rabbit became a habit,

Dried eggs were a mess.

Saving scraps wasn't a laugh;

Bread pudding wasn't filling.

Lots of supplies brought tears to our eyes.

Dig for Victory was a misery.

Eggless sponge wasn't a brunch,

Tasting and trying was a lot of buying.

Beverley Bombs by Victor

Bombs in Beverley,

Sent by the enemy,

Fires, bangs, burning,

Bombs in Beverley.

Bombs in Hull,

Everything's dull,

Houses destroyed,

Too much noise.

Bombs in Hull.

Everything's dull.



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

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Years 8 and 9

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Year 10 Mrs Ellis 07900 394085

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Sixth Form Miss Taylor 07423 261292

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