



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



The Bookbuzz Books Are Here!

The Bookbuzz books have arrived and were distributed this week to all our eager Year 7 pupils. Reading brings profound and wide-ranging benefits that can have a lifelong positive impact on children's lives. Thank you to the wonderful Friends of Longcroft School for their support with this project; especially Mrs Sue Sugdon and Mrs Becky Chapman who came into school to help present the books. Receiving a free book is a marvellous way for our pupils to begin their reading journey at Longcroft!

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LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

NEWS LETTER

Bookbuzz has been specially developed by BookTrust to encourage young people to get reading. Bookbuzz gives children the chance to choose and keep a book they'll love from a collection of 16 titles, newly selected each year by a panel of BookTrust reading experts, practising teachers and school librarians. The panellists are chosen for their experience, knowledge and passion for getting children reading. Panel members come from different parts of the country, from both rural and urban communities, and with differing experience, expertise and perspectives.

BookTrust believes every child has the right to access books, so some Bookbuzz titles are chosen to offer something different, such as a dyslexia-friendly print, or non-fiction to dip in and out of, or a book with less text. The selection panel looks for books that will be fun, exciting and engaging, that will support young people to build a reading for pleasure habit and become lifelong readers.

Stanley said: "I chose my book because it is funny and I knew it would cheer me up. It's really good."

Ms Carvill said: "Over the next couple of weeks, we look forward to hearing lots of discussion about the books. Pupils are also encouraged to complete Accelerated Reader quizzes on their book, write reviews and record reviews. Mr Perry has very kindly donated some voice recording buttons to the library. Pupils can use these to provide short reviews that practice their oracy skills and develop their confidence. They're great fun and we are looking forward to Year 7 making their recorded reviews."







Headteacher's Welcome

It was been a week of literary excitement here at Longcroft and given the immeasurable benefits reading brings to our young people's lives, we welcome every opportunity to celebrate and promote great books.

Year 7 have enjoyed the distribution of their selected Bookbuzz reads this week and we are hugely grateful to our Friends of Longcroft School (FOLS) for again making this project possible. Through working alongside the BookTrust, our Bookbuzz initiative allows our children to select a book from a brilliant range of 16 titles selected each year by a panel of experts. You can read more about the programme in this week's headline article and see some fabulous pictures of our pupils and Friends as the books have been distributed in our school library. Please also remember that FOLS fund raising for our reading room project is still on-going at **Tesco in Beverley – so don't forget to put your blue coins in the charity collection at the end of your shopping!**

Last Friday it was wonderful to welcome Sue Baker in to school, a local author who has recently had her dystopian novel CALM published, which is targeted at young adults. The book has been receiving brilliant reviews and it was fantastic for our young people to meet Sue and learn about the process she has undertaken to become a published author. These events are genuinely inspirational for our children, and we have many budding writers within our community. Our First Story project enables us to have a more sustained relationship with visiting authors and provides our young people with the opportunity to publish their short stories in an anthology which is listed and featured in the British Library. We are hugely grateful to Sue for offering us her time.

Our commitment to educating the whole young person is hugely important to us at Longcroft. Visiting speakers are one key vehicle to exploring opportunities and learning from the lived experiences of those that have gone before us to make their way in the world. Our success in this regard is reflected in the proportion of our pupils and students who successfully progress into further and higher education, employment or training – consistently above local and national levels.

Next Tuesday will see us welcome Year 11 pupils to our Sixth Form Open Evening. Another significant event for our school, it provides prospective students with the opportunity to explore our offer and learn about the benefits of becoming part of the East Yorkshire Sixth Form @ Longcroft. This is a rapidly growing area of our school and after so many top outcomes across last year's exam cohorts, is a pathway that many of our Year 11 pupils will want to consider. I'm very much looking forward to seeing our families there, **and please do use the QR code in the Sixth Form article of this Newsletter to secure your place if you haven't already booked.**

Our commitment to 'Great Vision' is all about this wider preparation for life beyond school, broadening horizons and ensuring that every young person in our community can recognise and realise their amazing potential. Recent weeks have provided many opportunities for wider enrichment with participation levels continuing to climb. Our sports teams have been exceptional in their performances and attitude, and there have been more and more pupils and students engaging with clubs and academic interventions including our Period 6 and homework clubs. The performing arts preparations for this term's showcases are absolutely wonderful, and visitors to a meeting after school this week were treated to their incredible sounds ringing out from the Theatre. They couldn't help but comment on just how impressed they were, so do get ready to join us next half term. In the coming weeks we will be launching a raft of new student leadership opportunities, so do look out for more details, and continue to encourage your child to get involved.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter, which is again packed with celebration of our fabulous young people and their amazing achievements. We could not be more proud!

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

19,986

THOUGHT

100,870

VISION

97,464

GRAND

TOTAL:

218,320





LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Getting to know each child as an individual is a privilege, as is rewarding them as we celebrate acts of Great Heart, Great Thought and Great Vision.

It was wonderful to see two Lower School rugby teams in action on Thursday after school – congratulations to all the players involved in the matches against Hull's Kelvin Hall School. The Year 8 team won their match, and while our Year 7 team were unable to secure victory in their first season together they showed great commitment and enjoyed the game.

Over the summer holidays, we set our current Year 7 pupils a challenge to design a piece of art or to write a document that reflected their hopes and dreams for the future. This may have been an aspiration in terms of career, or where they see themselves in twenty-years' time.



Imogen wrote: "When I grow up my dream is to be an actress/dancer/performer. I have been dancing since I was 2 years old. I have had the opportunity to perform in dance shows, stage school productions and pantomimes. I absolutely love to dance and express myself through performing and have some fantastic dance friends, it's all just great fun!! There's no business like show business."

Thea hopes to become an architect. She wrote: "I built a mini house using bricks and cement because when I'm older, I would like to work in something related to buildings."

Amy explained: "My biggest goal for the future is to become a children's author (aimed at ages 10-15) and own a specific house in which I can convert the ground floor into a book café. In this café, I will sell handmade



cakes and treats, my books and popular books from well-known authors at the time.” Amy went on to describe how she created a model based on the particular house she has in mind!

Millie wrote: “When I’m older I want to be an interior designer. I have used a website called HomeByMe and designed a bungalow and each room is dedicated to something we could save on the planet.” Demonstrating Great Vision, Amy went on to explain how each room in the house would do so. “The water used in the bath tub gets reused to flush the toilet and is a way to save water. The power in the kitchen is produced by wind farms such as Dogger Bank.”

The children had so many wonderful dreams and ambitions – it was a pleasure to read through them all and I look forward to seeing each child work towards them!

In terms of Great Vision, our well-planned and organised personal development programme introduces our children to many different pathways for life ahead. We encourage good organisational skills and forward planning through the use of ClassCharts, and we discuss essential attitudes and behaviours for the wider world beyond school.

At Longcroft, we delve into the realms of careers, apprenticeships and job opportunities on a weekly basis as part of our tutor time programme. A form tutor’s role is central in both caring for pupils and, crucially, monitoring their progress both academically and socially; encouraging success, aspiration, participation and the highest possible standards of work and behaviour. Our Lower School children have enjoyed exploring different options available to them in the future, and have learned new aspects of career paths that they may not have considered before.

I would like to thank you for the continued support that you have provided to pupils in ensuring they have had everything that they need to focus and learn. As a school we are working very hard to make sure that the correct level of support is there for each pupil as an individual person. If you do need to contact a Care and Achievement Co-ordinator, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to do so using the contact details at the end of this newsletter.

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

Reuben Todd
Madison Key
Riley Hearn
Nico Harrison
Phoebe Fisher
Olivia Watson
Sham Ranjous
Isabella Da Silva
Caleb Harrison

Year 8

Elspeth Collin
Ava Spink
Dexter Forsyth
Ben Muralee
Olivia Radley
Tymofii Merkulov
Rosie Fitton
Olivia Chilcott
Imogen Trolle
Oscar Purchon

Year 9

Holly Ruston
Patrick Marham
Henrik-Bror Berntsson
Charlotte Sutcliffe
Caitlin Groves
Sophia Brown
Holly Gray
Lydia Chapman
Sasha Huzzard
Reagan De Kock

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: Cobie Hancock

Year 8: Felisia Daniels

Year 9: Pippa Huit



UPPER SCHOOL



Mr Henderson writes:

WiME Event

Thank you to Miss Sinclair who organised our pupils' visit to the fantastic Women into Manufacturing and Engineering event organised by Green Port Hull at the city's Guildhall.

Women into Manufacturing and Engineering (WiME) is an initiative to encourage women to choose a career in these industries.

With great pay, a high number of vacancies and attractive prospects, careers in manufacturing and engineering present a wide variety of interesting and exciting roles, which play an important part in our economy.

In the Humber region, manufacturing contributes 17% of our employment compared with 8.7% for England – and this number is set to grow thanks to the investment in renewable energy. However, despite the high demand for people with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) qualifications, women are under-represented in these roles.

This is why Green Port Hull has launched WiME - to encourage, inspire and help women to discover the opportunities available in manufacturing and engineering.

Green Port Hull is the UK's world class centre for renewable energy, creating wealth and employment for the region. By taking advantage of its prime location close to the offshore wind opportunities





in the North Sea, Hull is perfectly placed to capitalise on the UK's offshore wind industry and is playing a key role in achieving the Government's targets of net zero emissions by 2050, building on strong foundations in clean growth. The £500m ABP and Siemens Gamesa investment is the catalyst for the Green Port Hull - as well as offshore wind there are major opportunities in hydrogen, carbon capture and storage and usage, biofuels, waste to energy, solar, wave and tidal power generation.

The renewable energy sector is the single biggest influence on the local economy for generations, creating thousands of new jobs along with a wealth of opportunity for local people and business.

This was a great opportunity to find out more about a range of exciting careers, and the pupils certainly enjoyed their afternoon.

Orlaith said: "The event was very informative - I enjoyed it. Opportunities in engineering are particularly appealing."

Miss Sinclair said: "Today's trip to the Guildhall for the WiME event was excellent. The pupils were fantastic in representing Longcroft and they asked some interesting questions. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to discuss their plans for the future with them."





Careers Evening

Miss Sinclair organised our latest Careers Evening and it was fantastic to see so many Upper School pupils and their parents taking the opportunity to find out more about an array of careers and Post-16 options.

Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to support our pupils in their decision making!

ACA Architects
BAE Systems
BostonAir
Humberside Fire & Rescue
NYBEP/Ask
National Horseracing College
Energy Force
Foundation Trust
LogOnMoveOn
Skills Hull & East Riding
Hull City Ladies
Reds10
The Effective Practice Academy
Partnership)
Bishop Burton College

The East Yorkshire Sixth Form
The Army
The Navy
Early Years East Riding
Choose Care
JSR Farms
Humber Teaching NHS

Fresh Design
Ashcourts
NHS Volunteering Services
First Intuition
CHCP (City Health Care



Walking Talking Mock

We look forward to meeting all our Year 11 families at our **'Walking Talking Mock'** event on **Thursday 7th November**, the first week back after half term. At the evening you will hear exam question information and revision strategies, with specific guidance for the option subjects. We will also have information about our Sixth Form for pupils and families looking beyond their GCSE examinations. I look forward to seeing you all there; if you have not yet replied please use the link sent through ClassCharts this week.

On the evening we will provide you with a revision pack and a revision planner for your child to use for their December Mock Examinations. We will also have a display from Ms Carvill, who runs the Revision Guide Shop. Not only does it have the revision guides linked to our courses, but also revision cards which are an excellent way for parents to aid revision by working together. A list of extra classes, which we call P6 (Period 6) will also be communicated to parents and pupils, including lunchtime sessions.



It is now just 49 days until the Year 11 Mock Examinations begin.

Information will also be coming out on how to book places for the Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evenings which will be in person at school. The pupils are split between the 13th and 20th of November so more time is available to speak to teachers. A letter with a link to School Cloud will be sent and we will arrange the bookings using the online tool as it is very efficient.

Finally, the weekly competition for attendance has begun and the GCSEPod prizes are starting after half term for both Year 10 and 11.

One of the largest contributing factors to learning, progress and GCSE success is attendance. The evidence for the link between attendance and achievement in schools is staggering, not only in the UK but around the world.

At this stage of your child's school life the rate of content delivery in lessons is high and every missed day or lesson is likely to directly impact on a question or aspect of an examination. It is essential that any missed work is caught up and attendance is as high as possible. If you need support in this regard, please contact Mrs Ellis. You will continue to receive regular updates and information, both directly and through our weekly Newsletter, which aims to promote being in school as often as possible and ideally all the time.

Mr Henderson
Head of Upper School





CAREER OF THE WEEK: Biomedical Scientist

What does a biomedical scientist do?

Biomedical scientists carry out a range of laboratory and scientific tests to support the diagnosis and treatment of disease. They investigate a range of medical conditions, including cancer, diabetes, blood disorders, meningitis, hepatitis and AIDS. They also perform a key role in screening for diseases, identifying those caused by bacteria and viruses and monitoring the effects of medication and other treatments. They work with computers, sophisticated automated equipment, microscopes and other hi-tech laboratory equipment. The work is highly varied, practical and analytical. Biomedical scientists usually specialise in one of four areas – infection sciences, blood sciences, cell sciences, or genetics and molecular pathology. They work closely with doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals. Most biomedical scientists work in the NHS. Some work for government bodies/departments, in the armed forces, for a university or for a pharmaceutical manufacturing company.

What can I expect to earn as a biomedical scientist?

If you work in the NHS you'll typically start at band 5 of the [Agenda for Change](#) pay system (currently £28,407 - £34,581). As you gain experience, this could rise to band 6 (£35,392 - £42,618) and could progress as high as band 9 (£114,949).

What subjects should I study to become a biomedical scientist?

Whichever route you choose to become a biomedical scientist you will need the equivalent of A' Level's including at least one science.

How can I start my career as a biomedical scientist?

There are three main entry routes to become a biomedical scientist in the NHS:

- through the [NHS Practitioner Training Programme](#) where you will complete an accredited integrated BSc degree in Healthcare Science.
- a biomedical science degree accredited [by the Institute of Biomedical Science \(IBMS\)](#) and approved by the [Health and Care Professions Council](#)
- by gaining employment with the NHS as a trainee biomedical scientist.

If you're interested in becoming a biomedical scientist in the armed forces, the [Army](#), [Royal Navy](#) and the [Royal Air Force](#) all offer degree sponsorship.

You could start as a [healthcare science assistant or associate](#) and with experience and further training (and, provided you have the academic ability) you could apply for the NHS Practitioner Training programme and take a BSc (Hons) degree in Healthcare Science.

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

Other useful websites to find out more about a career as a biomedical scientist:

NHS Careers - <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/biomedical-science>

The Institute of Biomedical Science - <https://www.ibms.org/education/>

Working in biomedical science <https://www.ibms.org/resources/discover-biomedical-science/working-in-biomedical-science/>





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 10

Molly Rawson
Sadie Colclough
Maisie Monaghan
Phoebe Haw
Sam Al-Budri
Cody Keenan
Ellie Mulvana
Millie Wisher
Lily-Mae Tierney
Evie Woad

Year 11

Rebecca Lewin
Aneena Seby
Emilia Fisher
Oliver Sysum
Grace Murden
Harriet Carden-Howe
Luke Hancock
Rachel Harris
Megan Drage
Mathilda Smith

Attendance Matters!

Each week we reflect on the importance of attendance at school by giving ClassCharts rewards for Great Vision to every pupil with 100% attendance the previous week. These pupils are then entered into a draw and the winner receives a £5 Amazon voucher.

Last week's winner was:

Year 10: Phoebe Haw

Year 11: Elise Jenkinson



Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

Why Choose The East Yorkshire Sixth Form?

- Small numbers - so everyone is known as an individual. There are just over 70 students in our Sixth Form this year.
- 100% of students gained access to their first or second choice university last year.
- A wide range of courses available, many of which are not studied at GCSE.
- You know the teachers - they are brilliant. We've got the right teachers teaching the right subjects.
- Our own study space, social area and canteen
- Lots of enrichment, work experience, visits and activities
- Students can leave the site when they don't have lessons, offering flexibility in how they manage their time and week.

Website: <https://www.longcroftschoo.co.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form&pid=47>

Subjects on offer:

Art - Mrs Holmes
Biology - Mr Henderson and Mrs Scott
Business Studies - Mrs Woolner
Chemistry - Miss Sinclair and Miss Rushby
Criminology - Mr Baker and Ms Thomas
English - Mr Deer and Miss Meek
French - Mrs Barry
Geography - Mr Davies and Mr Haworth
Government and Politics - Mr Robinson
History - Mr Pearson
Law - Mrs Ellis
Maths - Mrs Low and Mr Fox
Media Studies - Ms Thomas
Music - Mrs Harris and Mr Chapman
PE - Mr Martin and Mr Cassidy
Physics - Mr Worthington and Mrs Scott

Psychology - Mr Baker and Mr Worthington
RE - Mr Fox
Sociology - Mrs Ellis
Spanish - Mrs Shepherd and Mr Colepio
Theatre Studies - Mr Thomson

Students Support World Mental Health Day

Congratulations to our Sixth Form students who wore yellow and supported this year's World Mental Health Day.

Students' yellow attire ranged from whole outfits to socks, and we raised over £50 for this excellent cause.

Mr Chapman
Head of Sixth Form



@EYSixthForm



@Longcroft6th

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THE EAST YORKSHIRE SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2024




ABOUT US WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Small class sizes
- Great academic outcomes
- Every student known as an individual
- Wide range of subjects available
- Over £7.5 million investment
- State of the art facilities
- Over 40 acres of stunning estate
- Superb enrichment

CONSIDERING YOUR SIXTH FORM COLLEGE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025?

Use this QR code to
BOOK A PLACE at our
next Open Evening
and find out more:



 01482 862171

 WWW.LONGCROFTSCHOOL.CO.UK

BE AMBITIOUS



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Golden Buzzer Proving Popular

At Longcroft we are always looking for new ways to celebrate the hard work, positive behaviour, and kindness displayed by our pupils and Sixth Form students. We are thrilled by the success of our new reward initiative: the 'Golden Buzzer' Award!

Each week, every member of staff has the opportunity to choose one pupil or Sixth Form student who has stood out to them for a special reason. Whether it's for exceptional work, outstanding effort, or a simple act of kindness, these pupils will be recognized with a 'Golden Buzzer'. This award is a way for us to celebrate those who go above and beyond in their daily school life, and it allows us to recognize the wide variety of achievements across our school community.



What does this mean for your child?

If your child receives a 'Golden Buzzer' from a staff member, they will be invited to our exclusive **Hot Chocolate Friday** during tutor time. This is a special opportunity for our Golden Buzzer winners to celebrate their success in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.

We believe that recognizing pupils' achievements, whether big or small, plays an important role in building confidence and fostering a positive school environment. This initiative will encourage all pupils to work hard, be kind, and help create a strong sense of community at our school.

We look forward to celebrating the achievements of our pupils and hope you share in our excitement as we launch this new initiative.



Our Golden Buzzer winners are:

Ammarah Rehman 10AHO

Imogen Crowley 7EDN

Isaac Savage 8CMT

Olly Bruton 10JHL

Caleb Faulkner 7EDN

Rosie Fitton 8LWO

Harriet Carden-Howe 11ASC

Charlee Taylor 7EDN

Oscar Purchon 8LWO

Katy Hart 11EFO

Reuben Todd 7GRU

Sophia Brown 9EMN

Emilia Fisher 11PDR

Evie Bricklebank 7JDY

Amelia Ketley 9RTO

Jacob Grady 11PDR

Thea Bridgeman 7JDY

Holly Ruston 9RTO

Emily Stevens 11PDR

Isabella Da Silva 7JPO

Jack Ayre 9SGE

Luchon Austin 11RLO

Caleb Harrison 7JPO

Henrik-Bror Berntsson 9SGE

Freya Kelly 11RLO

Leo Rena 7JPO

Patrick Marham 9SGE

Rosalie Lorch 11RLO

Angel Butler-Shorrocks 8ACR

Mr Rodgers
Deputy Headteacher

Theo Waterson 11SWL

Tymofii Merkulov 8ACR

Alex Lawton 13JCA

Imogen Trolle 8ACR



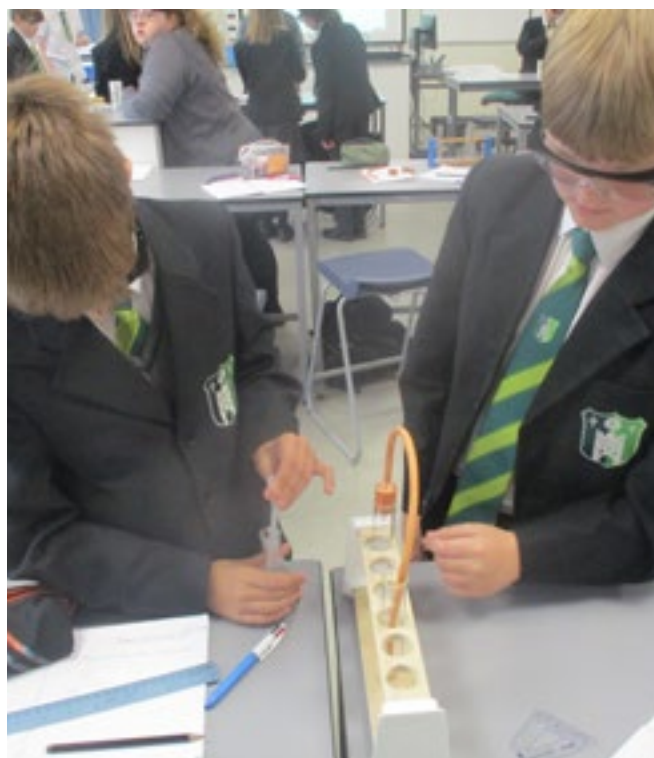


IN FOCUS

SCIENCE

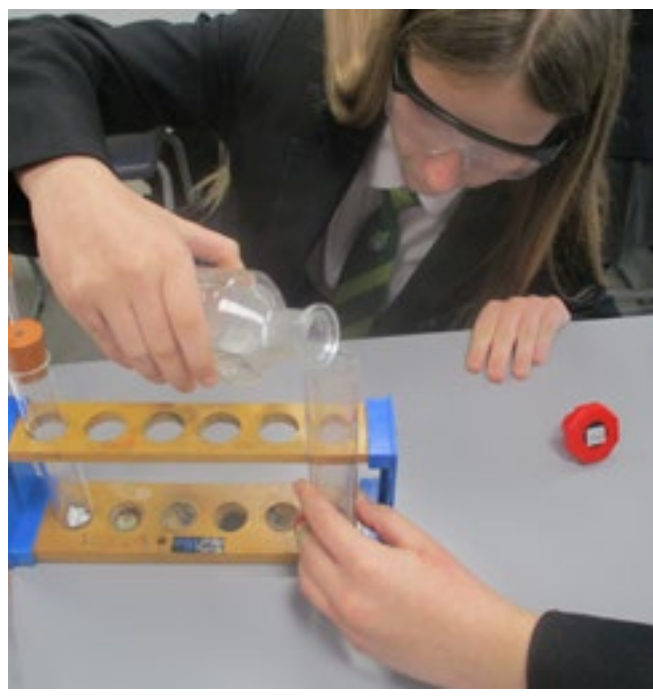
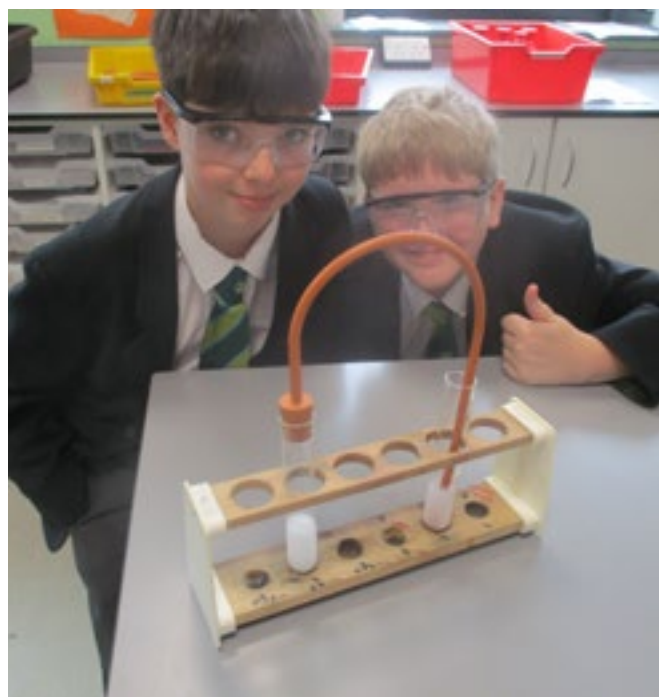
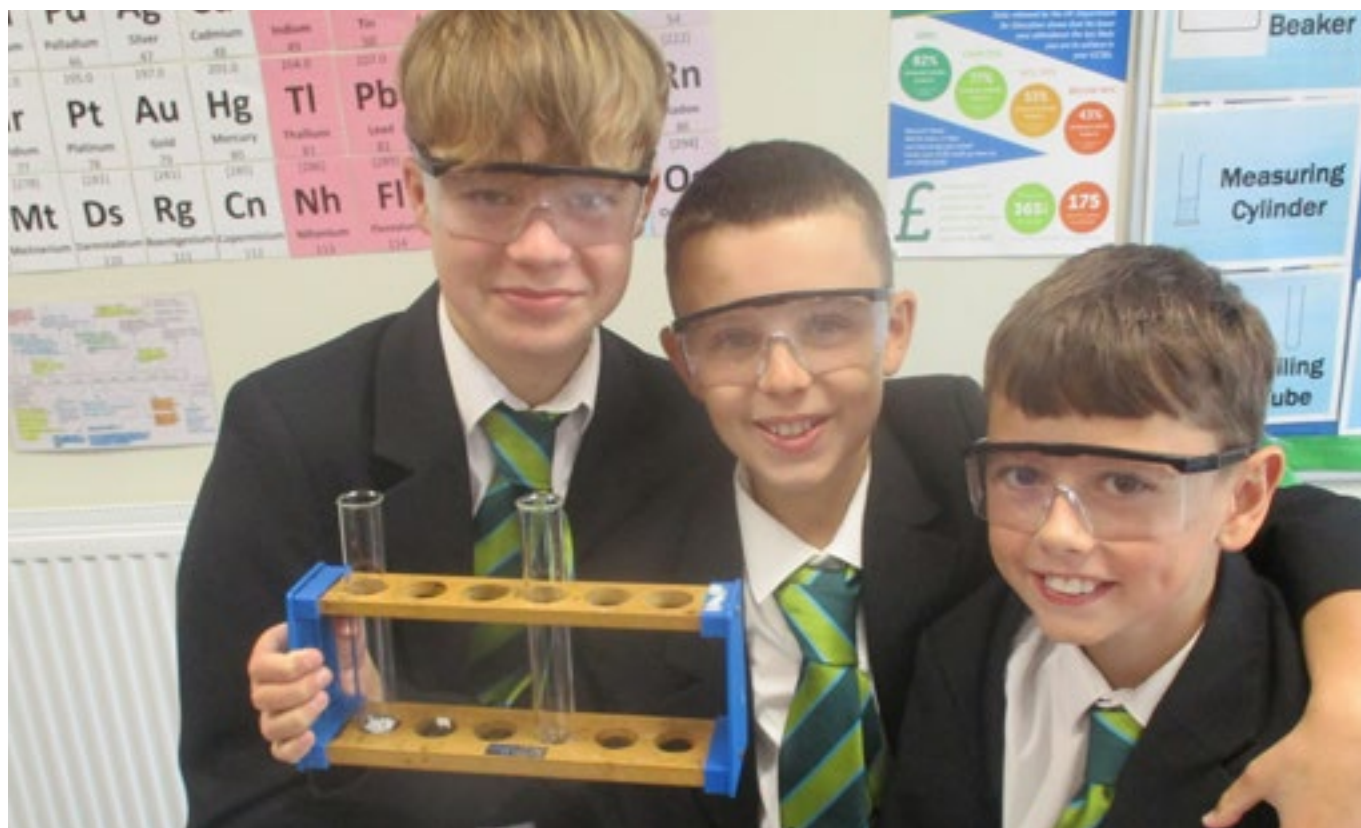
This week we feature pupils in Mrs Cadwaladr's Year 8 Science class. Pupils were challenged to establish a general rule for carbon neutralisations and to write an equation for the reactions. They added hydrochloric acid to a test-tube containing marble chips and observed the effect.

Mrs Cadwaladr said: "The pupils worked very well and I was pleased with their results - several pupils observed colour changes."





IN FOCUS SCIENCE





Memory Lane

This week as Mr Chapman prepares for our Sixth Form Taster Day and Open Evening we feature two Year 13 Proms. Students are pictured in Beverley Racecourse's grandstand in 2013 and at The Deep in 2016.





Extra-curricular Opportunities

The following opportunities take place after school.

Tuesday

Football – Mr Martin (3G)

Orchestra – Mrs Harris (Room 64)

Dance – Mrs Holt

Dungeons & Dragons Club – Miss Sinclair (Library)

Wednesday

Rugby (Years 7 – 9) – Mr Cassidy (3G)

Choir – Mrs Harris (Room 64)

Netball – Mrs Holt

History Club – Mr Russell (C8)

Thursday

Girls' Football – Mrs Henderson

Musical Theatre – Mrs Harris and Mr Thomson (Theatre)

Friday

Table Tennis – Mr Fox and Mr Henderson (Gym)

Badminton – Mr Cassidy (Sports Hall)





Primary Schools' Girls' Football Competition

Longcroft hosted eight schools at the girls' football competition on Tuesday 8th October. Molescroft, Swinemoor, Tickton, Walkington, St Mary's, St Nicholas, Minster and Keldmarsh Primary Schools took part.

Mrs Henderson said: "It was a great evening with 80 girls playing football, great individual skills on display and good teamwork effort. There were two pools and the winner of each played in a final. Molescroft and St Mary's got through to the final with good, competitive football shown throughout the deciding game. Congratulations to Molescroft who now go through to the SSP final to represent Beverley. Well done to all involved."

Mrs Henderson added: "Thank you to the Longcroft pupils who did an excellent job refereeing the games in the competition for volunteering your time."





Sam Takes on Jamaica's Reggae Warriors!

Former student Sam Bowring, who's playing career has seen him don the colours of Hull KR, Batley Bulldogs and Newcastle Thunder, has signed a 12-month extension to his contract that will see him stay with Midlands Hurricanes for a fifth consecutive season.

Sam has scored seven tries in 46 appearances for the Hurricanes whilst juggling his career as Head of Sports Science at Doncaster Rovers FC. In addition to his club career, Sam's performances saw him make his Wales debut last season in an uncapped fixture against Cumbria for Kyle Amor's testimonial. This week Head Coach John Kear selected Sam at loose-forward for the Welsh team's friendly against Jamaica at The Knoll. Having played his part in an impressive 22 – 16 victory over the team known as the Reggae Warriors, Sam and the rest of the squad will now travel to France for the 2026 World Cup qualifiers.

Sam said: "I'm delighted to stay and sign for the 2025 season. Personally, the 2024 season had its up and downs as I had broken my hand in the friendlies but I finished the season strong, which allowed me to play my best rugby since joining the club."

He added: "The club is making progress year on year and I want to play an important role in a promotion-winning team. Mark and Leigh have put together a strong squad to build off the success we had this season and I cannot wait for the 2025 season to start."

Head Coach Mark Dunning said: "We're delighted to retain the services of Sam for at least another year. Sam has had a really mixed 2024 after missing a chunk of the season through injury in the 1895 Cup early in the season. He had to be patient once fit again and wait for his opportunity but, once he did, he's played some of the best rugby of his career and been a real leader within our pack, ultimately justifying his selection for the Wales National Squad against Jamaica and in the 2026 World Cup Qualifiers."

Mr Baker said: "Sam was always full of enthusiasm and his work-ethic is tremendous. He's enjoying success in both his rugby and as a strength and conditioning coach and has worked in the Premier League with Wolves. He's Head of Sports Science and Performance at Doncaster Rovers, working under former Hull City manager Grant McCann, and he's building a tremendous reputation in that field." He added: "I'm looking forward to watching Sam when his Hurricanes team takes on his schoolmate Scott Taylor's Goole Vikings next season."

Prior to Tuesday's match, Sam said: "I'm looking forward to the internationals."

Looking ahead to next season, when his Midlands Hurricanes will take on Goole Vikings who are coached by his former Longcroft teammate and fellow international Scott Taylor, Sam added: "I'm sure it'll be a good battle with Scott Taylor."

Congratulations to Sam on both his new contract and selection for Wales. We look forward to following his progress through the 2025 season!





The Friends' Corner



fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

Halloween Cinema Event

We are delighted to be running our latest cinema event for pupils in Years 7 and 8. Pupils can enjoy a screening of Hocus Pocus 2 on Wednesday 23rd October from 4.15pm for just £4 which includes a hotdog, a goody bag and a drink!

We look forward to seeing as many pupils as possible at the event – book now via ParentPay!

Cash Draw Winners!

Congratulations to the parents of Charlotte Sutcliffe and the parents of Lydia Chapman as they won the FOLS cash draw for August and September. Each winner receives a cheque for £15!

If you wish to support the FOLS by entering their cash draw, all you have to do is buy an entry on ParentPay. For an annual payment of £12, you get entered each month (for a year) into a draw which gives you a chance of winning £15. You pay £12 and the FOLS sort everything out for you.

Annual General Meeting


The **FOLS AGM** is taking place on **27th November** at 3.30pm at Longcroft School.

Although this sounds quite formal, it's anything but as once the formality of voting a new committee is sorted, it becomes an informal way of meeting the FOLS and finding out what we do and how we do it.



Everyone is welcome!



You shop, brands donate



It won't cost you any extra!





easyfundraising
Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



Year 7 and 8

HALLOWEEN CINEMA EVENT

MOVIE SCREENING: HOCUS POCUS 2



DATE: WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER

TIME: 16:15-18:30

VENUE: LONGCROFT SCHOOL

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LIBRARY NEWS



Ms Carvill writes:

Stay CALM and Keep Writing!

Sue Baker, whose debut novel CALM, was published in September, visited Longcroft Library last Friday to speak to some of our most accomplished readers and those that have recently made great progress in Year 9.

Sue talked about her writing journey, read extracts from her novel, and answered questions from our inquisitive cohort. Had she always wanted to become a writer?

"Yes, I've always loved writing. I had that ambition. I wrote my first story when I was seven, but it wasn't very good! I've always read too. I was lucky my parents encouraged me. I was a really hungry reader, hungry for stories. I loved reading them and I wanted to tell them."

Has it been difficult to make the time to achieve her early ambition?

"Yes. I've had a really busy life. I work as an English teacher in Hull, I've been a mother to four children, and my husband is a vicar. There's not been a lot of time. It was only when my mother became ill with Alzheimer's a few years ago, that I found it. I used to hop on the train to Kent once a fortnight so I could help out my dad, who was ninety, and I was able to write for four or five hours on the journey. I took my laptop with me, and I just wrote and wrote. CALM is dedicated to my parents."

The YA dystopian novel imagines a Britain in the near future. The government has put a drug in the water supply. People are calm, which means there is no hate, but there is no love or passion either. All sense of emotion has been repressed and Britain resembles a totalitarian state. A few people choose not to drink the water. They are called resisters and have to disguise their emotions to appear docile, like the majority of society. Some, like Tiegan and Owen, the two main protagonists, are fleeing north in order to escape.



Evie wanted to know how Sue came up with the idea.

"I walk in the countryside a lot. I have dogs. I began to wonder what it would be like to be in the country and feel hunted; to be on the run and need to find somewhere safe to hide."

Annabel asked if Sue thought mass doping in water supplies could ever really happen.

"I'm not a scientist, but I don't see why not, if someone had the power and influence to make that happen."

Sam wondered if Sue's family and friends had inspired the story in any way.

"None of the characters are modelled on my family, but some have aspects of people I've known. Not in terms of personality, but to do with their actions; what they did."

Family and friends really helped during the writing process though. My children were my first readers. One of my daughters, then the other; then my sons. Friends also read it and were very helpful and an online writing group was really encouraging."

Sue read two extracts from her novel. Not only is she a great writer, she's also a brilliant reader and performer. You could have heard a pin drop.

Reagan asked if she thought her novel would ever become a movie.

"I would love it, and I'm sure my publisher would too. The sequel to CALM is set in and around Beverley; so perhaps we could get lots of Longcroft extras!"

Bella and Dom asked what writers and novels had inspired CALM.

"Margaret Atwood's A Handmaid's Tale, which I teach. It's a dystopian novel and feminism is a major theme. It became very popular again when Trump became president, and some people were not very happy, especially women."

The Giver by Lois Lowry is another favourite. It's set in a society that at first appears to be utopian but as the novel progresses you realise it is anything but. I was also inspired by Station Eleven by Emily St John Mandel. A terrible pandemic occurs in the Great Lakes region of Canada and most people die."



Billy wanted to know when Sue found it easiest to write, and Lewis asked if she had a special place she wrote.

"I write best in the morning, but if I'm at school I don't want to get up at 5; so it's usually an hour or so before supper. I don't have a special place, it's the kitchen table. I'd love to have a shed to write in, so long as it was heated!"

Hermione asked which characters Sue liked most in CALM?

"Tiegan and Owen. Both of them have characteristics I can identify with. Tiegan is a feminist, although she can be judgemental. Owen is more unsure. As a teacher I might appear confident, standing in front of you all, but I worry about what people will think of me, what you will think about my book. I can be nervous and uncertain like Owen."



Lydia wanted to know why Sue had chosen to have separate chapters for Tiegan and Owen.

"They are both coping with lots of different emotions, and their stories begin in very different places. Tiegan has always been a resistor and is used to hiding her feelings and behaving in a certain way to avoid the consequences. Owen has drunk the water all his life. When he stops he suddenly has to deal with his feelings; who he is as a human being."

James asked about the publishing process. What was it like? Did Sue need to do lots of editing?

"I sent the novel to around forty publishers and none of them were interested. Although I got some kind feedback, there were no offers. They said it was not what they were looking for."

I spent two years editing it in the lockdown. Originally it was 120,000 words but I cut it by 30,000. I realised that even though I'm an English teacher I'd sometimes used extra words I didn't need. When Neem Tree Press accepted it, there was not much that needed editing, although they gave me a few notes and made some suggestions that improved it."

Sue also got feedback from some of her pupils at school. One of the English lessons for her Year 9s was dedicated to reading a book. Sue asked her Head of Department if she could test her own book on them; read it each week. It was really helpful, as was the feedback she got from her Year 11 pupils, who read the book in the summer holidays, after they'd done their GCSE exams.

So, will Sue ever give up teaching to write full time?

"Well, I'm nearing retirement now; so not that long to go. I love teaching and will miss it terribly, but when I retire I will be able to write much more. I have a trilogy in my head. Currently, I'm working on the sequel to CALM. At the end the novel you are left wondering what's going to happen. That's quite deliberate and true to real life."

We don't know where Tiegan and Owen are going, or what is ahead. All we know is that they are staying alive."

As a recent fan of Sue Baker's, I can't wait to read what will happen next, and judging by the applause she received from our Year 9 pupils, neither can they.

We can't thank Sue enough for her kindness in coming to visit Longcroft and talk to our pupils, and wish her the very best of luck with her writing.

Copies of CALM are available in the library. If any pupils, students, or staff would like to write a review for Amazon or Goodreads, Sue would be delighted!





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

07810 416081

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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