

LONGCROFT

SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



"I've learned new skills and improved my confidence."

Last week ACC Mike Walker formally welcomed 46 young people into Humberside Police as they took to the stage to state their commitment to the Volunteer Police Cadet Scheme by taking their official oath.

We are proud that Year 11 pupils Ameerah-Grace, Amy, Anna, Gracie-Mae and Katie were among the group, each receiving their Certificate of Attestation having successfully completed their initial induction training.

Lower School

Upper School

Sixth Form

Safeguarding

In Focus: Art

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Library News



LONGCROFT NEWS LETTER



Katie said: "Cadets has helped with confidence and social skills."

The cadets were joined by family and friends to celebrate and recognise the hard work they have put into completing their initial training since beginning the induction process back in August.

After taking the oath the cadets will now have a variety of different duties. They will continue to be committed to attending a two-hour session each week, as well as volunteering at local events and activities around the force to support community teams, train new recruits, assist with various youth engagement projects and more.

Ameerah-Grace explained: "It's really interesting because it's going to help me become a police officer in the future. I've learned new skills, practiced teamwork and improved my confidence."

Gracie-Mae added: "I wanted to do it for the experience - I enjoy it. It's what I want to do when I leave school."

Sergeant Nick Bunker, of the Community Safety Unit said: "Volunteer Police Cadets have been a part of Humberside Police since 2017 and it is great to see young people are still wanting to join the scheme and learn more about what we do. With more and more ex-cadets joining Humberside Police as officers, staff members, special constables and

community safety volunteers it is hopefully their first step towards an exciting career with Humberside Police."

Community Engagement Coordinator Katie Hardy, who is the force lead for the cadets, added: "It is always wonderful to see the cadets stand up in front of their guests and commit to the cadet scheme. Everyone involved in the programme has worked very hard to make a difference to those young people who join us and it's brilliant that the scheme is supported by so many people inside and outside of Humberside Police."

Amy said: "We do lots of different activities and get to listen to speakers. It was nerve-racking standing on stage and pledging our allegiance to the King."

Mr Henderson said: "All five girls are popular members of their year group – they set an example to younger pupils and have made a positive contribution to our school in a variety of ways. I am delighted to see them taking on such valuable responsibility. It demonstrates great maturity and I am sure their work as cadets will be beneficial to the girls in the future."

Congratulations to all five girls on this tremendous achievement, which demonstrates great commitment to their community and a desire to make a positive contribution. Recruitment for the next intake opens in April 2025 – the opportunity is available to 15 and 16 year olds.





Headteacher's Welcome

As we enter the advent period, the Christian tradition speaks of hope and joy; themes that are unfailingly reflected in all that our amazing young people bring to our Longcroft community each and every day.

This week has provided the opportunity to showcase the incredible work of our pupils in the creative and performing arts. I always look forward to visiting lessons in our art and performance spaces and am never disappointed when I do. There are many striking features of these areas in our school. They are vivid and engaging spaces full of colour, sound, creativity and collaboration. Pupils and students are often excited to share their work, participate and have a go, whatever their level of experience.

Developing a technical knowledge and understanding of art, music and drama is important and leads to excellent performances and pieces of work. Many examples will be celebrated through our first Performing Arts Evening of the year on Thursday and we anticipate another capacity audience. There will be a full feature in our Newsletter to follow what is always a wonderful night for our school. Beyond the application of technical knowledge however there is so much more. The rich and carefully considered curriculum provides a depth of cultural exposure to different forms of music, performance and art, including their origins and history, and the evolution that has brought about the fusion that is explored through more contemporary forms and examples. Through our arts offer young people grow in confidence and demonstrate tremendous respect and encouragement for each other, as they also develop their social and cultural capital. Look out for our Art 'Subject in Focus' feature in this week's Newsletter.

A broad and balanced curriculum that values and promotes these domains serves to nurture an understanding of self and place in a complex but ever more interconnected world. It enables our young people to explore important issues and fosters empathy, compassion and tolerance – directly reflecting our Longcroft values of Great Heart, Thought and Vision.

We know that for many families across the country and within our own community, this Christmas period will be particularly challenging again this year. In a wonderful demonstration of Great Heart, our Sixth Form Ambassadors in conjunction with the Student Council will be leading our now annual charity campaign. This year we are seeking donations for the Age UK Shoe Box Appeal, which aims to bring joy to older people in Hull and East Yorkshire who may be vulnerable or lonely. The appeal asks for donations in small shoebox-sized hampers that can include: A Christmas card; Toiletries; Tins of food; Biscuits; A small gift, such as a mug, gloves, shawl, or slippers; Tea, coffee, or hot chocolate; Sweet treats. Last year the charity were able to distribute 935 hampers to older people across Hull and East Yorkshire and this year we want to ensure they get to well over 1000! Please see the advert later in this Newsletter which explains how you can help, and please do support if you are able.

I wish you all a hopeful and joyful advent.

Enjoy this week's Newsletter.

Mr D Perry Headteacher





Ex-Molescroft families we need your help

Recognition of service

You may be aware that Mr
Loncaster is retiring at
Christmas and we would like
to send a special book of
memories, pictures and well
wishes from pupils and
families who have gone on to
join our Longcroft community.

Here is how you can help:

Memories of Molescroft

Please send any photos, short
memories or well wishes to
school@longcroft.eriding.net
with the subject
'Mr Loncaster'

Deadline: 6th December!





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

39,305

THOUGHT

168,003

VISION

161,882

GRAND TOTAL: 369,190







Firstly this week, I am delighted to share Year 9 pupil Charlie's success in a national go karting event in Sunderland. Having won his race Charlie saw his next event at Whilton Mill in Daventry cancelled due to the course being flooded. He will, however, compete this weekend at PF International, the UK's largest outdoor karting circuit based in Lincolnshire.

Charlie explained: "I've moved into Junior Rotax - an older category. I'm competing in the 13-16 age group in bigger cars with a bigger engine."

Road Safety Assembly

Our Road Safety Officer led an assembly about road safety for Year 7 on Friday with the help of Walter Melon and Melody Waters. Our visitors impressed on pupils the importance of wearing a helmet while cycling, echoing our own message.

We ended Road Safety Week with another helmet and light handout for our pupils.

Celebrating Attendance

This term we have celebrated successes with pupils related to their academic achievements and efforts in lessons. We recognise that success looks different for each individual, but have high expectations for all pupils in terms of effort.

At Longcroft School, we encourage resilience and organisational skills through rewarding Great Vision. We do this by encouraging the pupils to demonstrate readiness for the future by developing the skills and qualities that will lead to success in life beyond school.



In a classroom, this looks like good organisation and a willingness to work independently. Around school we actively promote careers, pathways beyond education and employability skills. Good attendance at school is not just valuable, it's essential. Going to school is directly linked to improved performance in lessons which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects. As well as this, going to school helps to develop friendships, social skills, team values, life skills and cultural awareness as well as career pathways referred to above.

This week, we are celebrating with pupils who have achieved high attendance this term. As well as those who have achieved the long-term goal of 100% attendance

for the year, we are rewarding children who have been in consecutively for the last fortnight. We acknowledge that it is not always possible for a child to achieve 100% for various different reasons, but we are keen to encourage that the children attend every day possible.

Well done to all pupils with 100% attendance. As well as our attendance challenge that took place last half-term, on a weekly basis there is a £5 Amazon Voucher competition for those with 100% attendance in the previous week.

Mr Worthington
Head of Lower School

Jacob Birt	7EDN	Evie Pardoe	7ESH	Holly Artley Tolson	7JDY
Layla Blakey	7EDN	Nathan Pineda	7ESH	Ryan Carter-Rigg	7JDY
Max Castley	7EDN	Emily Stephenson	7ESH	Florence Crabtree	7JDY
Isla Garth	7EDN	Mia Walters	7ESH	Evie Cunningham	7JDY
Lenny Harvey	7EDN	Charlotte Wray	7ESH	George D'Andilly	7JDY
Ivy Holmes	7EDN	Leon Zielinski	7ESH	Poppy Ellis	7JDY
Jasmine l'Anson	7EDN	Luke Anderson	7GRU	Harvey Graham	7JDY
Hollie Monaghan	7EDN	Nate Brodie	7GRU	Noah Hardman	7JDY
Jesse Musgrave	7EDN	James Groves	7GRU	Luke Horsley	7JDY
Emma Spencer	7EDN	Ava Hutchinson-Chan	7GRU	Lottie Johnston	7JDY
Luke Taylor	7EDN	Eliza Jameson	7GRU	Alisa McKay	7JDY
William Battye	7ESH	Aron Kucana	7GRU	Leyon Moulson	7JDY
Rory Buck	7ESH	Harriet Lugg	7GRU	Annabel Naylor	7JDY
Amy Charge	7ESH	Lucas Melville	7GRU	William Newsam	7JDY
Tom Dethlefs	7ESH	Emilia Oxtoby	7GRU	Joe Ruston	7JDY
Lydia Dorsey	7ESH	Archie Peacock	7GRU	Rebecca Stewart	7JDY
Lily Fowler	7ESH	Mia-Grace Phillips	7GRU	William Stewart	7JDY
Millie Frampton	7ESH	Stanley Shaw	7GRU	James Thomson	7JDY
Naomi Jack	7ESH	Alina Shpak	7GRU	Lottie Anderson	7JPO
Madison Key	7ESH	Harley Speakman	7GRU	Shaun Boyd	7JPO
Zac Lister	7ESH	Reuben Todd	7GRU	Finley Charlton	7JPO



Isabella Da Silva	7JPO	Freya Phipps	8CMT	Luke Hiles	9EMN
Jacob Eaton	7JPO	Finley Reid	8CMT	Ollie Bayes	9GTA
Caleb Harrison	7JPO	Owen Rowse	8CMT	Lily Curtis	9GTA
Riley Hearn	7JPO	Sophie Day	8EFX	Issac Daniel	9GTA
Oscar Jowsey	7JPO	Oscar Harling	8EFX	Max Lister	9GTA
Stanley Parks	7JPO	Henry Konieczko-Hansom	8EFX	Brenton McKie	9GTA
Leo Rena	7JPO	Dylan O'Connell	8EFX	Yevdokym Yershov	9GTA
Zak Robinson	7JPO	Max van den Ban	8EFX	Sophie Battye	9PDV
Evelyn Rumford	7JPO	Alexander Waterson	8EFX	Hailey Berango	9PDV
Ollie Spruce	7JPO	Elias Chapman	8LWO	Megan Kemp	9PDV
Faith Thompson	7JPO	Dexter Forsyth	8LWO	Mia Robinson	9PDV
Sebastian Tomlin	7JPO	George Hogg	8LWO	Bella Stoney	9PDV
Delilah Williams	7JPO	Ben Muralee	8LWO	Amy Thornton	9PDV
Elliot Bennett	8ACR	Oscar Purchon	8LWO	Lily Thornton	9PDV
Ashley Griffin	8ACR	Olivia Radley	8LWO	Scarlett Wood	9PDV
Owen Harper	8ACR	Lily Smedley	8LWO	Izzy Barwick	9RTO
Esmae Johnson	8ACR	Ryan Took	8LWO	Lydia Chapman	9RTO
Oscar Lawson	8ACR	Ruby Williams	8LWO	Ben Jagger	9RTO
Ryan Lucas	8ACR	Holly Abel	8NFO	Laura Kuzuoka	9RTO
Tymofii Merkulov	8ACR	Oliver Barley	8NFO	Alex Matta	9RTO
Imogen Trolle	8ACR	Henry Coates	8NFO	Zak Richardson	9RTO
Daniel Barrow	8CMT	Lexi Croft	8NFO	Holly Ruston	9RTO
Annmariya Binoy	8CMT	Leona James	8NFO	Dom Skilbeck	9RTO
Emilia Hopkin	8CMT	Shanice Munaku	8NFO	Isla Addinall	9SGE
Harry Hugill	8CMT	Ella Page	8NFO	Luke Chadwick	9SGE
Isabelle Johnson	8CMT	Jack Wallis	8NFO	Lewis Henderson	9SGE
Watson Mackevych	8CMT	Jenson Blakey	9EMN	Patrick Marham	9SGE
Archie Norton-Hall	8CMT	James Charge	9EMN	Alfie Robinson	9SGE
Millie Oliver	8CMT	Harry Dixon	9EMN		



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 Freddie Wood Nico Harrison Naomi Jack

Hattie Johnson

Millie Frampton Leon Zielinski

Sebastian Tomlin

Madison Key

Amy Charge

Year 8

Jack Denyer Jacob Bradley Olivia Chilcott Mia Spruce-Wan

Henry Coates

Mahmoud Al Shaqran

Beth Dawson
Jake Redmond
Max van den Ban
Oscar Purchon

Year 9

Dorothy Makey

Holly Gray

Charlotte Sutcliffe

Brenton McKie

Zachary Denton

Bradley Elvidge

Bella Stoney

Charlie Drage

Harry Dixon

Lily Hardman

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: Milana Shalai

Year 8: Oliver Barley

Year 9: Will Balmforth





Firstly this week, congratulations to Year 10 pupil Luci who has been training at Track Fitness and Boxing Club for some years now and boxing competitively since she was 12. On Friday, Luci travelled to Liverpool where she enjoyed a closely fought contest. Luci said: "I really enjoyed it and I'm looking forward to boxing again this weekend in Leigh, near Manchester." Luci is pictured meeting two world champions, Natasha Jonas and Tony Bellew who are both from Liverpool.





I was delighted to hear about a number of Year 10 pupils who impressed their teachers last week. **Murphy Barker** was described by Mr Thomson as, "The best cameraman in the game!" **Ava Harris** has shown a consistently conscientious attitude towards her studies in Geography. Mr Haworth said: "She contributes to lessons positively and always has a smile on her face – a pleasure to teach." Mr Rogers singled **Hayden Lax** out for praise, saying: "Hayden is always keen, works hard and contributes to class discussion constructively." Finally, Mr Cassidy highlighted **Libby West's** performance in a recent GCSE PE exam in which she earned the highest mark in the year – an outstanding 92%! Congratulations everyone!

Over the past few weeks Year 10 pupils have joined Mr Cassidy and myself in one of our computer suites to look at how technology will help them over the next two years. Pupils were introduced to their GCSEPod accounts. This invaluable tool is used to allow pupils to not only revise but to also allow them to catch up on any lessons missed and to go over ideas they have yet to master. GCSEPod can be accessed on any internet device where pupils can logon to their email. This also allows pupils to have their Office 365 accounts, including online Excel, Word and PowerPoint. These can all be accessed, by the



pupils, for free on any computer, chrome book or phone, which is fantastic for coursework and homework. Pupils have their own OneDrive to save work which can be accessed inside and outside school. Also, their school email address is useful for helping to communicate with work placements that are taking place later this year.

Only one week left before Year 11 pupils start their Autumn Mocks in the week beginning 9th December. Great discussions have been taking place on exactly what content is needed to be revised between teachers and pupils and between pupils. Pupils are growing more independent in their revision planning which can be seen by the GCSEPods watched, hours of Science SENECA completed and the pupils' attendance at revision sessions offered by staff. Each week pupils receive a revision plan which outlines what teachers have set for them. This allows for effective revision and less anxiety over planning of this activity for the pupil. An example is shown.

Year 10 pupils will have the first of the drop-down days for two of their option choices over the weeks starting the 9th December. These full days allow pupils to focus on coursework elements of the subject or taking time to get deeper secure deeper understanding in topics which can include guest speakers such as in RE.

Mr Henderson Head of Upper School

Subjects		Maths	English Language & Literature	Combined Science	Triple Science
25th November	What you can revise at home:	Vectors	AQA English Language Paper 1	P2 and P3 as in the Science revision plan Exam Question booklets and SENECA each week on ClassCharts	P2 and P3 as in the Science revision plan Exam Question booklets and SENECA each week on ClassCharts
	What we are covering in class:	Further equations and graphs (Higher) Ratios and Fractions (Foundation)	Tiredness of Rosabel 2017 paper Section A Reading	P7 Magnetism and C10 Using Resources	P7 Magnetism and C10 Using Resources
	Links to GCSEPod, SENECA or other e-learning/ documents	Sparx	https://www.bbc. co.uk/bitesize/ examspecs/ zcbchv4	Available on ClassCharts PDF document	Available on ClassCharts PDF document



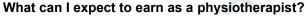
CAREER OF THE WEEK: Physiotherapist

What does a physiotherapist do?

A physiotherapist helps people improve their mobility and regain their independence after an injury or operation, or because of ageing or a disability. It is an ideal career for someone who wants to make a positive difference to the lives of others. As a physiotherapist, you

could specialise in a particular area such as sports injuries, critical care, or work with the elderly, children, or cancer patients. Teaching, research, and management roles are other options.

Many physiotherapists work for the NHS. You could also work with sports coaches or personal trainers, be based in a clinic, or open your own practice. Your standard working week will be around 37.5 hours and may include a mix of shifts, such as nights, early starts, evenings and weekends.



As a physiotherapist working in the NHS you'll be paid on the <u>Agenda for Change pay system</u>, typically starting on band 5 (currently £29,970). You'll also have access to the NHS pension scheme and health service discounts, as well as 27 days of annual leave plus bank holidays.

What subjects should I study to become a physiotherapist?

To become a physiotherapist, you will need to have studied qualifications in English, maths, biology and/or PE/Sport.

How can I start my career as a physiotherapist?

The most popular way to become a physiotherapist is by completing a university degree. If you already have a relevant degree a two-year accelerated Masters course is also an option. Once you've successfully completed your degree, you'll need to register with the Health and Care Professions Council before you can start practising.

Entry requirements for an undergraduate degree course are typically two or three A levels, including biology and/or PE, and five GCSEs (grades 4-9/ A-C), including English language, maths and at least one science, or equivalent.

You can also receive at least £5,000 a year to help fund your studies, through the NHS Learning Support Fund, which you won't have to pay back (https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-learning-support-fund-lsf).

A degree apprenticeship with a healthcare provider is another way to become a physiotherapist. Apprenticeships give you the chance to earn a living while gaining your qualification. Your employer and the government will pay the tuition fees, so apprenticeships aren't eligible for student grants.

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

Useful websites to find out more about a career as a physiotherapist:

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy – become a physiotherapist https://www.csp.org.uk/
NHS health careers - Physiotherapist https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professions/physiotherapist

National Careers Service - Physiotherapist https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/physiotherapist

Where can I study physiotherapy? https://www.csp.org.uk/careers-jobs/career-physiotherapy/physiotherapy-degrees









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

Ellie Eaton

Sam Al Budri

Cody Keenan

Alicia Hicks

Dvlan Noble

Aimee Clarkson

Ellie Mulvana

Maisie Foster

Levi Petherbridge

Thomas Wells

Year 11

Orlaith Brown

Elise Jenkinson

Aneena Seby

Mollie Coates

Theo Waterson

Emilia Fisher

Evie Drinkall

Riley Mcgowan

Flise Forster

Grace Crook

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: Libby West

Year 11: Ashie Elliott





We are always keen to welcome visitors who are willing to share their knowledge, experience and expertise with our students. Last week representatives from Barclays gave members of Years 12 and 13 a presentation about aspects of finance such as credit and debt. Students found the presentation extremely informative.

After responding to Miss Sinclair's request, we were delighted to welcome Mr Makey to speak to students about careers in law

Miss Sinclair explained: "This was an incredible opportunity for our students to learn about the profession; we are in the process of organising a mock trial for spring term!" She added: "We are committed to providing high-quality careers guidance to our pupils and Sixth Form students. With 'Great Vision' as one of our core values, we aim to ensure that every young person is provided with the knowledge and experiences that will enable them to make informed decisions about their futures. To this end, we have an active and carefully constructed careers programme, which supports preparation for life beyond school and which runs across all year groups throughout the academic year.

It would be fantastic if we could involve more parents in our offer, sharing expert knowledge and experience and allowing our young people to glean an insight into the industries in which you work. I would therefore be delighted to hear from any parents or carers who are able to offer support of any kind that they feel might be valuable to our careers education programme." If you would like to discuss how you, or your organisation/employer, could be involved in our school careers education programme, please email leanne.sinclair@longcroft.eriding.net

I can attest to the value our students get from such visits.

Mr Chapman **Head of Sixth Form**











Raising Awareness About Violence Against Women

This week, our pupils engaged in discussions about an important issue: violence against women. As part of this, we marked White Ribbon Day 2024 on Monday, a global campaign dedicated to ending violence against women and promoting healthy, respectful relationships. Through presentations and classroom activities, we aimed to raise awareness and encourage pupils to think critically about the importance of equality and safety for all.

Violence against women can take many forms, including physical, emotional, and psychological abuse. Often, it is hidden, but its impact can be profound and long-lasting. Recognising the signs—such as controlling behaviours, isolation, or signs of fear—is a crucial step toward breaking cycles of abuse and providing support.

We encourage you to continue these conversations at home. Talk to your child about what they've learned this week and ensure they feel comfortable speaking up if they or someone they know needs help.

For more information and support, the following resources are available:

- >> White Ribbon Campaign: www.whiteribbon.org.uk
- » National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247 (24/7 free and confidential support)
- >> Women's Aid: www.womensaid.org.uk
- » NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 (for advice on safeguarding children in domestic abuse situations)

If you or someone you know is affected, please don't hesitate to reach out for support. Our school's safeguarding team is also here to guide families to the right resources and offer assistance.

Together, we can create a safer, more supportive community for everyone.

Mr Rodgers | Deputy Headteacher





Once again, a huge congratulations to our latest Golden Buzzer winners!

Will Balmforth 9SGE Murphy Barker 10ARU

Martha Beaumont 9PDV

Shaun Boyd 7JPO

Orlaith Brown 11EFO

Arnie Carr 8LWO

Amy Charge 7ESH

Tabitha Coupe 11EFO

Imogen Crowley 7EDN

Dexter Forsyth 8LWO

Tiffany Francisco 13JCA

Lila Garniss 9SGE

Ava Harris 10AHO

Gracie-Mae Jan 11SWL

Madison Key 7ESH

Hayden Lax 10DPE

Alysicia Leach 9PDV

Henry Leng 11RLO

Rosalie Lorch 11RLO

Dorothy Makey 9PDV

Oliver Moody 8ACR

Millie Oliver 8CMT

Oscar Purchon 8LWO

Libby Raper 12CEI

Ameerah-Grace Rumford

11ASC

Lydia Spratt 11PDR

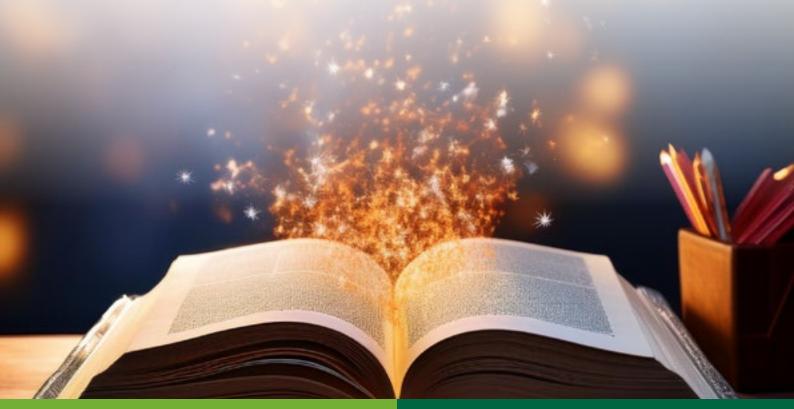
Ella Thornton 12JHR

Jack Watts 11RLO

Libby West 10AHO

Poppy Woolfitt 9PDV

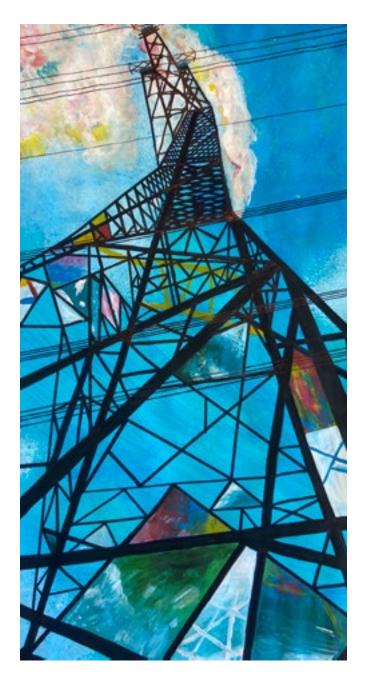
Leon Zielinski 7FSH

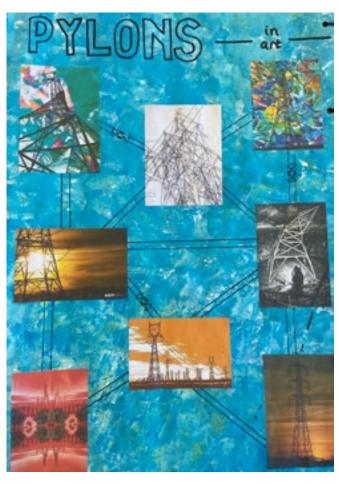




ART

This week we feature Year 11 pupils' work in Art. Mrs Holmes explained: "These amazing architectural pieces have been completed by Year 11 pupils as part of their GCSE coursework."





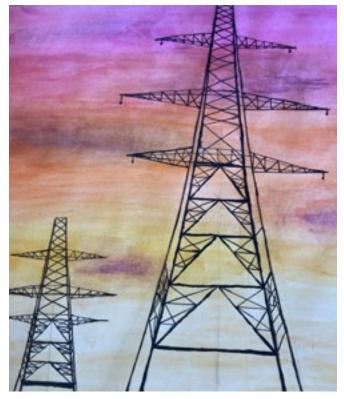




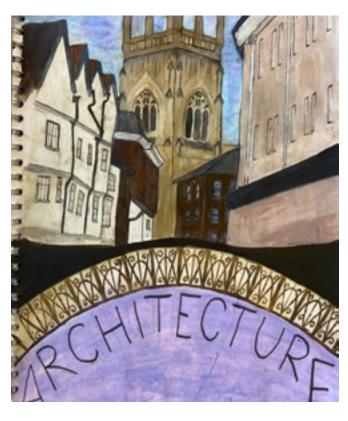










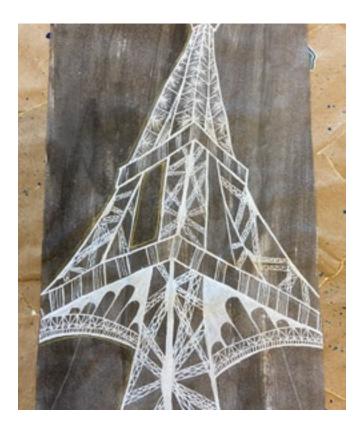


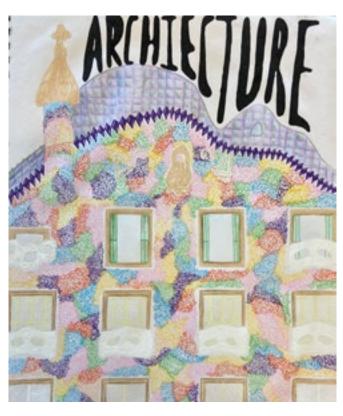




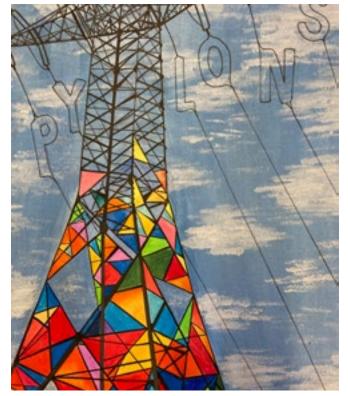






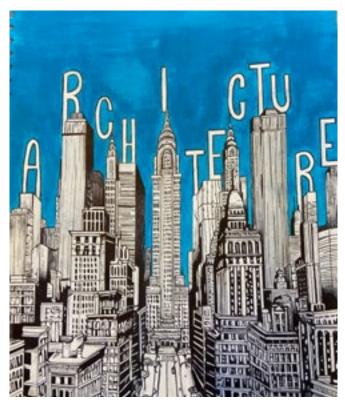


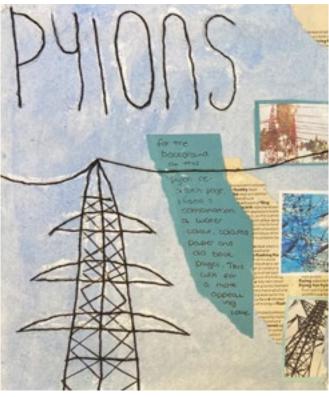
















Memory Lane

This week we feature pictures from March 1953.

Our first picture shows Headteacher Mr Dunn with the staff, while the other pictures show the site.



Staff pictured are, from left to right:

Back row: P Walker; K Ellison; C Pentin; K Towse; R Thompson; A Morris; J Kaye; L Brown; E Sykes; J Quarmby; M Twombley; P Wilson.

Middle row: J Smalley; P Sharpley; D Dockray; D Parham; J Affleck; J Davenport; R Hebb; E Dean; D Hickes; J Thompson; A Little; M Dunn; M Daubney.

Front row: E McCoy; L Dennison; O Simons; J Macleod; G Addis; R Dunn; J Shaw; M Brown; S Avison; R Wright; D Fuller.













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)







Pupils Enjoy First Story Creative Writing Workshops

A few weeks ago we began our First Story programme with our marvellous new writer in residence Maureen Lennon. This year's 2024/2025 Longcroft cohort includes pupils from Years 7 to 10. It's an eclectic bunch, all eager to share what they've written. So far pupils have enjoyed lots of free writing, taken inspiration from observing objects, hearing new writers, started on their six-word stories, and begun creating personal anthems. It's been an exciting few weeks.

How does Maureen feel she's settling in?

"It's brilliant to get to know
Longcroft and all its students.
This is a different cohort for me as
we've got a real mix of ages and I'm
finding that makes for such a lively
and varied group. I'm particularly
impressed by your library, what
a gorgeous place to spend a few
hours, stuffed to the rafters with
stories."





Maureen is very enthusiastic, and the cohort are clearly enjoying their weekly workshops, gaining confidence, and developing their writing skills. As Harriet commented:

"It's really good. I really like the workshops, and Maureen is kind and encouraging."

Alisa agrees:

"I really enjoy being creative and the writing exercises are fun."



Enthusing our young takes a special type of person. Why did Maureen become a writer in residence?

"I've always been really passionate about how important writing and storytelling can be for young people. I loved reading and writing at school, but gave up creative writing for quite a long time after an offhand comment from a teacher made me think it wasn't for me. That means I really understand how transformative it can be to get feedback when you're young, and how important it can be that you're encouraged properly. I jumped at the chance to join First Story because of the way they prioritise all these things. I think it's a unique offering, particularly in the way it empowers young people to feel ownership over their voice and writing."

How does Maureen find working with young people?

"Surprising, challenging, inspiring;, every time you think you've got the knack a young person comes along and makes you totally rethink your practice. Mostly I find it makes me raise my own writing game because I'm so impressed by the writing and ideas that come from the group week after week."

Maureen will work intensively with our cohort over the academic year, towards publication of our new Longcroft anthology. Pupils and students across the school will also have the opportunity to participate in competitions, awareness day workshops, and events, including the Young Writers Festival at the University of Cambridge in April 2025. This year it will be held at Newnham College and headlined by award winning author Steven Camden.

Further opportunities, for exceptional pupils, include a creative writing residential at Arvon and the Folio Academy Mentorship scheme. These prestigious partners, as well as universities and publishers, expand the aspirations of our young and provide them with the essential skills they need to flourish in an increasingly competitive world.

First Story was established in 2008 by professional writer William Fiennes and a former Teach First teacher, Katie Waldegrave. Their aim was to provide young people in state education with extra-curricular support to develop their creativity through writing and to build their confidence.

Currently, its patron is Her Majesty the Queen. She is wholeheartedly committed to First Story:

"I firmly believe that nurturing a passion for reading and writing is vital to the health of our country. As patron of First Story I am delighted that it continues to foster and inspire the creativity and talent of young people in secondary schools serving low-income communities."

Longcroft has been privileged to work with First Story on four anthologies to date. Having a writer in residence has been of huge benefit to our pupils and students. The enrichment the programme provides has truly added to their education. Nelson Mandela once said that "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

What's does Maureen believe is the most important benefit of doing First Story?

"Gaining confidence in your voice, trusting in what you have to say, and knowing that language is a tool that can help you be heard."

We look forward to more exciting weeks working with Maureen on our common goal.





The 6 Word Story 2024/2025

Can you write a story in just 6 words? First Story's 6 Word Story Competition is now open.

Alexa, where have my parents gone? It was dark inside the wolf. For sale: Baby Shoes. Never worn.

The key to writing a 6 word story is leaving something out for your reader to work out, but to try and make it clear what that something should be.

Submit your entry/entries to your English teacher or Ms Carvill and Mrs Clarke in the Library.

The deadline is Friday 6th December.

In-house Prizes include books, sweets, ClassCharts, and a Golden Buzzer. Winners of the First Story Prize will have their story published online and receive a goodie bag.



Care and Achievement Co-ordinators

Our Care and Achievement Co-ordinators work with specific year groups to ensure the welfare and progress of pupils and are the first point of contact for parents.

They support children to achieve academically by establishing a positive learning environment, visiting and working in lessons and supervising and supporting individuals and groups of pupils.

Our team, and their work mobile phone number which parents can use to contact them, are pictured below.



Year 7
Miss Fox
07342 342858
vicky.fox@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 8

Mrs Thwaites

07444 8478811

gemma.thwaites@longcroft.eriding.net



Years 9 and 10 Mrs Newsam 07827 587483

zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net