



LONGCROFT

— SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS

LETTER



Mathematicians Strike

Gold in Challenge!

"I'm really excited for the next round!"

Over 100 pupils in Years 7 and 8 took on the UK Maths Trust Junior Challenge and we are proud of their outstanding results!

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The UK Maths Trust is the leading British charity that advances the education of young people in mathematics. For over 20 years the Trust has been inspiring a love of problem solving through maths challenges and enrichment activities and our pupils and Sixth Form students enjoy three of these. Year 11 pupils and Sixth Form students take the Senior Challenge and pupils in Years 9 and 10 the Intermediate Challenge.

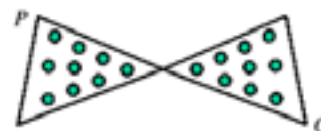
Recently it was the turn of our Year 7 and 8 pupils to test themselves against national and international competition.

The Junior Challenge sees pupils given an hour to attempt 25 multiple choice questions. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency. The problems on the Junior Maths Challenge are designed to make pupils think, and most are accessible yet still challenge those with more experience.



United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

4. A ladybird has landed at point P on Sam's bow-tie. If it travels only along the edges of the bow-tie, but cannot travel along any edge more than once, how many different ways are there for it to get from P to Q ?



A 1 B 2 C 3 D 4 E 5

5. The word 'thirty' contains 6 letters and $6 = 30 \div 5$. Similarly, the word 'forty' contains 5 letters and $5 = 40 \div 8$. Which of the following is not a multiple of the number of letters it contains?

A six B twelve C eighteen D seventy E ninety

Pupils are awarded certificates – a Certificate of Participation, Bronze, Silver or Gold. Twelve pupils, six from each of Years 7 and 8, have earned the prestigious Silver Certificate. Two Year 7 pupils, Stanley and Leon, excelled to earn Gold Certificates – Stanley, with a fabulous score of 95, just pipping Leon for the accolade 'Best in Year'. Year 8 pupil Oscar scored an outstanding 117 – as well as earning the title 'Best in School' he has qualified for the next round of the competition, the 'Junior Kangaroo'.

A follow-on round to the Junior Challenge, the Junior Kangaroo is a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice question challenge. Entry to the Junior Kangaroo is by invitation based on a qualifying Junior Maths Challenge score. The UKMT is the UK member of the Association Kangourou sans Frontières, a collaborative association whose purpose is to promote mathematics among young people worldwide. Around six million young people worldwide take Kangaroo competitions each year. The name Kangaroo acknowledges the contribution made by Australia to establishing large-scale mathematics contests.

The questions in the Junior Kangaroo paper are arranged in approximate order of difficulty with the harder questions towards the end. Pupils are not expected to complete all the questions during the time, and they are expected to bear this in mind when deciding which questions to tackle.

Oscar said, "I'm very proud. The questions were a lot easier than I thought they would be. I'm really excited for the next round!"

Each year, over 700,000 young people take part in UKMT maths challenges, while 2.5 million people visit the charity's website annually for maths resources. Mr Baker said, "Mrs Powell does a fantastic job of organising our entries into the three challenges each year and they are a valuable aspect of our enrichment programme. We have had some outstanding results over the years and Sixth Form students applying to some of the country's top universities often refer to their participation and results in their personal statement."

Mrs Low, Head of Maths, explained, "The UKMT Challenges test our pupils and Sixth Form students as they offer a different style of question. I am delighted with the results – all the pupils should be proud of their certificates. I am looking forward to following their progress as they work towards GCSE and possibly A Level Maths."



Headteacher's Welcome

This half term has brought us so many memorable moments and successes to celebrate, from charity initiatives to sporting success, performance showcases to high-profile visits. It has also been fabulous to receive further recognition for the school including for the exceptional progress driven by our reading programme and importantly for levels of attendance which are amongst the highest regionally and nationally. Our community bring us inspiration and joy through each and every day, and it has been great to share just a small snapshot of that with you through our weekly newsletters.

This week has seen several Gold Awards issued to our Year 7 pupils following the recent UKMT National Mathematics Challenge. This is a prestigious accolade and places our young people amongst the highest performers across the country. A brilliant achievement which you can read more about in our lead article.

Over the course of recent weeks, our commitment to a holistic experience in school has been reflected by not only the levels of general engagement, but also the success of our young people across various events. Our sports teams have done really well this summer so far and on Tuesday our Sports Leaders extended this aspect of our offer through a primary school golf event on our 3G pitch. Organised by Mrs Henderson, around 100 pupils enjoyed a brilliant session after school with representatives from schools across our cluster region. It was quite the site to behold and our pupils led the programme with their usual confidence and competence, a true demonstration of our Longcroft Standard.

You can read updates this week on our Forest School programme and I am very much looking forward to reporting on those completing the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award soon. We have had huge interest in next year's cohort already and it isn't too late if your children would like to get involved in this brilliant scheme.

On Thursday we hosted the second in our series of Steps to Success evenings for Year 10 families ahead of their end of year exams later this term. It was a really well attended event and set the scene for an important end to the academic year. As well as considering revision and preparation, we also looked forward to curriculum trips such as Hardwick Hall for our Historians and the Geography fieldwork that will take place shortly. All of that is of course closely followed by work experience, which is a significant milestone in our Key Stage 4 programme and we are very excited to see our pupils flourish in the wide range of work place environments they have now secured.

It will not be long of course until all of our pupils in Year 7-10 will have the opportunity to join us for our celebration trip to Flamingo Land! With the Year 11 and 13 Proms and our School Games Day also on the horizon as well as lots of other exciting things planned, it is always a great end to the academic year at Longcroft.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming pupils and students back to school on **Monday 2nd June**, rested and ready for another important 7 weeks of learning. In the meantime, I wish you a brilliant Bank Holiday and a happy half term break when they come.

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	109,528
THOUGHT	403,953
VISION	378,467

GRAND
TOTAL:
891,948



POCKLINGTON
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CENTRE



Little
Wander

COMEDY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 31 MAY 2025

FRINGE PREVIEWS / FAMILY SHOW / EVENING MIXED BILL

Seeta Wrightson • Chris Cantrill • Frankie Monroe • Louise Young
Kiri Pritchard-McLean (MC) • Lee Kyle (MC) • just Josh • Jerry Bear & Garry



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LOWER SCHOOL



Mr Worthington writes:

Highlighting the power of participation, and why getting involved matters, school is about discovering your strengths, developing new skills, and making lasting memories. One of the best ways pupils can do this is by getting involved in sports and extra-curricular clubs.

Taking part in competitive sport offers so much more than just physical fitness. It builds resilience, teamwork, discipline, and confidence. Whether it's football, netball, athletics, or rugby, sports help pupils push boundaries and learn how to win and lose with grace, valuable life lessons that extend far beyond the pitch.

Running is one of the simplest and most rewarding ways to get moving. You don't need expensive equipment or a special place to do it, just a pair of trainers and comfortable clothing. Whether you're racing across the school field, participating in the local Parkrun on the Beverley Westwood, or sprinting in a PE lesson, running helps your body grow stronger and your mind feel clearer.

For me, as someone who has done 10k races and half-marathons before, one of the best things about running is how it makes you feel. After just a few minutes, your heart beats faster, your legs power forward, and you start to find a rhythm.

Running can also bring people together. Taking part in school races, joining a running club, or even just jogging with friends are great ways to have fun and support each other. You don't have to be the fastest, it's about setting your own goals and celebrating your progress.





Recently, Beverley has hosted its annual 10k event. With over 1,400 entrants, not only was it great to see one of our Upper School pupils Ameerah cross the finish line as one of the participants, it was great to see so many faces from Longcroft supporting people running the race. Both Lottie and Sebastian, pupils in Year 7, took part in the shorter race and came in with very creditable times. Sebastian came third in his category with an excellent time of 06:54 while Lottie was second in her category with a time of 07:38.

Commendably, both Lottie and Sebastian also volunteered to help look after the adult participants by distributing fruit and water after the race, really getting into the spirit of the day. We are extremely proud of both of them with their helpful, positive attitude to assist at a fantastic, community event.

But it's not just about sport here. We're proud of the wide range of clubs on offer at Longcroft such as Chess Club and Dungeons & Dragons. These clubs give pupils the chance to explore interests, make new friends, and discover passions on top of what takes place in the classroom.

After half-term we can look ahead to our eagerly anticipated School Games Day this July. School Games Day is a celebration of effort, energy and school spirit, and a chance for everyone to shine, compete, and cheer each other on. So, whether you're lacing up your trainers or joining your first club meeting, remember: participation matters. Take the leap, you never know where it might lead.

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

Lydia Dorsey
Amy Charge
Phoebe Fisher
Zac Lister
Tom Dethlefs
Freddie Wood
Madison Key
William Battye
Mia Walters
Evie Pardoe

Year 8

Lottie Moy
George Hogg
Lily Smedley
Ban Muralee
Sam Cowell
Olivia Radley
Rosie Fitton
Olivia Chilcott
Elias Chapman
Oscar Purchon

Year 9

Olivia Lax
Neve Meagher
Ruby Rogers
Lydia Chapman
Scarlett Wood
Evie Sugdon
Holly Ruston
Sam Collin
Bella Stoney
Isabelle Chant
Sophia Brown

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: James Thomson

Year 8: Evie Thwaites

Year 9: Curtis Gordon



UPPER SCHOOL



Mr Henderson writes:

Year 11 Start Exams with Confidence and Resilience

As we reach half-term, we are incredibly proud to report that our Year 11 pupils have made an excellent start to their GCSE examinations. From the very first paper, they have shown a calm determination, arriving punctually, well-prepared, and focused.

Staff across the school have commented on the mature and positive attitude that pupils have brought into the exam halls. Whether facing core subjects or their chosen options, Year 11 have risen to the challenge with resilience and a strong work ethic. Their commitment over the past months — from revision sessions to practice papers — is clearly paying off.

We know that exams can be a stressful time, and I want to take this opportunity to commend our pupils not only for their academic efforts but also for their emotional resilience. Supporting one another, making good use of the resources provided, and staying engaged with their studies, they have truly embodied the values we aim to instil as a school.

We would also like to thank our staff for the care and guidance they have offered throughout this critical period, and our families for the unwavering support from home.

It is great to see how many pupils are taking advantage of the revision sessions being offered this half term.

With several weeks of exams still ahead, we encourage Year 11 to maintain their focus and continue looking after their wellbeing. Keep going — we are all behind you, every step of the way.

Well done, Year 11 — we are very proud of you!

Our **Year 10 Steps to Success Evening** was a great success yesterday evening. It is always great to welcome so many families that are engaged in the rigors of the GCSE years and the development of their children in learning and revision. Information on exam coverage and PowerPoints from the evening will be shared with everyone in the Year 10 community.

Mr Henderson
Head of Upper 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 10

Libby West
Maisie Monaghan
Aden Olivier
Sam Al Budri
Ellie Eaton
Poppy Cooper
Evie Woad
Aiden Clayton
Ellie Mulvana
Ben Smedley

Year 11

Charlotte Tennyson
Tabitha Coupe
Andryana Murray
Nyara Ceesay
Hailey De Kock
Honey Denton
Freya Dolan
Tilly Jamieson-Holmes
Henry Leng
Grace Murden
Amelia Purchon
Lydia Spratt

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: Daisy Jordan



Mr Chapman writes:



LONGCROFT
THE EAST YORKSHIRE
SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Success: Keep Up the Great Work!

As we reach the heart of the exam season, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible dedication and hard work shown by our Sixth Form students. Your commitment to revision, perseverance through challenging subjects, and focus on achieving your goals have not gone unnoticed.

The early signs are promising—many of you have already shown significant progress since mock exams and practice papers. Your teachers are thrilled with the improvements in understanding and the maturity displayed in tackling complex topics. It's clear that the countless hours spent revising, attending study sessions, and supporting each other are paying off.

Remember, consistency is key. Keep refining your revision techniques, balancing study with proper rest, and maintaining a positive mindset. It's normal to feel the pressure, but every bit of effort you put in now will set the foundation for your future success.

To all our Sixth Form students: you're doing exceptionally well. Stay motivated, keep your eyes on your goals, and continue pushing forward. We believe in your potential, and we're proud of how far you've come already.

Keep going—you've got this!

Mr Chapman
Head of Sixth Form



SAFEGUARDING



Mr Rogers writes:

Understanding the Online Safety Act: What Parents Need to Know

I'm writing to inform you about a recent update to the Online Safety Act 2023, which continues to enhance the safety of our children online. This new legislation (April 2025) places important responsibilities on social media companies and search services to safeguard their users. Here's what you need to know about how the Act impacts your child's online experience.

What is the Online Safety Act?

The Online Safety Act 2023 is a set of laws designed to protect users from harmful online content. It requires platforms to implement systems and processes to reduce the risk of illegal activities and to remove illegal content when it appears. The Act's strongest protections are specifically designed for children, ensuring they are shielded from harmful and age-inappropriate content.

Key Protections for Children

Under the Act, platforms must prevent children from accessing harmful content and provide clear ways for parents and children to report online issues. This means that social media sites, video-sharing platforms, and other online services must take proactive steps to ensure a safer online environment for young users.

How Does the Act Affect Adults?

While the Act prioritises children's safety, it also offers protections for adult users. Major platforms are required to be transparent about the types of potentially harmful content they allow and give users more control over what they see online. This helps create a safer and more controlled online experience for everyone.



Role of Ofcom

Ofcom, the independent regulator, plays a crucial role in enforcing the Act. It sets out steps providers must take to fulfill their safety duties and has the power to assess and enforce compliance. Ofcom ensures that safety measures are proportionate to the risk of harm and the size of the provider, making sure that even smaller services with limited functionality are not overburdened.

Who Does the Act Apply To?

The Act applies to a wide range of services, including social media, cloud storage, video-sharing platforms, online forums, dating services, and instant messaging services. It covers services provided outside the UK if they have significant UK users or pose a material risk of harm to UK users

Implementation of the Act

The Act was passed into law on October 26, 2023, and work is ongoing to bring its protections into effect as quickly as possible. Ofcom is leading the implementation, taking a phased approach to ensure that all provisions are effectively put in place.

What Can Parents Do?

As parents, staying informed about the Online Safety Act and its implications is crucial. Encourage your children to talk about their online experiences and report any issues they encounter. Utilise the reporting tools provided by platforms and stay engaged with your child's digital life.

The Online Safety Act is a significant step towards creating a safer online environment for our children. By understanding and utilising its protections, we can help ensure that our children navigate the digital world safely and responsibly.

Mr Rogers
Deputy Headteacher





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

Holly Abel 8NFO

Luke Anderson 7GRU

Amelia Barley 7JPO

William Battye 7ESH

Harvey Bleasby 9PDV

Archie Briggs 9RTO

Rory Buck 7ESH

Florence Crabtree 7JDY

Emma Croshaw 10JHL

Beth Dawson 8EFX

Sophie Day 8EFX

Madilyn Duff 9SGE

Bradley Elvidge 9EMN

Macie Fenton 10ARU

Alicia Hicks 10ARU

Harry Hugill 8CMT

Ben Jagger 9RTO

Leona James 8NFO

Billy Kenny 9SGE

Olivia Lax 9PDV

Dorothy Makey 9PDV

Tymofii Merkulov 8ACR

Hunter Montgomery 8NFO

Evie Pardoe 7ESH

Kingsley Roberts 7ESH

Evelyn Rumford 7JPO

Chloe-Mae Simson 8EFX

Alexander Stork 10ARU

Scarlett Wells 10AHO

Devon Willoughby 8CMT

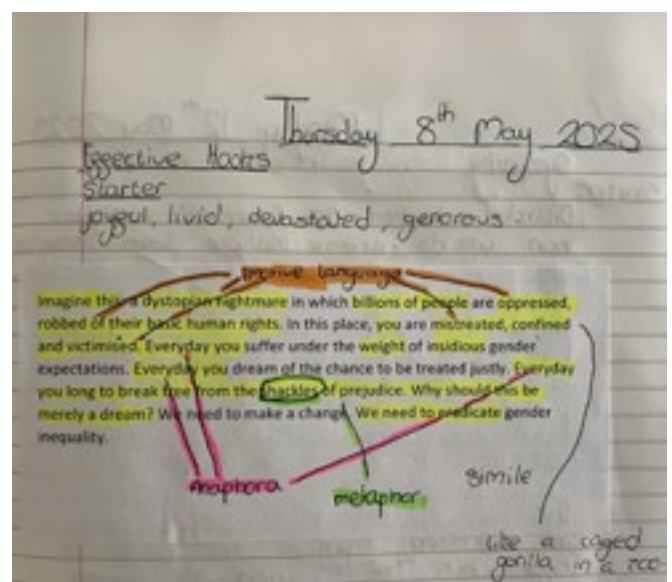
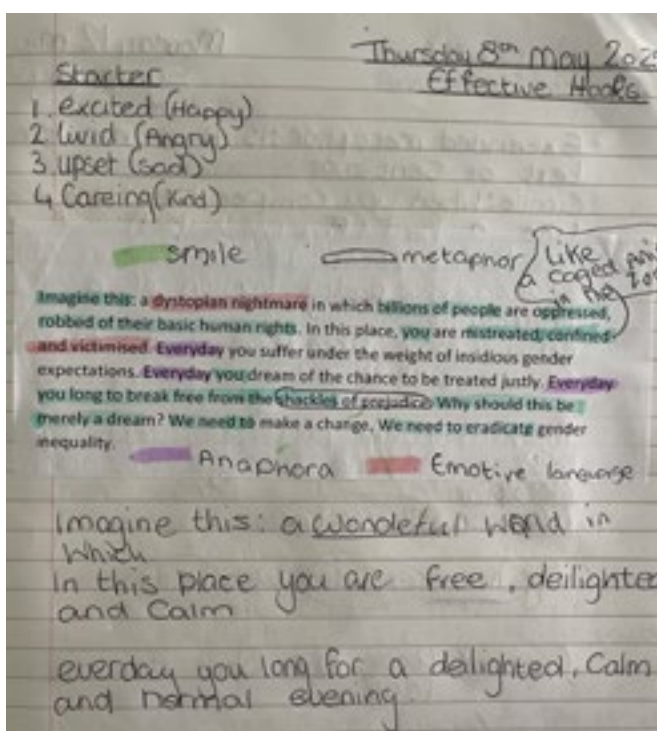
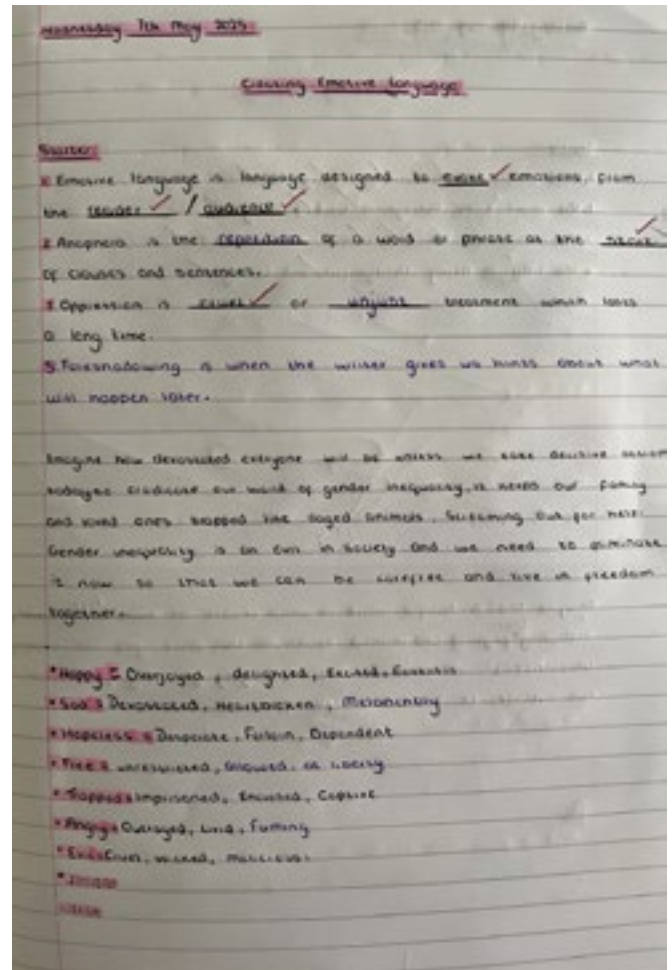


IN FOCUS

ENGLISH

This week we feature work from Year 8 pupils. In English, pupils are studying 'Representations of Race', analysing the work of great speakers and poets such as Martin Luther King Jr, Mary Angelou, Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Aleisia Miller.

Pupils have worked hard to demonstrate their understanding of persuasive methods including emotive language and anaphora while exploring extended metaphors and challenging stereotypical representations of race. Work featured here is from pupils in 8EQ2.





Monday 12th May 2025

Sympathy

Starter

- Extended metaphor - a metaphor that extends on to more than one sentence or on to a story/into a paragraph. ✓
- Simile - comparing two things using as or like. ✓
- line - poems are organised into lines.
- Stanza - the poetry version of a paragraph.
- Enjambement - when there is no punctuation at the end of a line poetry.

The bird in the poem feels happy + alone because the bird is in a cage, sore + harming himself. He wants equality + wants to be free and not enslaved. The bird in the cage refers to the poet.

↑
allude

life is a metaphor → source

↑
target

target = what we are describing
source = how we are describing it

Types of to detect clues I find clues.

Opposition to be explored is systematically harmed by others - people who have no freedom - being oppressed is a negative and unfair condition.

'When his wing is bruised and his bottom sore -
When he beats his feet and he would be free!'

'bruised' and 'sore' suggest physical punishment.
'beat' suggests violence.

On
'And a pain that thrums in the old, old soars'

Thursday 15th May 2025

Emotive Words

Starter

Happy	- Overjoyed, cheerful and upbeat.
Angry	- Irid, flaming and frustrated.
Sad	- Overwhelmed, disappointed and devastated.
Kind	- caring, thoughtful and generous. (B)

②
generous
generous

Imagine this: a dystopian nightmare in which billions of people are oppressed, robbed of their basic human rights. In this place, you are mistreated, confined and victimised. Everyday you suffer under the weight of insidious gender expectations. Everyday you dream of the chance to be treated justly. Everyday you long to break free from the shackles of prejudice. Why should this be merely a dream? We need to make a change. We need to eradicate gender inequality.

Anaphora

prejudice = Shackle





LONGCROFT SCHOOL AND
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

DofE –

The Adventure Starts Here!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme offers life-changing opportunities and we are delighted pupils are once again able to participate in the scheme at Longcroft.

Miss Sinclair said: "It's about going the extra mile – learning new skills for work and life, getting fitter, helping others and exploring the countryside."

Millions of young people in the UK have already done their DofE. Now it's the turn of pupils in the current Year 8 and Year 9 to get involved!

Are you ready to volunteer, get fit, learn and go on expedition? The DofE is one amazing adventure you'll never forget. Miss Sinclair has addressed some frequently asked questions here.

How do I choose my activities?

There's loads to choose from — most activities can count towards your DofE.

Maybe you want to try something new? Or get better at something you're already doing? Your DofE can be whatever you want it to be.

Activities for each DofE section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit in around your studies and life outside school.

What will I do?

Volunteering's all about making a difference to other people's lives.

You can choose the cause that means most to you. From coaching a local football team to starting a recycling campaign, you'll give up your time to change things for the better.

It's extremely rewarding — and it can give you the chance to experience the world of work.

The Physical section is a chance for you to focus on your health and fitness — and have fun along the way.

Try something different or concentrate on something you already do. From Zumba to football, skateboarding to walking — almost any dance, sport or fitness activity can count.

You can join a team or do it on your own. It's up to you.

From podcasting to playing an instrument, **the Skills section** lets you learn a new talent, develop existing skills and find something you love doing.



If you're interested in a specific field, this could be the perfect chance to do something related to it. If you're interested in photography, for example, you could do that as your skill.

You'll grow in confidence and get a real sense of achievement.

Your **expedition** will give you lifelong memories.

With a team of friends, you'll plan your aim, choose your location and do some training to make sure you're prepared — then spend two days and one night away.

You can choose how you travel. You could do it on foot, by bike, canoe, kayak, wheelchair, sailing boat or even on horseback.

So why should I do DofE?

It's hard to list all the benefits of achieving your Bronze Award, so here's a quick snapshot. You'll...

- » Have lots of fun
- » Get healthier and happier
- » Meet incredible people and make lasting friendships
- » Have amazing new experiences
- » Find talents you didn't know you had
- » Gain skills that employers value, which you can reference on your CV
- » Become more confident and independent
- » Stand out from the crowd in college, university and job applications
- » Make memories that will last a lifetime.

So, what are you waiting for?

If you are in Year 8 or Year 9 speak to Miss Sinclair to get signed up for next year!





Forest School Update

Spring has well and truly sprung and we're all enjoying the much-anticipated May sunshine. But as pleasant as the sunbeams on our shoulders are, the warmer weather brings its own challenges. 'The Day of the Triffids' has dawned in the Forest School corner of the field. The nettles are back and on the rampage, advancing menacingly towards the freshly planted willow arch from every direction. The dry weather also brings a new job, collecting water from the school building to rehydrate the gallant little willow stems as they resolutely resist the ominous green tide. At least the dry ground, and freshly mown grass, means that dragging the water carrier is a little easier.



It isn't just the flora that's thriving, there is also plenty of fauna to interest the Forest School pupils. Almost as soon as the frosts had cleared, frogspawn appeared in gloopy, translucent puddles, floating on the surface of the pond. The first job every week is to scan the pool for new tadpoles, darting through the murky water like tiny torpedoes. Just wait until they have frogs to look out for. Increased insect life is also obvious. All the pupils recognised the 'dressed to kill' ladybirds, sparkling like jewels in the sun, but few were aware of the tiny green aphids hiding under the nettle leaves, until they saw them through a magnifying glass. Perhaps the humble nettle isn't so bad after all, just a little bit misunderstood.



The Forest School group have been learning how to build shelters from tarpaulins and twine, and whilst there hasn't been any rain to test them, the shade they've offered has been welcome. Work has started on a new den, larger but similar in design to the original (which rather impressively is still standing) using more of the limbs salvaged from the fallen tree. And more inventive perhaps, if slightly less practical, give them rope, plenty of strong-limbed trees and a foraged tyre, and almost inevitably a swing miraculously appears.

This corner of the Longcroft field has proven to be the perfect venue for Forest School. Now that the trees are in full leaf and the ground is a mass of green, it's looking its most spectacular. Even the nettles are pretty in their own, slightly villainous way. Forest School is a lovely, positive way to spend a morning for the lucky few who get the chance, and a reminder that beyond the confines of our daily existence, there is a big, wonderful world out there.

Memory Lane

This week we return to 2016 and feature two Year 8 teams. The rounders and cricket teams are pictured.





Our Languages Nuts!



We are delighted with the enthusiasm shown by pupils for our latest award — the Language Nutter of the Week.

Ms Shepherd explained: "Language Nut is a website we use regularly in Spanish and French. Each week, pupils in Years 7-10 are set homework on Language Nut, which is available as an app on a mobile device or on a computer or laptop. Year 11 linguists use the website as part of their GCSE revision. Every week, we will announce our Language Nutter of the week as well as our top ten - the pupils who have scored the most points on Language Nut that week."

Congratulations to Holly, this week's Language Nutter of the Week, and our top ten Nutters!

Holly Artley Tolson (7JDY) with 314,800 points

Levi Petherbridge (10DPE) with 218,400 points

Shanice Munaku (8NFO) with 129,200 points

Harry Rogers (10ARU) with 128,600 points

Jack Simson (10DPE) with 117,600 points

Lottie Johnston (7JDY) with 94,400 points

Jack Wallis (8NFO) with 91,200 points

Ava Bryce (10DPE) with 91,000 points

Rosie Fitton (8LWO) with 89,800 points

Ben Carlyle-Smith (10DPE) with 87,600 points





Longcroft Sport Extra-Curricular Programme Summer Term

	After School 15:15 – 16:10
Monday	
Tuesday	Cricket (3G) GTA
Wednesday	Year 7-9 Rugby (Field) JCS
Thursday	Rounders (Field) JHE Athletics (Track) JNC
Friday	Table Tennis (Sports Hall) EFX & MHE Badminton (Sports Hall) JCS



The Friends' Corner



The FOLS have had some successful opportunities to raise funds by selling refreshments at the Year 10 and Year 8 Parent Consultation Evenings. Thank you for everyone who came to see us in the Year 11 canteen and purchased something from our stall. Every penny counts and all profits are reinvested into the school.

fols@longcroft.eriding.net

Charity Reg No. 515674

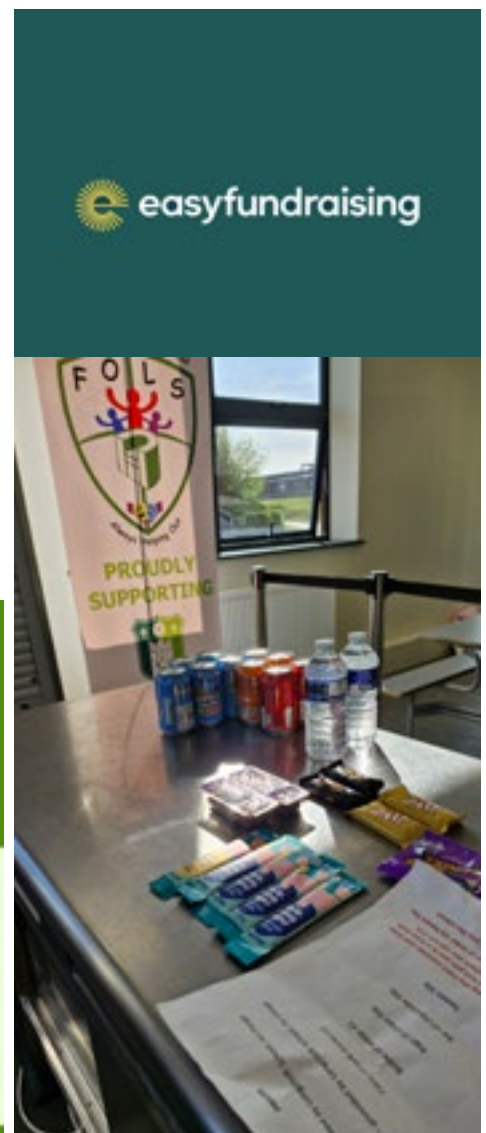
The FOLS will be selling refreshments at the Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening, so please come and visit us in the Year 11 canteen.

Congratulations to the parents of Sam How, Rhys Thompson, Oscar Jowsey and Leo Rena who have won the FOLS monthly cash draw.

Each month the draw is made and the winner receives £15. It only costs £12 to enter and this gives you a monthly entry in the draw for a full year. To join the FOLS cash draw, you just need to purchase an annual entry on ParentPay and the FOLS will do the rest. Thanks to parents using the Easy Fundraising App when they make on line purchases, the FOLS have raised £43.04.

This is an effortless way for the FOLS to raise money. Once you've downloaded the Easy Fundraising App and do your on-line shopping via the App, the company you are shopping with make a donation to the FOLS.

It doesn't cost anything to use and you shop via the Easy Fundraising App in the regular way of shopping on line but the FOLS get the donation. It's an easy way for the FOLS to raise money so please consider shopping via Easy Fundraising. Shops like Boots, Shein and Tesco can all be used on the App.





Ms Carvill writes:

LIBRARY NEWS

Celebrating Pride 2025

Pride is traditionally celebrated in the month of June in the UK and around the world. It's the ideal time to acknowledge all the wonderful contributions the LGBTQ+ community have made to society, and also show support and solidarity for their ongoing fight for acceptance and equality.

“The sort of people who want to ban books are not the sort of people who are interested in truth.”
—*Boy Like Me* by Simon Reeves Green

Some of our finest poets, playwrights, and authors have come from the LGBTQ+ community, including Oscar Wilde, E. M. Foster, James Baldwin, Tennessee Williams, Jean Genet, Patricia Highsmith and Mary Renault. Yet, despite their creativity many have faced challenges. For example, E.M. Forster's novel *Maurice* was published posthumously in 1971. It had been written 57 years earlier, but Forster feared the book's theme of homosexuality would provoke legal and social repercussions.

In 1988, when section 28 was passed by Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, promoting homosexuality in libraries or teaching about acceptability in schools was against the law. Sadly, the situation persisted until section 28 was finally repealed in the UK in 2003.

Section 28 destroyed many lives; it also brought unprecedented challenges to librarians, teachers, and educators. The arguments and rhetoric surrounding these challenges were rooted in ignorance, lies, bigotry and the misconceptions of



the time. Thankfully, some individuals were willing to stand together and fight for a better world, and resolved that future generations wouldn't be harmed by ignorance and fear. Indeed, one of the book recommendations below, **Boy Like Me**, is dedicated to Alice Leggatt, a brave librarian determined to fight against homophobia.

Pride is such an important celebration and events will take place throughout June and later. Indeed, this year Pride in London will be on Saturday 5th July 2025 with the parade starting off from Hyde Park Corner.

Beverley is planning a number of events, including an extra-special extravaganza on Saturday 16th August 2025. For more information about Pride visit: <https://pride2025.co.uk/>

Pupils and students will find a selection of books relating to LGBTQ+ on display in the Library. Please encourage them to explore. Reading such books allows us to better understand ourselves and others.



Heartstopper: Volume 1 by Alice Oseman AR Colour Code – Orange – Reading Age 12+

Year 11 Nick plays rugby at school. He's heard about Charlie, the boy who was outed last year and subsequently bullied at their grammar school, but they've never talked. When they do, friendship grows quickly, and perhaps there might be something more.

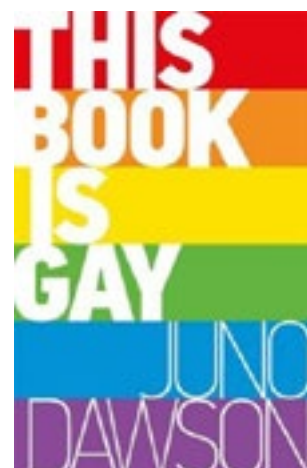
This award-winning graphic novel about love, friendship, and the journey of life quickly became a bestseller and spawned subsequent volumes and a Netflix series.

A gentle, kind read.

This Book is Gay by Juno Dawson No AR – Reading Age 13+

This outstanding non-fiction book written by Juno Dawson, a former teacher who has undergone gender transition, features testimonials from people across the gender and sexual spectrums. It provides an accessible and inclusive take on what it feels like to grow up LGBT, whether you are questioning your sexuality or not. It's frank and funny, and written with sensitivity and thorough understanding; addressing all the concerns young people have about this topic.

A superb read for teachers, parents, and guardians too.





Homebody by Theo Parish No AR – Reading Age 14+

This touching YA graphic memoir is both empowering and celebratory and will delight fans of Alice Oseman's Heartstopper series.

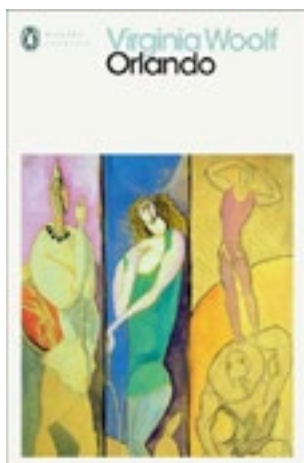
Author-illustrator Theo Parish relates a heart lifting story about self-discovery and what it's like to live life on your own terms and be at home with you.

A must read for anyone wishing to understand more about gender identity or who has ever felt they don't quite belong.

Boy Like Me by Simon James Green AR Colour Code – Blue – Reading Age 14+

This outstanding semi-autobiographical novel is set in 1994 in a secondary school in Lincolnshire. In the school library, the librarian is committing a crime; there's a novel with a disguised cover, about two boys falling in love. Due to section 28, the book is illegal, no mention of gay relationships are allowed in schools, but when Jamie Hampton reads the story he realises he's been concealing who he really is. When he sees a scrawled message in the book he knows someone is reaching out. Finally, he is not alone.

This outstanding, wonderfully written, tender love story is a sharp reminder of the political climate at the time and just how horrendous some aspects of the 1990s truly were. Despite this there is a lot of humour, and it surges with optimism. Simply brilliant.



Orlando by Virginia Woolf No AR – Reading Age 14+

Woolf's mock biography fantasy in which a young sixteenth century aristocrat lives for centuries and changes from man to woman, and eventually ends up as a female writer inhabiting Woolf's own time frame, is considered a feminist classic and has been written about by numerous scholars of gender and transgender studies.

A delightfully playful book awash with adventure, history, travel, and ambiguity. Woolf, who wrote it for the bisexual writer Vita Sackville-West, described it as a 'writer's holiday'.



Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit by Jeannette Winterson No AR – Reading Age 13+

Jeannette Winterson's coming-of-age autobiographical novel, first published in 1985; is now considered a classic. She wrote it in her early 20s, and it has all the freshness and sparkle of youth: witty, well-written, and awash with wondrous characters.

Jeannette's adopted mother is a religious fanatic, frightening, and a bully. But there are reasons, she is convinced Jeannette is a God-given child and destined to become a missionary, but when Jeannette falls for one of the female converts things take a different turn.

An exceptional read.

"Literature is a mix of unfamiliarity and recognition. The situation can take us anywhere – across time and space, the globe, through the lives of people who can never be like us - into the heart of anguish we have never felt..."

—Jeannette Winterson



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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 847881

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