



# LONGCROFT

—SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE—

## NEWS LETTER



### Inspirational Author Dr Ed

### Hurst Returns to Longcroft!

"He really helped me believe in my own imagination and understand I can write from my personal experience and use it in my work."

**Dr Ed Hurst, the Programme Director for Creative Writing at the University of Hull, returned to Longcroft Library this week for the second of his linked workshops.**

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Ed first visited in March and was a great success with pupils who learnt all about how to generate that creative spark.

This time a cohort of our Year 10 pupils explored publishing. The session began with lots of discussion about Artificial Intelligence and its impact. Recently concerns have been raised in the media about machines monopolizing creativity. Ed explained about AI content creation and how it can be used in publishing as a marketing strategy. It was exciting to see pupils so engaged; questioning if AI will benefit humankind, or pose a threat to those with careers in the arts.

Ed was eager to point out to pupils the uniqueness of their ideas and words:

*"AI can never bring with it the energy that you as human beings have to create. Imagine Mary Shelley's Frankenstein being written by AI. Supposedly she walked out in a lightening storm to get inspiration."*

Ed's new book, ARX: City of Broken Minds, is coming out in September and he has invited pupils to attend the launch party, receive a free copy of his book, and learn more about publishing. He stressed the importance of social media in the process and asked pupils what social media they mainly used; he mentioned BookTok, an app that focuses on books and literature, where creators make videos and write reviews.

*"Today publishers want to know writers are active on social media and able to do lots of promotion. Having a big following can make a huge difference to a book's success."*

Ed invited pupils to create an imaginative story outline in a genre of their choice that they could summarise in just a few words. Working in small groups they selected one of the narratives to create a social media campaign.

*"You have three months until the book goes on sale. Do a timeline to make it a bestseller."*

Our pupils rose to the challenge. Narratives included a tale of vampires and vengeance, a romance between a boy and a ghost girl, a battle between feminists and misogynists,

and a historical novel based on the Chernobyl disaster. They were then given the opportunity to pitch their marketing strategy to their peers and get some feedback.

Among their ideas to boost book sales were video clips, video games based on the storyline, 5 minute animated clips, TikTok campaigns, press releases, animated trailers, and YouTube subscriptions.

Ed was impressed and offered to critique any creative writing pupils would like to send him. What did our pupils think of the workshop and Ed? Evie really enjoyed it:

*"I think he's really good. Not everyone here wants to be a writer, but the way he's gone about this workshop is really interesting. He's explained there are other jobs like publishing and marketing."*

Anna appreciated it too:

*"We got shown what a career in marketing would be like. He's a cool guy."*

Ameerah felt empowered to write:

*"He really helped me believe in my own imagination and understand I can write from my personal experience and use it in my work."*

Bria also enjoyed the session:

*"I learnt a lot this lesson."*

Thank you to Mrs Foster, Miss Meek, and Mrs Clarke for their support with this event. We were all delighted by the engagement and energy pupils showed. As Mrs Clarke commented:

*"As usual, Ed never fails to get the best out of the pupils. He delivers with enthusiasm and a love of literature."*

**A huge thank you to Ed. We look forward to welcoming him to Longcroft again.**





## Our Wonderful Summer Concert in Pictures!











# Headteacher's Welcome

**In a week of transitions, it has been great to see our community come together, to celebrate all that has been achieved by so many, and look forward to an exciting future ahead.**

As we move beyond final examinations, it was time to celebrate with our Year 11 Leavers' Assembly ahead of the eagerly anticipated Proms taking place over the coming days. These are celebratory moments, a chance to look back together on shared journeys; and for these groups of young people it has been quite the extraordinary time. As the community has reflected on recent years, it has reminded us of the tremendous resilience, courage and commitment our young people have demonstrated, and we know that they will take all they have learned and become in to the next stage of their lives.

Ever more pupils in Year 11 are now planning to return to Longcroft as part of the East Yorkshire Sixth Form, so it is exciting to consider how our journey in that regard is set to continue. Next week will see the first of our Year 12 summer induction days and an opportunity to get prepared for advanced level study, including through important bridging work that will enable a platform for accelerated academic progress in the Autumn term.

With further increases to our Year 7 numbers again this year, families joined us on Thursday 27th June for our Induction Evening. This was an opportunity for our new cohort to meet their tutors, hear from some of the key leaders and pastoral staff that will be working with them in September, and to get prepared for all of the exciting opportunities that will be available to them when they arrive at Longcroft. It was great to spend time listening to children talk about what they were most excited about, seeing broad smiles everywhere and understanding from families why they had chosen the school and how supportive they are of what we stand for, our culture of high expectations and an absolute focus on every child being known and valued.

This week's Newsletter brings in to focus a number of events and activities taking place this week. Whilst most of Year 12 returned from work experience (or their trip to New York!) to complete mock exams alongside Year 10, our A-Level Biologists have spent further time away conducting residential fieldwork at the highly regarded Cranedale Centre in North Yorkshire. You can see pictures of their exploits as well as a suite of images from our brilliant Summer Performing Arts Showcase which involved pupils and students from Year 7 to 13 in this week's edition. Our lead article documents the return of Dr Ed Hurst who has continued a run of literary events and successes for Longcroft, yet again inspiring our children through his excellent workshop. There is so much more to enjoy beyond.

It is a privilege to publish our Newsletter each week with so many examples of how those past and present in our community, demonstrate the values that we are proud to advocate each and every day.

Have a great week.

**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**

95,813

**THOUGHT**

466,288

**VISION**

302,648

**GRAND**

**TOTAL:**

864,749





## LOWER SCHOOL



### Mr Worthington writes:

**This week, we welcomed Year 6 parents and their children to gather information for the important next step; starting Year 7. Our Induction Evening event is one of the most important in the school calendar, introducing new pupils to their tutors for the next academic year and providing the support and care needed for what is an important time in a young person's school life. Mrs Shepherd, one of our Year 7 tutors in the next academic year, commented: "I understand how important the transition process is, so to meet my new tutor group on Thursday was great. They were all looking forward to the induction day next week!"**

As part of the evening, we also offered a stationery stall, making sure all pupils had an opportunity to see which pieces of equipment are required as part of the school day. For all year groups, these are available from our Librarian Ms Carvill throughout the school year.

As part of my role as Head of Lower School, I have visited St Mary's C of E Primary School and Hutton Cranswick Primary School this week. Children are looking forward to our Induction Day on Tuesday 2nd July. All of the children will get to participate in various different lessons including English, History, Science and Geography. All pupils will need to arrive at school for 8:35 wearing their primary school PE kit, as they will be participating in a PE session during the day!

We ensure that all our new pupils receive the same level of support, whether they are from one of our local catchment primary schools, or from a school outside our catchment area. For pupils outside of our catchment, we are aware that they may not know as many children, and we ensure that they have plenty of opportunities to get to know other pupils and to make friends in September. Each summer, we visit primary schools to meet pupils to get to know them, and to give them a chance to answer questions they may have, as well as to learn more about why life at Longcroft is so special.

This year, we are participating in a new project! Our Key Stage 3 children are excited that we are going to incubate and hatch some chickens, in partnership with an ethical programme led by Living Eggs. We are looking forward to sharing progress of the chicks in the run up to the end of term. Each Year 7 Science class will be invited to visit our new additions to the Longcroft family.

Best of luck to our Lower School pupils who are running as candidates in Longcroft's Mock Election on Thursday 4th July. This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils across the school to experience a democratic process and candidates have worked hard to earn votes!

### Candidates are:

**Lottie** - The Yorkshire Party

**Amelia** – Conservative

**Elias** – Liberal Democrat

**Beth** - Labour

**Chris** - The Green Party





## The Summer Club

**There is an exciting opportunity for your children to take part in The Summer Club. The club will run from Monday to Friday (from 10am - 2pm) during the first three weeks of the school holidays. There will be games, crafts and sports and your child will receive a full cooked meal.**

### The club is running

- » The first three weeks of the school holidays
- » Monday to Friday
- » 10am-2pm
- » For primary and secondary aged children.
- » Your children will receive a cooked meal

We will meet at the Youth Centre on George Street in Beverley.

Children in receipt of benefit related free school meals will receive a free place.

Please email - [youth.children.stmarys.beverley@gmail.com](mailto:youth.children.stmarys.beverley@gmail.com) or call 01482 869137

**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

Sonny Marriott  
Emile Collin  
Tymofii Merkulov  
Sophie Clayton  
Ryan Lucas  
Angel Butler-Shorrocks  
Jake Redmond  
Leo Strickland  
Oliver Barley  
Oscar Purchon

## Year 8

Charlotte Sutcliffe  
Lily Curtis  
James Shiels  
Holly Ruston  
Eddie Pickering  
Daisy Stokes  
Neve Meagher  
Lily Thornton  
Amy Thornton  
Scarlett Wood

## Year 9

Levi Petherbridge  
Sam Al Budri  
Ben Carlyle Smith  
Primrose Kilgannon  
Harry Cuthbert  
Ben Smedley  
Lexie Burke  
Ava Harris  
Maisie Foster  
Ellie Fordham

## 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: Watson Mackevych

Year 8: George Coughlin

Year 9: Liam Hill



# UPPER SCHOOL



**Mr Henderson writes:**

## Year 10 Mock Examinations

**We have had lots of serious faces this week as pupils come to understand the importance of the mock examinations in Year 10. These exams provide both the pupils and us with valuable information: Pupils can test their abilities to recall information and ideas taught and apply them to questions never seen before.**

It also starts the process of understanding how much, in what form and where and when their revision will take place, including the use of flashcards, GCSEPod, mind maps etc. As teachers, we can see if pupils can show their classroom progress in an exam style setting. From this we can look at our forward planning to address any knowledge or skills areas where pupils have struggled to meet expectations. Formal exams, such as these, are so important for pupils to get used to and understand the strict requirements of The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). As an examination centre we must ensure all pupils and procedures follow exacting expectations, these practice exams allow us to prepare the pupils for the future.

## Year 10 Work Experience

After a hard week of exams, the Year 10 pupils head out for work experience placements. A massive well-done to all pupils for the vast majority have secured relevant and interesting roles to try. It is fantastic that we have returned to doing work experience as it allows pupils to see the real-world application and relevance of learning. Pupils can then start to map out their futures with more clarity ready for the Autumn Term when they will be starting to apply for The East Yorkshire Sixth Form at Longcroft and other opportunities including apprenticeships. All pupils in Year 11 will be given time in school to take on careers advice to ensure the next steps are the correct ones for them. It is with this focus pupils can then really





motivate themselves towards their final GCSE's to hit their aspirational targets.

## Year 11 Prom

Everyone is understandably extremely excited for the Year 11 Prom at Lazaat. Year 11 pupils shared all about the preparations they had made for the night with staff before they left. From suits to dresses, hair and nail appointments to luxury cars booked, all will make the night one to remember. We will provide lots of pictures from the evening in future Newsletters and of course on our social media pages:

<https://x.com/SchoolLongcroft>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100031883482247>

Here are some of the pictures from the Leavers' Assembly discussed in last week's Upper School article.

**Mr Henderson**  
Head of Upper School







## Mr Chapman writes:

### Work Experience

**Last week Year 12 were able to spend time experiencing the world of work.**

Maddie, who will be applying to read Law at university, spent the week at Hull's Crime and Criminal Litigation specialists Barker and Copeman. She said that the week had confirmed her ambition, explaining: "I got to watch the barristers. Everything was really interesting – especially the cases in the Crown Court. It gave me an insight into the strategies used by the prosecution and how they responded to the defence." Law is a broad field, and Maddie added: "Eventually I'd like to go into Criminal Law – I'm definitely leaning towards it after last week."

Maddie found the week valuable and will definitely be taking up the opportunity she was offered to visit again in the summer.

Emilia and Jasmine thoroughly enjoyed their week at Molescroft Primary School. Emilia said: "It was very enjoyable and taught me a lot about working with children. The teachers were lovely and it was nice to see how everyone interacted with each other." She added: "I want to be an Educational Psychologist, so it was a great opportunity."

Jasmine said: "I really enjoyed getting to know the children and helping the teachers. Going to St Mary's Church and the Sports Days were fun. I'd like to go back." Jasmine is pictured working alongside children who perform in the school orchestra. She explained: "Orchestra is every Friday. There were a hundred children involved and I was impressed – they were really good!"







Katy very much enjoyed her week at Lockington Primary School, and explained how the opportunity had made her consider working with children in an area such as Art Therapy. Charlotte's week at Beverley's The Marne Restaurant gave her a valuable experience of the world of work. She explained: "While I hope to combine my studies of media and psychology in the future, work experience gave me a valuable opportunity to practise my communication skills."

Our students certainly gained a great deal from their work experience and we are delighted to offer the opportunity to members of our Sixth Form – thank you to all the local

companies, charities and schools who made the week possible.

## Biology Residential

This week students studying Biology are enjoying their fieldwork in North Yorkshire at the Cranedale Centre – a specialist Residential Field Studies Centre. I will feature their work in more detail next week, but their first day saw students visit Filey Brigg to do some transects looking at salinity, temperature and abundance of seaweed. The evening was spent identifying animals from local owl pellets and mounting the findings to make keepsakes. A fantastic day!



## Taster Day

We are looking forward to welcoming students from the current Year 11 to our Taster Day on Friday 5th July.

The day will offer students opportunities to discuss specific subjects with teachers they will be working with in Years 12 and 13 and to have some fun together in preparation for what will be a wonderful two years in our Sixth Form!

**Mr Chapman**  
Head of Sixth Form



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# BE AMBITIOUS





# SAFEGUARDING



*Mr Rogers writes:*

## Understanding Vaping: What Parents Need to Know

As vaping becomes increasingly popular, it's essential for parents to understand the potential health risks associated with this trend. Some teens experiment with e-cigarettes, often believing they are a safer alternative to smoking. This article aims to provide you with the facts about vaping, helping you make informed decisions and have meaningful conversations with your children.

### What is Vaping?

Vaping involves inhaling a vaporised liquid from an e-cigarette or similar device. These devices heat a liquid (e-liquid) that usually contains nicotine, flavourings, and solvents like propylene glycol and glycerin. Despite the term "vapor," what is inhaled is actually an aerosol composed of fine particles.

### Health Risks of Vaping

While vaping is often marketed as a safer alternative to smoking, it is not without risks. Here are some key points to consider:

- 1. Nicotine Addiction:** E-liquids typically contain nicotine, a highly addictive substance. Nicotine can harm adolescent brain development, affecting learning, memory, and attention.
- 2. Chemical Exposure:** Vapes contain various chemicals that can irritate and damage the lungs. For instance, flavourings like diacetyl are known to cause severe lung disease when inhaled.
- 3. Unknown Long-term Effects:** Vaping is a relatively new phenomenon, and its long-term health impacts are not fully understood. Early studies indicate potential risks, including lung damage and increased cancer risk.
- 4. Heavy Metals:** Some vaping devices release heavy metals such as nickel and chromium into the aerosol, which can be toxic when inhaled.



## The Appeal of Vaping to Teens

E-cigarettes are often designed to be appealing to younger users. They come in a variety of flavour, from fruity to dessert-like, making them more enticing. Additionally, their discreet design allows for easy concealment, increasing the likelihood of use among teens.

## Legal and Social Concerns

In the UK, it is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to individuals under 18. Despite these regulations, many teens still find ways to obtain vaping products. Parents should be aware of the social pressures and accessibility issues that contribute to youth vaping.

## How to Talk to Your Children About Vaping

- 1. Open Communication:** Start conversations early and maintain an open, non-judgmental dialogue. Ask your children what they know about vaping and share the facts with them.
- 2. Set Clear Expectations:** Make your stance on vaping clear and explain the reasons behind it. Setting firm boundaries can help deter usage.
- 3. Be a Role Model:** If you smoke or vape, consider quitting. Your actions significantly impact your child's behaviour and choices.
- 4. Educate About Risks:** Provide specific information about the health risks associated with vaping. Highlight that while vaping might seem less harmful than smoking, it is not risk-free.

## Support for Quitting

If your child is already vaping, approach the situation with understanding and support. Encourage them to quit and offer resources to help them do so. Many support groups and cessation programs are available to assist in quitting nicotine.

Understanding the risks associated with vaping is crucial for parents in today's world. By staying informed and maintaining open communication with your children, you can help them make healthier choices. Remember, while vaping may seem like a safer alternative to smoking, it carries its own set of risks that cannot be ignored.

**Stay informed, stay engaged, and help keep our children healthy and safe.**







## Memory Lane

This week we return to 2017 and feature Year 6 children on their Induction Day in what would become their Year 7 tutor groups that September. 7L are pictured with their form tutor Mrs Barry who subsequently became the pupils' Head of Year. Our second picture shows Miss Sinclair's tutor group 7C. The pictures include some of our Year 13 students who leave Longcroft this summer having completed their A Levels.







# IN FOCUS

## HISTORY

**The Year 10 GCSE historians visited Hardwick Hall in order to get a first-hand immersive experience of the grandeur of Elizabethan architecture, to see that the rise of a new gentry class and a move away from the previously defence-oriented homes of the rich. This allowed a successful burgeoning capitalist England to take the opportunity to broadcast their social status.**



Hardwick is the designated 'historic environment' for the 2025 examinations, so the visit will support pupils' preparations for the important extended-response question on their paper as well as further developing their appreciation of how Elizabethan society had developed since medieval times.



Mr Charlesworth, who organised the visit, said: "The clement weather on the day was a bonus, and the pupils did pleasantly surprise me in how much time they took to absorb the atmosphere of their internal house tours. Rooms are darkened to protect the 400-year-old tapestries, paintings, mouldings and furniture. Mr Pearson, Mr Coupe and Mrs Ellis toured the house with groups of pupils, reporting how impressed they were with pupils' engagement with the historical sources and with the volunteer and staff guides present in each room. Pupils listened intently and posed questions - at a time when they are receiving numerous school visitors, Hardwick staff were very complimentary of the Longcroft contingent."

Mr Charlesworth added: "The pupils stood out from the crowd only through their Longcroft ties and jumpers as they explored the gardens and wider estate amongst other tourists, taking advantage of the cafe, restaurant, book store, plant nursery and gift shop before their coach ride home."



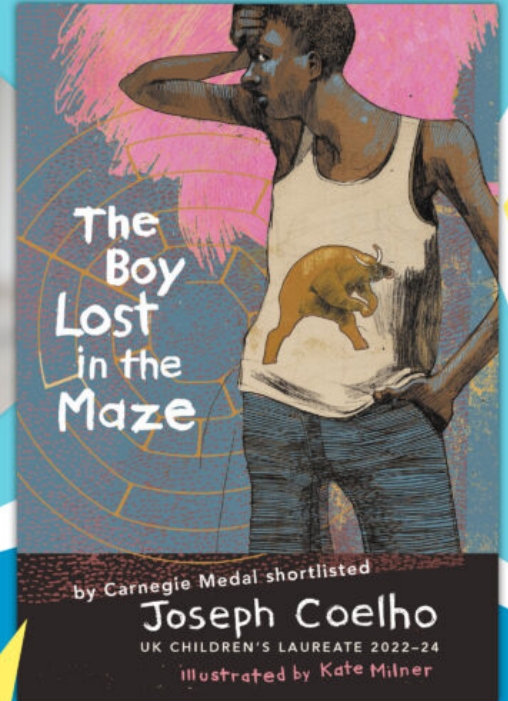




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## LIBRARY NEWS



*Ms Carvill writes:*

### The 2024 Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing Winner Is Announced

**Joseph Coelho's Young Adult novel *The Boy Lost In The Maze* has won the Yoto Carnegie medal for writing 2024. Considered the most prestigious of all the children's book prizes, it's praise indeed for the Children's Laureate.**

The book, which we discussed briefly a few weeks ago with six others on the shortlist, is written in verse but instantly accessible. The language is simple and flows like water. I read it from cover to cover in a couple of hours.

At its heart it is a rites of passage novel that explores the challenging journey from boyhood to manhood. Coelho cleverly blends the classical with the contemporary, interweaving Greek myth and the story of Theseus with that of 21st century Theo, a boy living in London with a single mum and very little money to spare.

Both Theseus and Theo are on a quest to find their fathers. Theseus will finally meet the Minotaur in the Labyrinth and

Theo will go on a maze-like quest of his own, stopping and starting and having to change directions frequently in order to progress. Coelho has introduced an interactive element, inviting the reader to answer questions about the choices the characters face and taking them to a certain page based on their answers. The 'dead ends' of various choices echo the maze, encouraging the reader to feel the same sense of puzzlement and confusion the characters do.

This is a marvellous book whatever your gender. It's about self-discovery and having the courage to seek. Kate Milner's atmospheric illustrations are an additional bonus. A wonderful summer read.



## Live 'n Loud Festival for Children and Young People

Live 'N Loud is a new summer festival, running from July 22nd to August 31st, especially for children and young people. It's designed to encourage East Riding residents to enjoy more local arts and cultural events and visit public libraries.

The festival has been organised by librarian Kimberley Harston who is really excited about more young people having fun in our wonderful local library spaces.

There are 66 events including live music sessions, author visits with book signings, forensic library, digital photography, and craft workshops and much more happening in Beverley and nearby towns over the summer holidays.

Most of the events are free or are subsidised to include everyone and encourage new audiences to experience the arts. All author visits are £3.00 per child. Do go along with your children and have some fun.

For more details and to book tickets for these events and more visit [eryc.link/livenloud](https://eryc.link/livenloud)







## 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](mailto:vicky.fox@longcroft.eriding.net)



**Years 8 and 9**

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