

LONGCROFT

SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

NEWS LETTER



We were proud to extend a warm welcome to over 300 Year 6 pupils and their families on Wednesday evening!

"Your open evening put our mind at rest about the transition from primary to secondary school; we've put in our application and we are looking forward to our child starting next September."



Headteacher Mr Perry said: "My colleagues and I were delighted to share our collective ambition for Longcroft. For many families this was their first opportunity to see our amazing school – to witness the substantial investment that has been made in our estate and to learn about the high quality, inclusive and enriched education we are proud to offer."

Head of Lower School Mr Worthington, who will lead children's transition into Year 7, explained: "As a parent and member of the local community I fully understand the importance of the decision to select a child's secondary school. It was a pleasure to hear so many positive messages from children and their family members who had clearly enjoyed a wonderful evening!"













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Morecambe Brings Geographers Sunshine!

Our Year 13 Geographers visited Castle Head Field Studies Centre in the beautiful Grange-over-Sands last week to conduct geographical fieldwork and collect data for their independent investigation.

Days 1 and 2 entailed students practising a range of data collection techniques, including conducting pilot studies which were specific to their areas of interest – coastal management and regeneration in Morecambe. These ranged from beach profiles, salt marsh sampling to 'rephotography' and clone town surveys. Angel was a particular fan of the 'rephotography' collection method as can be seen in the photo. On days 3 and 4, students went into the field and collected the data for their own specific investigation.

Headteacher's Welcome

Lower School

Upper School

Sixth Form

Safeguarding

In Focus: Geography

Memory Lane

Extra-Curricular Timetable

Library News





Mr Haworth said: "We were blessed with blue skies and sunshine for the duration of our stay, which meant data collection was even more fun and we could treat ourselves to ice cream at the end of the day in glorious sunshine overlooking Morecambe Bay. A few of us even managed to acquire quite nice sun-tans (burns!?) by the end of the trip, which is not something we expected from Morecambe in September!"

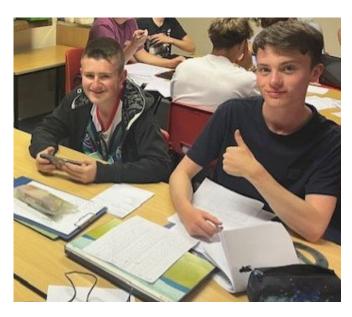
Mr Haworth explained: "Evenings were spent in the classroom hard at work with students collating their day's data and preparing for the following day. However, there was also space for some down-time in the social

area; Jack and Edward honed their Jenga skills and Jack demonstrated his surprising competitiveness on the table tennis table. The trip was organised jointly with Tranby School which offered students and staff a range of opportunities to share knowledge and experience as well as enhancing social time. On the final night, we had a group quiz which was hotly contested, but only Jasmine was part of the winning team."

Jasmine said: "I really enjoyed it. The experience of collecting data was useful for my coursework."

On the way back to Hull the party visited Low Sizergh Barn, a case-study of farm diversification and, purely in the interests of field research, sampled the milkshakes made from the farm's milk.

Mr Davies and Mr Haworth were delighted to commend all of the students for their hard work and enthusiasm throughout the trip. They look forward to reading the outcomes of their investigations.













Headteacher's Welcome

What an extraordinary privilege it has been to welcome so many families in to our school this week for our Year 6 Open Evening. Record numbers came through the doors to learn about our school, our ethos and understand more about the kind of education we are proud to provide.

The school was filled with a tangible buzz of excitement as prospective students filled our corridors and classrooms, taking part in various activities and challenges. From escapes rooms in Maths to murder mystery in English, and a range of performances in the Theatre from our exceptional drama and music pupils, there were so many things to enjoy right across the school. Competitions in PE were a real hit, with many pupils blown away by our sports facilities and the opportunities available to them here at Longcroft.

Feedback about the evening and the school has been extremely positive and we anticipate further pressure on places for September. The whole event was a great credit to the work of our staff and particularly our incredible pupils and students who volunteered to support. Over 80 tour guides from Year 7 and 8 were kept busy throughout the night with multiple tours. In addition, every subject area had volunteers from all year groups running activities and talking to visitors about their experiences. I am so thankful to each and every one of our young people who were involved, and the pride demonstrated as they represented our school so fabulously well was thoroughly uplifting and invigorating.

I was able to speak to prospective parents about the importance of high expectations and that holding ourselves and our children to a high bar is a demonstration of how much we care about each and every one of them. Our young people are simply too important to us, for us not to strive for excellence in all that we do, in our academic work, our relationships and our collective support and care for each other. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring our children do the basics brilliantly and represent themselves and our community in the very best way possible. We will continue to praise and challenge the fundamentals that represent our culture and our commitment; uniform, attendance, attitudes to learning, presentation and pride in our work and ourselves. Our 'Longcroft Standard' is important to us and it is great to see our community continue to rise to the challenge and achieve extraordinary things.

Throughout the week I have enjoyed visiting lessons and talking to pupils and students about their experiences over this early period of the academic year. I have again been impressed by the quality of presentation in books and the focus and commitment demonstrated in lessons. The delights being cooked in food technology were a real highlight, as was the impressive discussion in PSHE. It has also been great to see pupils involved in our extracurricular clubs and sporting fixtures as the busy autumn schedule gets into full swing. There have been unprecedented numbers in our Dungeons and Dragons and Performing Arts clubs this week and there is a real appetite for our children to get involved in opportunities available to them.

I hope you enjoy reading more about what our young people have been getting involved with in this edition of our Newsletter, including our A-level geographers and their fabulous field work experiences in Grange-Over-Sands. 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

11,459

THOUGHT

52,138

VISION 52,570

GRAND TOTAL:116,167









On Wednesday, we opened Longcroft's doors to our community for our Year 6 Open Evening. As a school, it is fantastic to have the opportunity to showcase what we do for our children here. It was great to have the buzz of activity around each department, highlighting the different opportunities available to the pupils at Longcroft School. We are proud of the wide and challenging curriculum we offer here, alongside the supportive pastoral system where each child is known and valued as an individual. Children and their parents were able to get a real taste of this as they moved around our building, guided by our Lower School pupils.

I would draw your attention once again to our Open Evening website http://www.heartthoughtvision.co.uk and the range of informative videos that encompass both our ethos and our provision. There is also further information related to admissions therein.

A particularly pleasing part of the evening was seeing how many of our current pupils and Sixth Form students arrived to be a part of the event, supporting and assisting, volunteering and acting as tour guides. Our pupils are passionate about their community and our school. Every child is valued, known, and cared for as an individual. We celebrate our pupils' talents, achievements, and successes, and we understand and support pupils where they need our guidance. I am proud of our school community.

In the Sports Hall, children enjoyed participating in a range of activities and challenges. The P.E. department nurture pupil engagement, ensuring that each child is equipped with the knowledge and skills to approach a variety of activities with confidence.

Around the school, each subject was represented. From painting in Art, to the Science demonstrations across two of our Science laboratories, there really was a wide range of activities to be seen.

I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to every pupil and Sixth Form student who volunteered to assist us on the evening. It is really heartening to see our children confident and thriving when discussing their school with such passion. We strive to create a safe, happy and caring environment that enables all our pupils to enjoy learning and make great progress. I am looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 pupils in September.

Bookbuzz

Reading is a great pleasure of mine, and I have enjoyed seeing Year 7 pupils being introduced to our Accelerated Reader programme and enjoying choosing the free book they will each receive through Book Trust's fabulous Bookbuzz initiative. Thanks to the hard work and generosity of our Friends of Longcroft School, every child in Year 7 will again receive a book, chosen from an extensive age-appropriate range, and I am looking forward to hearing how much they enjoy reading them!

Food, Glorious Food!

Our Lower School pupils all enjoy their lessons with our Food and Nutrition teacher Ms George. Year 7 pupils have been making fruit salad, and some of them are pictured here with their tasty





Sporting Seasons Underway

It was great to see our sports teams in action last week, and in future articles I will offer a more detailed reflection on the efforts and achievements of our pupils who represent Longcroft in sports including football, rugby, netball and cross country throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms.

Mr Martin was delighted with both the number and quality of players keen to play football, many of whom took part in last week's matches against Beverley Grammar School. Forthcoming fixtures will see our Lower School pupils take on Howden, Woldgate and The Market Weighton School, while all three year groups can look forward to 7-a-side East Riding Tournaments which we will host utilising our fantastic facilities here at Longcroft.

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

Ava Kirkup

Nancy Dale Fliza Jameson

William Battve

Pallavi Whyte-Burman

Leon Zielinski Harry Stevens

Stanley Shaw

Harriet Luga

Reuben Todd

Year 8

Elias Chapman

Beth Dawson

Ada Lawrence

Sabah Madina

Rosie Fitton

Olivia Radley

George Hogg

Lily Smedley

Olivia Chilcott

Oscar Purchon

Year 9

James Shiels

Charlotte Sutcliffe

Bradley Elvidge

Sasha Huzzard

Nathan Steele

Sophia David

Charli Drage

Reagan De Kock

Lydia Chapman

Holly Ruston

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: Eliza Jameson

Year 8: Daniel Barrow

Year 9: Amelia Ketley





As we approach the end of the first month of Year 11, time seems to be moving so quickly for pupils and teachers with our focus being on not wasting a single moment

Mock exams at the start of December are close, only 8 weeks away. Subject teachers are creating revision plans that will be shared with home to allow pupils a clear outline of learning to achieve outstanding outcomes. Please discuss these with your child to help create a personalised revision plan starting at half term.

Teachers will also be starting Period 6 and lunchtime classes, which are extremely popular with pupils and are one of the most impactful revision strategies. A full list will be produced – so far, we have the following:

- >> Food Tech NEA catch ups on a Wednesday in A7. Please see Ms George
- >> Maths drop in for all Year 11 pupils on a Wednesday lunchtime. Please see Mrs Low

Welcome to GCSE Evening

Coming up on the 3rd of October is the Welcome to GCSE Evening for our Year 10 parents and pupils. A letter has been sent to all Year 10 parents with a link to book your place.

The link between home and school is imperative to a child's success and we all appreciate you being here on this evening.

There are a series of presentations for you:

- >> Attendance and Wellbeing with Mr Rogers.
- >> Exam preparation and revision in Maths with Mrs Low.
- >> Exam preparation and revision in English with Mrs Foster.
- **»** Making the most of online resources with Mr Henderson.

Please also keep an eye on the Sixth Form section of our weekly Newsletter for information about the forthcoming Taster Day and Open Evening.





WiME Event

I am delighted that Miss Sinclair is offering female pupils in Year 11 the opportunity to attend the Women into Manufacturing and Engineering event at Hull's Guildhall on Wednesday 9th October.

Organised by Green Port Hull, pupils attending will discover the opportunities for women across our region and find out the advantages of considering a career in manufacturing, engineering, digital and renewables.

Pupils will be able to:

- Meet women from manufacturing and engineering jobs and talk to them about their work.
- >> Find out more about current job vacancies.
- Discover what training and qualifications you may need
- >> Learn about apprenticeship opportunities.

Miss Sinclair has secured 45 places at the popular event, available for only £6 via ParentPay.

Exhibitors include:

- Ansell
- Balfour Beatty
- » Boston Energy
- Cargill
- Connexin
- >> Ideal Heating
- >> Northern Powergrid
- Siemens Gamesa
- >> Smith & Nephew
- >> Triton Power

Many more companies will be represented, and I strongly urge our female pupils to book a place or to speak to Miss Sinclair about this fantastic opportunity.

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

Cody Keenan

Charlie Wyeth

Millie Wisher

Lily Logan

Mason David

Ben Carlyle-Smith

Poppy Cooper

Jack Alport

Lexie Burke

Kathryne Sowerby

Belle Palmer

Year 11

Tom Marriott

Sam Smedley

Dan Parkinson

Megan Drage

Theo Waterson

Matthew Harris

Finn Bridgeman

Aneena Seby

Grace Murden

Luke Hancock

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: Leon Hardy

Year 11: Freya Kelly







This week Year 13 were introduced to Sym Tomlinson.. I asked Sym about her role...

"My role as Youth Engagement Project Officer sees me visit people 0-25 across the East Riding to talk about their experience of health and social care services, along with signposting and listening to ideas of how services could improve. I then share these insights via reports and attending meetings with decision makers to keep the public voice at the heart of changes for future improvement.

I am currently promoting our team's newly developed 5 Steps to Success volunteering programme. This sees students learn and develop workplace skills which will give them an advantage when applying for university places and jobs. In addition to learning new skills, we provide space to network with services so students can begin building their brand early, making strong connections. We also offer a reference after 10 productive hours have been completed. The more hours they have spent with us, the more in-depth that allows our reference to be.

Students of Longcroft Sixth Form I spoke to on Monday were fantastic in sharing their goals and aspirations for their future. They were clearly driven individuals who appreciated the importance of doing all they can to have an advantage in the competitive environments they will be moving towards. They recognised the value of feeding into continuous improvement of the health and social care services, and it was a pleasure to help them participate in doing that."

Mr Chapman **Head of Sixth Form**













Attendance

The start of a term is a great time to make a fresh start. One of the areas that is a vital ingredient for good academic outcomes is great attendance. Not only does national data highlight the link - our own data from last year's exam results demonstrates those with good attendance achieved better progress.

We ask that if you have concerns regarding the attendance of your child that you work with their Care and Achievement Coordinator to collectively overcome any barriers.

We monitor pupils with attendance of 95% or under (equivalent to 10 missed school days over an academic year). 73% of pupils who have attendance of 95% or over achieve 5 or more GCSE's at grades 5-9, so it's vital that children are in school to learn. In addition to individual attendance targets, each of our year groups has an overall attendance target; there is still a way to go in many of our tutor groups to hit our targets so we need your help.

It can be tricky deciding whether to keep your child off school when they're unwell. At the end of this article we have some useful tips on how to assess whether your child is too unwell to be in school. Please read them and ensure that your child is in school whenever they are well enough to be. If your child becomes unwell at school the school will send your child home. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school each morning. Let us know that they won't be in and give the reason. There are two registration sessions in a school day so if you can, send them in later in the day if your child appears to improve as every session counts!

Is my child 'too ill' for school?

There are clear government guidelines for schools that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. The guidance below is taken from the NHS website and includes information on common childhood illnesses where school is missed when it needn't be. It is vital to follow this, as we will unauthorise your child's absence if they feel they are well enough to be in school – this could lead to consequences for parents/ carers, which we would like to avoid!

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a fever, they should stay at home until it goes away.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly

Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You should treat your child and send them into school.

Thank you for your support in helping to raise attendance, if you need support or advice relating to your child's attendance, please contact their Care and Achievement Co-ordinator.

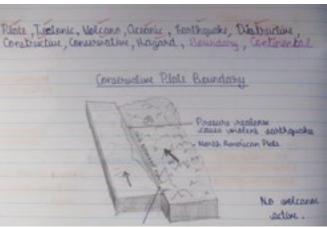
Mr Rodgers
Deputy Headteacher



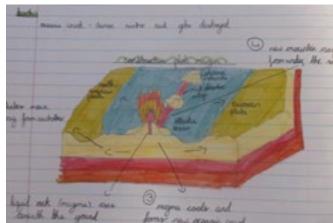
IN FOCUS GEOGRAPHY

This week we feature pupils in Year 8 studying Geography. Teacher Mr Henderson explained: "Year 8 pupils are studying tectonic plates. This particular lesson saw pupils challenged to describe what happens at all four types of plate boundary. I was delighted with their knowledge and enthusiasm, and they worked hard to create some impressive models!"



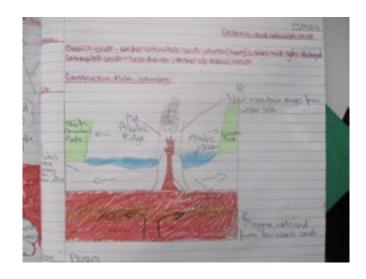








IN FOCUS GEOGRAPHY













Memory Lane

This week we take a trip back to 2013 and feature two Year 11 tutor groups - 11L and 11G are pictured.







Extra-curricular Opportunities

The following opportunities take place after school.

Tuesday Football – Mr Martin (3G)

Orchestra – Mrs Harris (Room 64)

Dungeons & Dragons Club – Miss Sinclair (Library)

Wednesday Rugby (Years 7 – 9) – Mr Cassidy (3G)

Choir – Mrs Harris (Room 64)

Netball – Mrs Holt

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)











'Large' Primary School Football Competition

Longcroft hosted four schools in the Large School Football Competition on Tuesday 17th September. Mrs Henderson, who combines her role as a PE teacher at Longcroft with that of School Sports Co-ordinator, said: "The level of play was very impressive from all schools and it was a pleasure to see good sportsmanship throughout the games. Well done to Molescroft who won the event on the evening, they now go through to the SSP final at Holderness Academy. Thank you as always to our Longcroft pupils who refereed the games – without volunteers we could not run these events."













National Poetry Day

Thursday October 3rd, 2024

National Poetry Day, on October 3rd, is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and enjoy the pleasure of poetry. It's a day that reminds us of the universal appeal of poetry, its timelessness, and ability to capture all aspects of the human experience. Over the next few days we hope to hear lots of poetry in school.

This year the theme is 'Counting' and the library is working closely with our Maths and English teams, and their pupils, who will be creating and reading poems that utilise maths vocabulary, and exploring the link between poetry and mathematics.

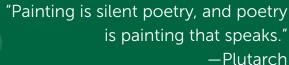
Although it might not appear obvious, there is a strong relationship between poetry and

mathematics: haiku and sonnets use strict counts on lines and syllables, counting numbers and rhythm in verse. Both explore patterns and connections; poetry and maths

both use economic and precise language to convey meaning.

We very much hope to see pupils in the library at lunchtime on National Poetry Day. Please encourage them to come along and read something they have written, a favourite poem, or listen to others. If you can, please share one of your favourite poems with them at home too.

We have a large selection of poetry books in the library for pupils and students to borrow. Below is a poem by a First Story student that is being used as a national resource to inspire pupils, some websites with resources, and some award-winning children's poetry book suggestions. Have a happy National Poetry Day.



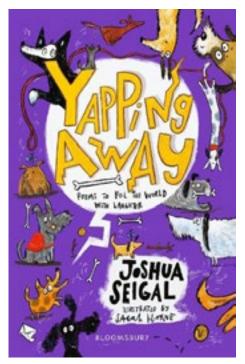


Ratios

I am 50% passing my GCSEs
I am 20% home, the most important place for me
I am 10% jerk chicken, no carbs, only broccoli and cabbage
I am 5% returnee to school, offsite learning is not for me
I am 5% my clothing; my clothes reflect me
I am 5% my height and my hair; single plaits....straight
I am 5% E6, by the bridge that crosses the highway at the end of my road
I am 100% me. Dean Martin

https://forwardartsfoundation.org/national-poetry-day/

https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/national-poetry-day-resources/



Yapping Away by Joshua Seigal, illustrated by Sarah Home

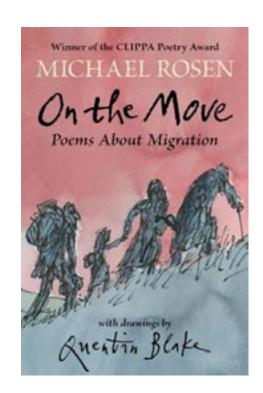
Winner of the Laugh Out Loud Awards and People's Book Prize 2020 and 2023

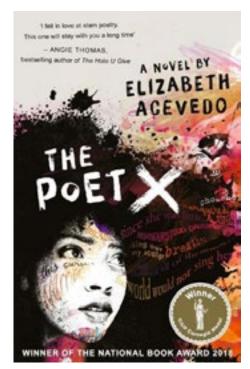
This eclectic collection caters for all tastes and has you laughing out loud. Suitable for all ages, from young children to adults. At times raucous! A great book to share. Full of fun and laughter.

On the Move: Poems About Migration by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Quentin Blake

Winner of the 2021 CLiPPA Award

This landmark collection draws on the former Children's Laureate's childhood experiences of being a first – generation Polish family living in London – perceptions of war, missing relatives, and global events. The text is superbly complimented by Quentin Blake's amazing illustrations. The poems deal with migration and displacement. Powerful.





The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

Winner of the 2018 National Book Award

This outstanding novel, written in verse, is about hidden words, finding the courage to give them voice, and first love. X has a secret, but the notebook under her bed full of her emotional poems will soon find an audience at the slam poetry club.

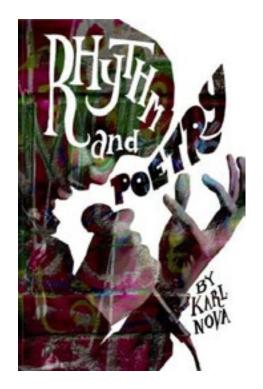
Beautifully written poetry.

Rhythm and Poetry by Karl Nova

Winner of the 2018 CLiPPA Award (Poetry)

Nova's remarkable collection of poems explores his personal journey from child to adult and the impact Hip Hop culture has had on him. Positive and reflective, it will delight fans of RAP, and surprise those who think it's all about gangsters!

This deeply sensitive collection is about following your dreams and sharing experiences of modern-day life. Very relevant.



"You can find poetry in your everyday life, your memory, in what people say on the bus, in the news, or just what's in your heart."

—Carol Ann Duffy

Care and Achievement Co-ordinators

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

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

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



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



Year 8

Miss Harsley

07810 416081

katie.harsley@longcroft.eriding.net



Years 9 and 10 Mrs Newsam 07827 587483

zoe.newsam@longcroft.eriding.net



Year 11

Mrs Ellis

07900 394085

annette.ellis@longcroft.eriding.net