

# LONGCROFT

-SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE —

# NEWS LETTER



What a way to celebrate a wonderful group of young people - our Longcroft Class of 2025! Year 11 and staff who have supported them throughout their years at Longcroft celebrated together in style at Cottingham's Lazaat Hotel last Wednesday.

Mr Thomson said, "It was a great event, from horse drawn carriages to tandem bikes, the pupils arrived in style. Prom attire was on point, and everyone enjoyed a three-course meal and entertainment from Joe and his band the Sovereigns. The Year 11 team gave out prom awards, voted by the year group with Noah and Olivia winning Prom King and Queen. Lydia gave an uplifting speech about life as a Longcroft pupil as the year group move onto the next chapter and await their results. We ended the night on the dancefloor before saying our farewells. I'm so proud to have worked as the pupils' Year Leader during this stage of their journey."

Mrs Ellis added, "It was lovely. We had a fantastic evening, for a very special year group who we wish all very best."

Thank you to Jennifer from Irresistible You Are Photography for the amazing photos of a truly special evening!

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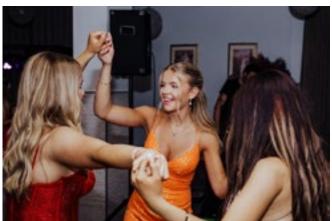




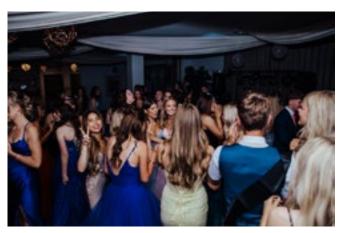


























@Longcroft6th

### What you need to know:

Wednesday 9th July

Day begins at 8:45am

Head straight to the Sixth Form area where the team will be ready to greet you

We can't wait to see you and to begin our East Yorkshire Sixth Form journey together!

### Remember you are signing up for:

- **Great outcomes**
- Small class sizes
- Every student known as an individual
- Bespoke enrichment and personal development programme

Any questions?...





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**BE AMBITIOUS** 



## Headteacher's Welcome

At Longcroft we are committed to a holistic education as evidenced through our broad curriculum offer and extensive range of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities. It is important to us that we deliberately plan for children to be exposed to a wide range of experiences which support development of social and cultural capital, build confidence, promote character, and prepare them for life beyond school.

It has been great to see our Year 10 pupils on their work experience placements this week. They have been spread across businesses and organisations throughout the region and we are hugely grateful to all those that have provided opportunities. Staff have been busy visiting and calling providers and the feedback has been superb! We are incredibly proud of the way our young people have again represented themselves and our school. We will feature more from those involved in next week's Newsletter and look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school and hearing all about their experiences.

There have been many other highlights back in school this week including our Year 6 Induction Day with our fabulous new arrivals joining us for a taste of what September will bring. It was great to talk to them about the importance of making the most of every moment and there is a real appetite amongst the cohort to get involved in school life with a huge array of interests on display. The day consisted of time with tutors and lesson experiences, as well as their first (literal) taste of our canteen and a celebratory event in the Theatre. We have a hugely talented group and could not be more excited to be welcoming them into our Longcroft community. You can read more in our Lower School article this week.

At the other end of the school, our Year 11 pupils enjoyed their Prom last Wednesday evening at Lazaat in Cottingham. You can see lots of pictures in this week's edition and I must reiterate what a credit to Longcroft they were. Many of our staff joined the celebrations and a wonderful night was had by all. This marquee event will now be followed up with our Year 12 taster day on Wednesday 11th July, which will provide students with the opportunity to sample Sixth Form life and the very special offer we are able to make at Longcroft. We can't wait to celebrate exam results and begin formal enrolment in August, but until then, students will be provided with guidance and tasks to ensure they are fully prepared to hit the ground running in September.

Our existing Year 12 have been out to Hull University exploring opportunities beyond college, ahead of their work experience programme which takes place next week. A key aspect of ensuring Great Vision is providing an understanding of the landscape of employment, education and training that our curriculum and educational experience at Longcroft is preparing our children for. These visits, trips and exposures to leading organisations, businesses and institutions play an important role in doing just that.

Finally, we have an amazing heritage of sporting success at Longcroft and this year has brought further accolades in that regard. Our 'Gold' status has been confirmed by the School Sports Trust for a third consecutive year which means we are now on track to achieve the rare Platinum award for sustained 'Gold' level achievement at secondary school level! This



recognises broadening participation in extra-curricular sport, both social and competitive, and has been supported by the work of our Active Travel Ambassadors and targeted projects to raise the profile of active and healthy lifestyle choices. We also won a national award for equality in sport earlier this year from the FA sponsored by Barclays Bank and will host the School Sports Partnership Awards for the region next Tuesday evening which is always a special occasion. A huge well done to our PE colleagues and all involved in delivering extra-curricular opportunities – and most importantly to our pupils and students.

With Games Day around the corner and a host of celebration trips and activities planned over the coming weeks, please do continue to urge your children to have a go at something new, to get involved, and most importantly to have some fun. 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 127,170
THOUGHT 444,384
VISION 423,914

GRAND TOTAL: 995,468







We were delighted to welcome Year 6 pupils from primary schools for their exciting Induction Day at Longcroft School this week. The day was designed to give our future Year 7 pupils a real taste of life at secondary school, and what a fantastic day it turned out to be!

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 one of the many children who join us from a school outside our catchment area. For these pupils, 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.

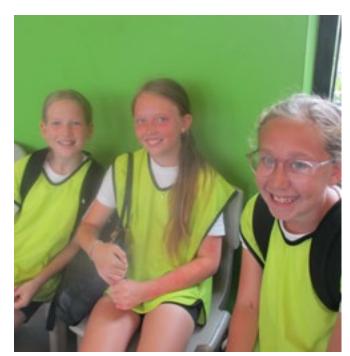












All of our tutor groups got to spend time with their new form tutor in the morning and also got to know each other as a group. Tutor time at Longcroft School is thirty minutes every day; we recognise that tutors are central in both caring for pupils and, crucially, monitoring their progress both academically and socially. Tutors encourage success, aspiration, participation and the highest possible standards of work and behaviour. Every morning, a form tutor checks in with their tutor group and sets up a strong, positive foundation for a successful day for their group.

Pupils took part in a full timetable of lessons, experiencing first-hand what it's like to study subjects in our specialist classrooms. In Chemistry, they donned safety goggles and carried out simple experiments with bubbling enthusiasm. In Mathematics, they rose to the challenge of engaging problem-solving activities, showing great focus and resilience. The Physical Education session was a highlight for many, with lively team games and a chance to enjoy our sports facilities for the first time in a school setting.



At lunchtime, pupils were thrilled to use our school canteen, many sampling the tasty menu options and chatting happily with new friends. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and hear such positive feedback about the food and the friendly atmosphere.

Throughout the day, staff were incredibly impressed by the pupils' excellent attitude. Whether it was their curiosity in the classroom or their energy on the sports field, their behaviour and enthusiasm were a credit to their current schools. At the end of the day in an assembly, we celebrated their fantastic engagement and positivity.

We can't wait to welcome them back in September and look forward to the journey ahead as they become a part of our school community!

### **Living Eggs Project**

Our Lower School children were excited that we once again incubated and hatched some chickens, in partnership with an ethical programme led by Living Eggs. The project was a tremendous success last year and we looked forward to seeing the chicks' progress. Each Year 7 Science class was invited to visit our new additions to the Longcroft family. Thank you to Miss Rushby for creating this fantastic opportunity!.



Mr Worthington Head of Lower School





Congratulations to our Lower School pupils on the number of ClassCharts rewards they are receiving each week. The pupils who earned the most rewards last week are listed below.



### Year 7

Reuben Todd
Lydia Dorsey
Scarlett Pashley
Archie Peacock
Freddie Wood
Nathan Pineda
Mia Walters
Naomi Jack
Zac Lister

**Emily Stephenson** 

### Year 8

Emee Bielby
George Hogg
Olivia Radley
Oscar Purchon
Olivia Chilcott
Amalie Wade
Sam Cowell
Henry Coates
Imogen Trolle
Macie Bullamore

### Year 9

Neve Meagher
Sofia Yarosh
Alysicia Leach
Lilly Waiter
Poppy Woolfitt
Devon Bryans
Scarlett Wood
Luke Hiles
Alfie Robinson
Laura Cuzuoka

### **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: Anabel Blyth

Year 8: Freya Marshall

Year 9: Max Lister



Congratulations to our fantastic Year 11 pupils - the Prom was a tremendous success with pupils celebrating not only the friendships made over the last 5 years but also the hard work, commitment and effort of Year 11.

Looking ahead, it will also be fantastic to see many of our Year 11 pupils again next week when they return to Longcroft on Wednesday for the Sixth Form Taster Day!

### **Pupils Take on DofE Challenge!**

Last week an intrepid group of pupils in Year 10 took on the challenge of an expedition for their DofE Bronze Award. The expedition is one of four components.





Miss Sinclair, our DofE Supervisor and Assessor, said: "The pupils began their expedition at Fridaythorpe, camped in Bishop Wilton and finished at Wilberfoss. They walked over 20 miles across the two days."

Miss Sinclair explained: "Their aim was to collect data on biodiversity in the Yorkshire Wolds. Two groups made up our expedition. One group focused on photographing the wildlife they encountered, while the other group collected quantative data on the range and number of each species observed."

Mrs Scott and Mr Davies were our leaders, accompanied by Miss Sinclair.

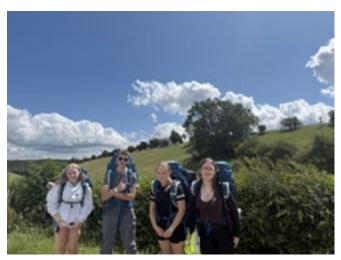
Congratulations to the pupils on this fantastic achievement!

Miss Sinclair is taking expressions of interest from current Year 8 and Year 9 pupils who want to start their DofE journey in September 2025.

### Mr Henderson | Head of Upper School













This week I took Year 12 to the University of Hull to look around their annual UCAS fair. UCAS, The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, operates the application process for British universities and colleges and is used by all students across the country.

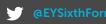
We went to this event because the University of Hull held a fair that many other universities attend to promote their courses. It was a great opportunity for Year 12 students to talk to representatives from universities from around the UK. Thank you to Miss Sinclair, our careers lead, for setting this visit up.

Alongside this, many universities are having their first round of Open Day events for current Year 12 students. It seems early, but their applications will have to be submitted to UCAS by Christmas - which will come around very quickly!

Already, Year 12 students have been visiting Gloucester, Hull, Lincoln, York, York St John, Leeds, Leeds Beckett, Liverpool and Newcastle. In fact, it was Northumbria's open day this last weekend and Ellie, one of our Year 12 students, visited with her family. She's hoping to study Law and is keen to be within touching distance of home - Newcastle is only an hour on the train from York. Ellie told me that, "It was a really lovely campus and the Law School was impressive with practice courts











and a student office where you can have clients of your own in the 3rd Year. Also, they had specific routes if you want to go into being a solicitor or a barrister. So overall the course was practical and impressive. Accommodation was at both ends of the scale, either really gorgeous or more basic, but that's where the cost sacrifice comes in. Northumbria is definitely near the top of my radar."

Such an exciting time for Year 12 students!

Mr Chapman **Head of Sixth Form** 



















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

Isla Addinall 9SGE Sophie Battye 9PDV

William Battye 7ESH

Fay Beverley 7GRU

Dominic Crawford 9EMN

Millie Frampton 7ESH

Holly Gray 9SGE

Riley Hearn 7JPO

Ben Jagger 9RTO

Madison Key 7ESH

Poppy Moxon 9GTA

Archie Peacock 7GRU

JJ Plant 9GTA

Sham Ranjous 7JPO

Shams Ranjous 7JPO

Ryan Russell 8ACR

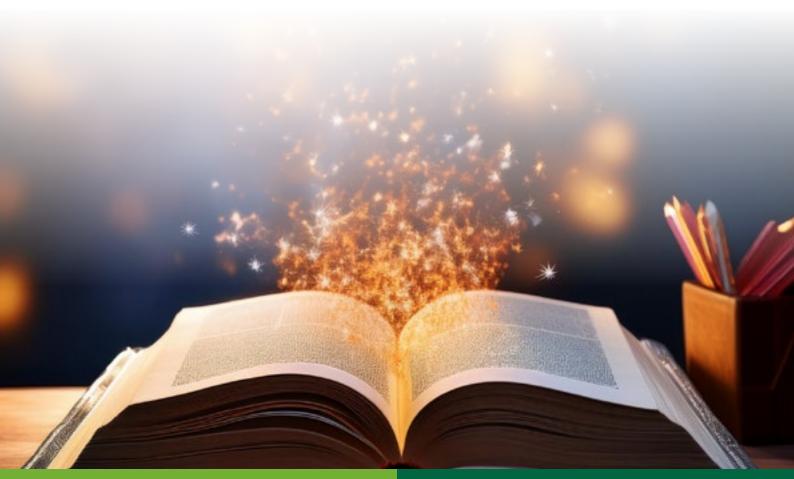
Mia Selleck 10JHL

Sarah Shrimpton 9PDV

Alexander Stork 10ARU

Reuben Todd 7GRU

Imogen Trolle 8ACR



### IN FOCUS SCIENCE

Last week Mrs Scott and Mr Davies took our Year 12 Biologists to the Cranedale Centre for a three-day residential field trip.

Mrs Scott tells the story of students' experience.

On Day 1, we went to Wharram Quarry to study the different stages of succession, looking at soil pH, soil depth, temperature, humidity and plant species richness to determine the different series of succession.

On Monday evening we set some live mammal traps, camera traps and pitfall traps which we left overnight to see what we could catch.

On Day 2, we went back to our traps and looked at the voles and mice we caught, as well as reviewing the camera trap footage which wasn't as successful, but we looked through some archive footage of badgers, rabbits and foxes.

We then went to Brompton and Settringham becks to study and compare the index of diversity in two streams. We looked at small invertebrates, including mayfly larvae, freshwater shrimps, caddis fly larvae and most excitingly American signal crayfish. Students were then given the opportunity to hunt for the crayfish at Settringham and look at how the sizes changed along the stream.

In the evening, we used microscopes to investigate the contents of owl pellets, identifying the bones we found and doing biological drawings.





On Day 3, we visited Filey Brigg to look at variation across a rocky shore ecosystem. The students took data to look at the bioenergetics of the organisms, identifying and weighing all mobile species, including some impressive crabs!

We then went back to the centre to evaluate the biomass data collected at each trophic level, along with carrying out RP10 choice chambers using freshwater shrimp. The trip finished with some biological drawings of mayfly nymph.

Students enjoyed the practical hands on experience, and finding some fascinating animals!









### Longcroft Sport in Good Hands – Welcome to Mr Nicholls!

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Head of Physical Education. It is a real privilege to have joined such a dynamic and ambitious school community, and I am incredibly excited about the journey ahead.



From the moment I arrived, I have been thoroughly impressed by the attitude, effort, and enthusiasm shown by our pupils, not just in lessons, but across the wide range of extracurricular clubs on offer. Their commitment to sport and physical activity, whether competitively or just for enjoyment, is truly inspiring. It speaks volumes about the values of this school and the importance placed on personal development, teamwork, and resilience.

The level of participation in after-school clubs and sports fixtures has been exceptional. Pupils from all year groups are showing a genuine passion for staying active, supporting one another, and striving to improve. It's clear that PE and school sports are thriving here, and that is a credit to the pupils, Sixth Form students, their families, and the staff who give their time so generously.

As Head of PE, I am also keen to raise expectations around PE kit. One of my current focuses is supporting pupils in remembering their kit for every lesson. It is important that pupils bring their full PE kit even when they are excused from taking part physically. This allows them to still be involved in lessons through alternative roles such as leadership, coaching, or officiating. It also helps protect their school uniform from potential damage due to inclement weather or accidents while on the field. By building these habits, we help pupils take responsibility, stay engaged, and contribute meaningfully to every lesson.

To ensure every pupil has the opportunity to take part fully in physical education, we are kindly asking parents and carers to consider donating any clean, good quality PE kit or football boots that are no longer needed. These items will be made available to pupils who may need support accessing the correct kit, helping to remove any barriers to participation. Your generosity could make a real difference to a young person's confidence and ability to engage in physical activity.

My vision is to ensure that every pupil feels empowered to participate, enjoy, and succeed, whether through traditional team sports, individual challenges, or newer forms of physical activity. I believe in creating an inclusive environment where all pupils can develop confidence, resilience, and a lifelong love for being active.

I look forward to working closely with pupils, Sixth Form students, staff, and parents to continue to grow and celebrate the incredible sporting culture that already exists here. Thank you for such a warm welcome, I'm excited about all that lies ahead.

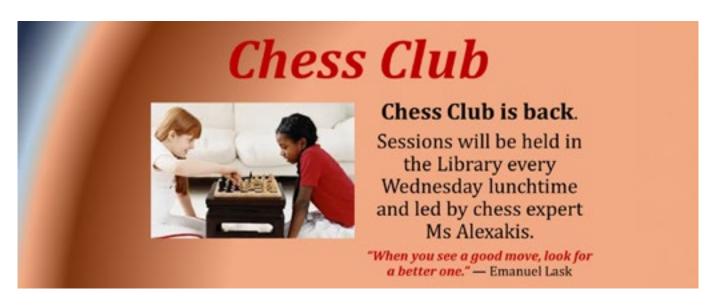


### Year 9 Rounders Tournament

Our Year 9 girls delivered a fantastic performance in the recent rounders tournament, showcasing consistent bowling, powerful hitting, and sharp fielding - frequently catching opponents out at first base.

Miss Judge said, "They scored several full rounders and demonstrated great teamwork throughout. The team faced a tough match against South Hunsley but held their ground well against Holderness and wrapped up the tournament with a close, competitive game against Wolfreton."

### A fantastic effort all round!





### **Hello from the Hub!** The SEND **Department Update**

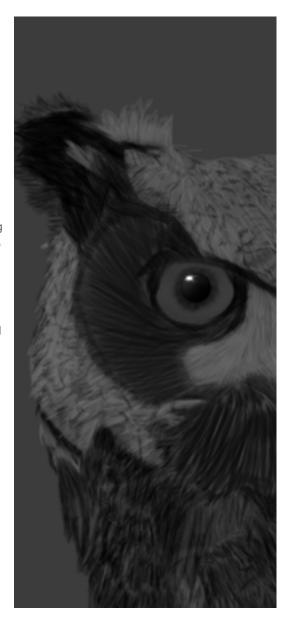
And breathe! A seemingly endless exam season has finally wrapped up with the last of the mocks, and the very fabric of the school appears to release a huge sigh of relief. Focus, rightly centred on the Year 11 pupils for the last few months, has now turned away with one glorious last hurrah and the grandest of goodbyes at their prom.

For the SEND team, it is a time of catch up. A reconnect with the younger pupils and restart of interventions. We have noted and appreciate the maturity, patience and understanding shown by the pupils who have had to work around our re-arranged timetables, but now we're back and excited about resuming our usual duties.

One such important intervention, delivered by Mrs Fleming and Mrs Walker, is EBSA (Emotionally Based School Avoidance). This is a one-toone, six-week intervention, designed to help pupils who struggle with attendance. EBSA is a carefully prepared programme involving discussion and activities. Mrs Walker describes the process as being about building a child's confidence and she focuses her sessions on identifying and addressing specific issues which keep children from their lessons – solving their problems and easing their path back into class. We all want school to be a happy place for every pupil, and for the vast majority we know that it is. Hopefully, with the help of EBSA and the staff who deliver it, we can make it so for everyone.

The team, along with the rest of the school are looking forward to the end of term treats; Games Day and the trip to Flamingo Land, and of-course the long summer holiday, now tantalisingly close, but for one member of the department the holiday promises a particularly exciting and important event. When we return in September, there will be a new name on the SENDCO's door. Wedding bells will be ringing out over Beverley for Mrs Woolner and her new husband. When we return in September, although she may look the same (except for a shiny new piece of bling on the fourth finger of her left hand) it won't be Mrs Woolner saying hello as you file into the canteen for your lunch. It will be Mrs Brooks. Don't worry, we're expecting the transition to be a smooth one. The team couldn't be happier for her. We offer them both our congratulations and wish them a wonderful day, a lovely honeymoon and all the best for the future.

The pictures show artwork by pupils our team has the privilege to work with.



### **Memory Lane**

This week, to mark the start of the UEFA European Women's Championship, we return to 2011 and feature two of our girls' football teams.

The Under 13 team played Malet Lambert, while the Under 15's took on Scunthorpe's St Lawrence Academy.

The Under 15 team featured Sophie Haywood, who went on to play in the Women's Super League for Aston Villa and latterly in the Championship with Sheffield United and Newcastle United.







# Our Languages Nuts!



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

Ms Shepherd said, "It's particularly great to see Year 7 pupils in this week's top ten!"

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

### Ava Kirkup (7GRU)

- 19,600 points

### Lilli-Grace Dyson (7GRU)

- 18,700 points

### Alina Shpak (7GRU)

- 18,600 points

### **Nate Brodie (7GRU)**

- 14,200 points

### Nancy Dale (7GRU)

- 12,800 points

### Eliza Jameson (7GRU)

- 12,700 points

### George Hogg (8LWO)

- 12,000 points

### Alissia Williams (7GRU)

- 11,200 points

### Ruby Reilly (7GRU)

- 11,200 points

### Ryley George (7GRU)

– 11,200 points







### **Books Abroad Collect Longcroft's Donation**

A huge thank you to Books Abroad, a charity based in Rhynie in Aberdeenshire, who collected a large donation of used books from Longcroft on Tuesday. The

There's no such thing as a used book.
Or there's no such thing as a book
if it's not being used."

—Deborah Meyler, The Bookstore

books, including textbooks, fiction, and non-fiction, were all in good condition but no longer used by teaching staff or pupils. Thankfully, they will soon have a new home in Uganda where we are assured they'll be greatly appreciated; particularly the Product Design resources donated by Mr Dyson, and the class sets of Maths textbooks from Mrs Low, that are destined to be enjoyed by teenage Ugandan boys.

To date Books Abroad have delivered over 4,000,000 books to around 4,000 schools and organisations around the world. Projects have included creating libraries in rural villages in Kenya, India, and Madagascar, and supplying primary and secondary schools with much needed books in Gambia, Ghana, and Sri Lanka.

Books Abroad believe in alleviating poverty through education and have transformed numerous lives through their dedicated work. Moreover, over the last 42 years they've prevented millions of books ending up in landfill. Longcroft is very proud to support them.

Especial thanks to staff who assisted with our donation, and Year 10 pupil Luke Hodges, who is doing his work experience in the Library this week and helped with collecting and transporting the books.

### Well done team Longcroft!

### **STAR Assessments**

Last week our KS3 pupils, Years 7, 8, and 9, completed STAR Reading Assessments, as part of the Accelerated Reader programme. This is something they do once every term.



We always stress to pupils that the tests are nothing to worry about. Their main purpose is to help staff personalize learning plans, identify learning gaps, provide support, and see if interventions are working.

The computer-adaptive tests consist of 34 questions, but because they are adapted to the pupil's answers each pupil's testing experience is unique. For example, if a pupil answers a question correctly their next question will be more challenging. If they answer incorrectly the next question is easier. The purpose of the tests are to:

- Measure pupil growth
- Identify learning gaps
- » Inform teaching and support
- Predict performance

STAR Assessments allow teachers and librarians to measure progress in terms of comprehension, vocabulary, and reading skills. Results, which pupils are always keen to hear, are shared with them, their form tutors, and teachers. Parents can email or call the library at any time if they want to discuss their child's reading progress or would like a personalized reading list.

We all know that young people learn to read at different rates. For some it comes so easily, and their reading age may be well above their biological age; for others it might be well below, or very near their biological age. Knowing this allows us to target the right colour coded level of books for pupils on Accelerated Reader. If they face challenges we want to build their confidence and give them support and we have various ways of doing this. In some instances pupils will be invited to work with a reading mentor, join a book Enrichment club, or participate in the Lexia programme.

Of course, encouraging children to read regularly and develop a passion for reading is the best way to motivate them. Please, if you can, take the time to listen to your children read aloud, read aloud to them, talk about what they are reading, encourage them to use a dictionary, or explain any unknown words to extend their vocabulary.

"I have a passion for teaching kids to become readers, to become comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage."

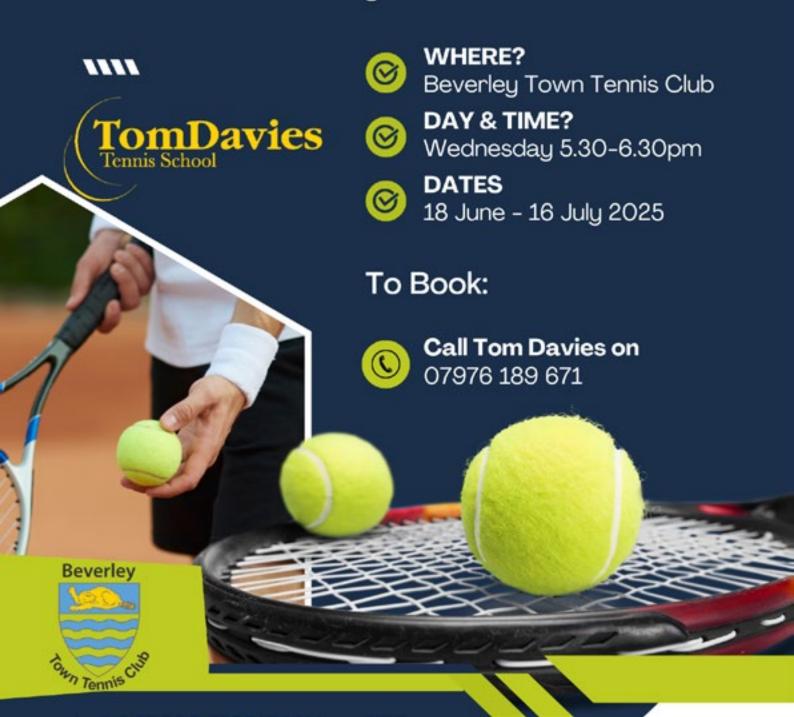
 Roald Dahl (British novelist, short-story writer, poet, screenwriter, and wartime fighter pilot)

### Join Our Girls Only

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# FREE TENNIS LESSONS

8 Places Available - Ages 11-14



### **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