

LONGCROFT NEWS

Friday 8th February 2019

Week Commencing Monday 11th
February 2019 is Timetable Week A

Mental Health Awareness

This week we have given special focus to student wellbeing as part of Children's Mental Health Week.

On Tuesday, the Upper School Library was privileged to welcome Catherine Scott to conduct a literacy workshop. This pilot initiative focused on mental health issues and attracted students from all year groups eager to confront and discuss the challenges they face in what is, for many of us, an increasingly complex world.

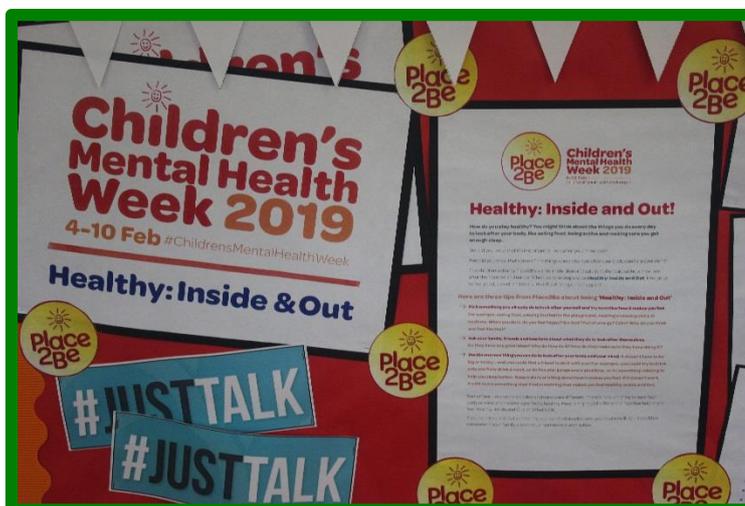


Catherine drew on her experience as a counsellor and poet, conducting a series of small and whole group exercises to develop speaking and listening skills, raise self-esteem, and explore coping strategies. Students also wrote some outstanding poems.

We have received some fabulous and positive feedback from students who attended the workshop. Thank you to all who participated for their courage and maturity, and to Catherine for her outstanding contribution to our school.

In addition, Mrs Robinson, Longcroft's own Health Advisor, coordinated promotion of Mental Health Week throughout school and helped to raise the profile of support that is available to all our students.

If parents would like more information about this very important issue, they can visit:
www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk
This site provides support, resources and advice.



Year 11 – Homework and Sixth Form

Mr Cassidy, Leader of Year 11, is pleased to report that the homework policy for the year group has already seen some positive results. Subject teachers have also noticed an improvement in the quantity and quality of homework that has been handed in on time.



Students who have attended detention received support from teachers and teaching assistants, alongside having access to computers.

Thank you to all Year 11 parents and carers for your support with this – Mr Cassidy looks forward to seeing you all at Parents' Consultation Evening on Wednesday 13th February.

In addition, Mrs Holland, Head of Sixth Form, will be in attendance on the evening, to answer any questions you might have regarding the options available for students who choose to stay on at Longcroft after their GCSEs.



The Longcroft Sixth Form has an excellent record of preparing our young people for university - last year 60 out of 61 applicants got into their first choice of University! This year, our Year 13's have received some excellent offers, some of which are unconditional, relieving the pressure from students. This is a result of the time spent on writing references and assisting the students with their applications. Personalised service like this cannot be matched by the bigger colleges.

Badminton Finals

This week saw the Key Stage 4 Badminton finals take place.

The girls team lost 2 players to injury before the event but rallied together to put in some spirited performances. Representing the East Riding, the girls team played well and rallied together despite two members missing the event due to injuries previously sustained. Unfortunately, they did not win, but well done to Abi Ankrett, Nancy Knopp, Daisy Myles and Roberta Caruso for making the finals and being excellent ambassadors for Longcroft.



The boys team, however, successfully retained their title, beating teams from Hull, North and North East Lincolnshire. They played exceptionally well, winning every doubles and singles match throughout the tournament. Congratulations to the victors - Owen Walker, Oliver Stapleton, Joe Grady, Alex Taylor and Alex Paraschiv.

Well done to all the boys and girls involved for displaying such excellent sportsmanship. They did an outstanding job representing not just Longcroft, but also the whole of the East Riding.

Queens Crowned Winners

A few weeks ago, we reported that the Base Dance Queens, a group that includes students from Longcroft, had made it into an international competition. We are delighted to tell you that they came first in a six nations dance competition.

Despite being together for only a year, they have become something of a sensation.

Well done to all the girls and good luck with your future contests.

New Build Update



Work on the new extension continues, with substructure masonry commencing this week – this is moving on a pace, with the amount of brickwork growing every day.

This helps to us to see the scale and shape of the building as it grows before our very eyes.

Dodgeball Update

On Thursday night, students from Years 7 to 10 took part in a dodgeball competition.

The Year 9 and 10 boys and Year 7 and 8 girls remained unbeaten, achieving first place and now go through to the Humber School Games to represent East Riding of Yorkshire.



Year 7 and 8 boys battled well and took second place after losing just two games

The Year 9 and 10 girls also came in second place after a play-off with Hornsea School to decide the winner.

Well done to all involved!

Boccia at Longcroft

Longcroft hosted seven schools with 16 teams for a Boccia event on Tuesday 5th February; Leconfield, St Marys, Swinemoor, Lockington, Cherry Burton, Molescroft and St Johns.

We had over 30 pupils playing and all teams played 7 games each. It was a great evening with the pupils' Boccia skills progressing through each game. Longcroft students did a great job organising and officiating on each court.

A special mention should go to St Johns second team for winning all their games, but the focus of the evening was participation and enjoyment.

Congratulations to all the teams!



Chess Club

Chess club is in the US Library on Monday and Friday lunchtimes, and after school on Mondays until 4:15. Mr Ezra, who is supervising our club so well, is inviting students to participate in a junior tournament at Hymers College in Hull on 23rd February. If you are interested, please see the link below.

<https://www.englishchess.org.uk/event/hull-junior-chess-congress-2/>

Reading Aloud

Over the last week library lessons have focused on reading out loud. Thank you to students for their efforts. Reading out loud is not something everyone feels confident about, but it is a necessary skill. If you have a few minutes to spare to listen to your child read out loud please do. Your encouragement and support is key to their success.

“Reading aloud and talking about what we’re reading sharpens children’s brains, it helps develop their ability to concentrate at length, to solve problems logically, and to express themselves more easily and clearly.”

Mem Fox
(writer and educationalist)

Diary Dates

Wednesday 13th February 2019: Year 11 Parents’ Consultation Evening

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February 2019: Half Term

Monday 25th February 2019: Staff Training Day (students not in school)

Tuesday 26th February: Students return to school

