



**Thornhill
Academy**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Proud to be part of
**Consilium
Academies**

Excellence | Partnership | Opportunity

Thornhill Parent Update 13th September 2024

Message from Headteacher

We have had such an amazing start to the school year. Both staff and students have returned to school refreshed and ready for another amazing year at Thornhill.

Our new year 7 students are settling so well, and are keen to make good impressions on their teachers. Their attitude to their learning is wonderful and their support of each other is lovely to see.

Following our wonderful Ofsted grading of 'Good' in May, we saw our year 11 students in the summer, receive the best set of GCSE results in the school's history. We were incredibly proud of their achievements, as we know they and their families were. Both the Ofsted report and the GCSE results show the strong path of school improvement here at Thornhill. We are delighted that you put your trust in us for your children's education, we never take this for granted.

Before the summer I shared with you the names of staff who were leaving us. As with everything in school, the cycle continues, and new people join our team. Recruitment of strong practitioners is central to our improvement journey, and I am pleased to say that the following staff are already making a massive contribution to the education of our young people.

Mr D Smith – Head of Computing and IT
Mrs A Ross – Lead Practitioner for English
Miss L Davison – Teacher of Maths
Mr I Clark – Teacher of maths
Mr S Milward – Teacher of Science
Mr A Holden – Teacher of Music
Miss A Haq – Teaching Assistant

In addition, some of our existing staff have taken on new roles, we are very fortunate to have such a strong team to appoint from:

Mrs U Onoka – Assistant Headteacher (Quality of Education)
Miss C Knowles – Associate Assistant Headteacher (Quality of Education)
Mr J Clark – Head of Maths
Miss M O'Neil – Head of Performing Arts
Mr O McGee – PSHE Curriculum Co-ordinator
Mrs Corrigan begins her maternity leave today, her replacement is Miss M Ewing

I would like to thank parents and carers for ensuring that our students have returned to school in full uniform. They look so smart. Please always check that any items of clothing you are buying match the uniform requirements, we really don't want you to spend money on items that they won't be allowed to wear. Our uniform is always on the website, so please use that as a reference point.

We look forward to another year of working with you all in close partnership

Mrs S Hamilton
Headteacher



**Thornhill
Academy**

"Excellence at the heart of everything"

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Sunderland, SR2 7NA
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Breakfast Club





How does a healthy breakfast make you feel?

In a good mood? 

Able to concentrate? 

Alert? 

Full of energy 

Focused? 

Eating a healthy breakfast makes a difference
 join us for a free breakfast every morning

Thumbprint Menus



Week One

Meal Deal
 Main meal + any pudding or drink
 £2.50!!!

Food Menu

Free Breakfast

Bagel	£0.00
Porridge	£0.00
Cereal	£0.00
Fruit	£0.00



Drink

Flavoured Water	£0.90
Plain Water	£0.90
Sparkling Water	£0.90
Milk	£0.60
Milkshake	£0.60
Fruit Juice	£0.60

Monday

Traditional

Creamy vegetable pot pie served with new potatoes and vegetables (V), (H)

Favourites

Cnocchi served in an Italian tomato, basil and lemon sauce (Ve), (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar (H)

Trio of cheese (V)

Pudding (H)

Carrot cake (V)

Tuesday

Traditional

Katsu chicken served with vegetable rice (H)

Favourites

Quorn Chinese chicken curry served with noodles (V), (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar (H)

Meatball marinara (H)

Pudding (H)

Chocolate cake (V)

Wednesday

Traditional

Mincet beef wellington (H) with mashed potatoes and Yorkshire pudding

Favourites

Vegetarian sausage with mashed potato and vegetables (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Creamy chicken fajita (H)

Pudding

Pineapple upside down cake (V)

Thursday

Traditional

Hunters chicken served with wedges, corn on the cob and salad

Favourites

Vegetarian pasta bolognese served with garlic bread (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar (H)

Pepperoni (H)

Pudding

Cherry loaf (V)

Friday

Traditional

Salmon and broccoli pasta bake served with garlic bread (H)

Favourites

Crispy chicken wraps served with chips and salad / beans (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar (H)

Carbonara (H)

Pudding

Friday bake off



V = Vegetarian
 Ve = Vegan
 H = Halal

Food Menu

Free Breakfast

Bagel	£0.00
Porridge	£0.00
Cereal	£0.00
Fruit	£0.00



Drink

Flavoured Water	£0.90
Plain Water	£0.90
Sparkling Water	£0.90
Milk	£0.60
Milkshake	£0.60
Fruit Juice	£0.60

Monday

Traditional

Pesto pasta served with roasted cherry tomatoes & dressed green beans (Ve)(H)

Favourites

Quorn beef burger served with wedges and vegetables (V), (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Trio of cheese (V)

Pudding

Chocolate crunch (V)

Tuesday

Traditional

Chilli Con Carne served with lemon rice (H)

Favourites

Sweet potato and chick pea curry served with rice and Naan bread (Ve)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Meatball marinara (H)

Pudding

Mango cheesecake (V)

Wednesday

Traditional

Beef stew and sage dumplings served with mashed potatoes

Favourites

Spanish vegetarian sausage casserole served with mash potato and vegetables (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

creamy chicken fajita (H)

Pudding

Sprinkle cake (V)

Thursday

Traditional

Korean BBQ pork served with kimchi noodles

Favourites

Quorn chicken dippers served with potato sidewinders and beans (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Pepperoni (H)

Pudding

Lemon shortcake and fruit (V)

Friday

Traditional

Fish finger sub roll served with chips and salad / peas

Favourites

Chicken Parmo served with chips and salad (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Carbonara (H)

Pudding

Friday bake off



V = Vegetarian
Ve = Vegan
H = Halal

Food Menu

Free Breakfast

Bagel	£0.00
Porridge	£0.00
Cereal	£0.00
Fruit	£0.00



Drink

Flavoured Water	£0.90
Plain Water	£0.90
Sparkling Water	£0.90
Milk	£0.60
Milkshake	£0.60
Fruit Juice	£0.60

Monday

Traditional

Cheesy spring green lasagne served with summer vegetables (V)

Favourites

Spinach, feta and filo pie served with crispy potatoes and salad (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans (Ve)
- Cheese (V)
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Trio of cheese (V), (H)

Pudding

Chocolate orange brownie (V)

Tuesday

Traditional

Sticky lemon chicken served with stir fry style vegetable rice

Favourites

Mexican style Quorn chicken rice served with flat bread (V) (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Meatball marinara (H)

Pudding

Cornflake tart (V)

Wednesday

Traditional

Shepherd pie served with summer vegetables and Yorkshire pudding (H)

Favourites

Creamy chicken pot pie served with roasted garlic mash and onion gravy

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Creamy chicken fajita (H)

Pudding

Summer berry crumble (V)

Thursday

Traditional

All day breakfast / vegetarian all day breakfast

Favourites

Quorn chicken burger served with wedges, corn on the cob and salad (V)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Pepperoni (H)

Pudding

Eton mess (V)

Friday

Traditional

Fish and chips served with peas / beans (H)

Favourites

Loades fries topped with salt and pepper chicken and salad (H)

Jacket Potato

- Beans
- Cheese
- Tuna

Pasta Bar

Carbonara (H)

Pudding

Friday Bake off



V = Vegetarian
Ve = Vegan
H = Halal

Year 7 GL Assessments

At Thornhill Academy we want to ensure that we have a detailed picture of all of our students' needs in order to help them learn, develop and achieve. As part of this process, we will be conducting a series of assessments with Year 7 over the next 2 weeks as part of our Key Stage 3 assessment pattern. We will be delivering the following digital assessments designed by GL Assessments:

- CAT 4- a series of short cognitive ability tests to assess student's reasoning (thinking) in key areas that support educational development and academic attainments.
- NGRT- New group Reading Test to ascertain the reading age of students so that appropriate reading materials and supportive strategies can be selected to enhance progress.
- Pass - PASS helps to identify barriers to learning to ensure student wellbeing and positive outcomes at a whole school, class, and individual level.

No preparation is necessary, and it is important that your child does not become anxious as no pre-learning or knowledge is expected. We do, however, encourage students to make the most of this opportunity and show what they know and can do. This provides us with the information we need to best support your child to achieve their potential over the Key Stage.

These assessments will be used to support teaching and learning, set student targets and measure progress across the year. We will be contacting parents again after the assessments to update on how the assessment information will be used to support your child.

Year 9 NGRT Reading Assessment

What is NGRT? The New Group Reading Test (NGRT) is a computer based formative assessment used to assess a student's reading level. It does not count towards any final grade or mark but helps us understand your child's current ability level compared to the national average. Your child's NGRT result will be reported to you as part of the school report cycle. NGRT allows us to identify students who may benefit from interventions or need further support. The test can be retaken later in the school year to assess progress and intervention effectiveness.

How is NGRT used? Reading skills are crucial for accessing the school curriculum. NGRT provides accurate information about a student's reading level, allowing us to provide targeted support or extension activities. Our goal is to raise reading abilities, which in turn enhances overall curriculum access.

Test Details:

- Format: Short multiple-choice test
- Tasks: Sentence completion and reading comprehension
- Duration: Approximately 30-50 minutes

Preparation: We advise against practicing or training specifically for NGRT to ensure a fair assessment of your child's reading abilities at that moment. There are practice questions within the assessment to familiarise students with the tasks.

Military Careers

We were really impressed with the number of students who signed up for the military careers talk this week. A great start to Key stage 4 and getting prepared for exciting future careers and destinations. Look out for lots of different events and activities to support our students' career education.



This term's co-curricular offer

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths – Going for 9 	
Lunchtime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Star Fish Club Cricket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music Club Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debate Club Careers Cafe Cricket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ukulele
Afterschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball Swimming Coding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boxercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Football Cricket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Badminton V&A Art and Design Drama Stem Further Maths Holocaust Remembrance 	

Derwent Hill Trip

There is still an opportunity for more Year 9 and 10 students to take part in our trip to Derwent Hill this Autumn. Parents and students should look out for a letter with further details.



Year 7 Outward Bound Trust Trip

We alerted all parents in the summer of a great opportunity for all year 7 to take part in a residential trip to the Lake District in the Spring term. This is an exclusive 5 day outward bound activity week, aimed to develop teambuilding and resilience (but to mainly have lots of fun!). Please note that the activities are outdoor style, can be strenuous and may involve water sports. More information about the organisation can be found here:

<https://www.outwardbound.org.uk/>

Please look out for the letter outlining further details. It will be great to see ALL of year 7 taking part!



easyfundraising

Thornhill Academy are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All funds raised will be paid directly to the Academy to use for the benefit of our students.



These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It is completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thornhill-academy/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1



Thank you so much!

Groundwork



"In partnership with Energy Savings Trust, Groundwork have a new service that offers help and advice with managing energy costs.

This service now covers residents in all areas under Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, South Tyneside Council, Durham County Council, Gateshead Council and City of Sunderland Council

If you're looking for advice on reducing energy use, keeping warm at home, making energy efficiency upgrades, installing renewable energy systems, make energy efficient home improvements or just help to pay your energy bills please get in touch.

Our in-home support programme provides free, expert advice on being more energy efficient and on how to lower your bills.

We are completely impartial and there's no hard sell - just clear honest advice from the experts.

We can even help those in 'hard-to-treat' homes like: flats, terrace houses, old properties, single glazed properties and homes in the countryside.

If you would like any of the help listed above or just more information, please get in touch; my email address and mobile number are given below.

I can have a chat and/or make a referral to the programme, then one of the energy experts will be in touch to book a home visit."

Joel Barrow

Community Project Manager, North of Tyne Region

Groundwork NE & Cumbria

Joel.Barrow@groundwork.org.uk>

Mobile: 07977 819 720

ParentPay App

Student Information – PLEASE UPDATE NOW

It is important that we have up to date information on your child. This includes correct address and telephone numbers, emergency contact details, medical updates, including allergies, etc.

Much of this can be updated by parents/carers through the ParentApp. Please log into ParentApp and check that all the information that we hold for your child is correct and update where necessary.

If you are unable to access ParentApp, please contact the main school office who will be happy to assist by making the changes and helping you set up ParentApp for future use.

Free School Meals

Please see the school details for information around Free School Meal entitlement. If you are not currently entitled to receive Free School Meals, complete the form and if, in the future, circumstances change, the entitlement could automatically start for your child.

Lunch Accounts

We are currently looking at all student lunch accounts and will be contacting parents/carers where there is significant debt on a student's account. We will no longer be able to provide meals for those students who have considerable debt on their accounts and who make no payment to reduce the balance.

Please clear any overdrawn balance now or contact the main school office if this will cause undue financial burden.

Sharp Reporting System

Were you aware Thornhill has a web based anonymous reporting function? This is the direct link to the reporting feature, but this can also be accessed through the school website: <https://thornhill.thesharpsystem.com/>

Please can we ask you to ensure that as a parent you have downloaded the app or access class charts via the browser <https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login> to login.



Class charts is the main method of communication between staff, parents and pupils. If you do not have these details or need your password resetting, please contact school and we can give you this over the phone or alternatively email thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Please can we remind all parents that we request students to be on site for 8.30am each day, classes start at 8.40am prompt.

We would like to thank you in advance with your support on this matter.

Stage 1	45 minutes After School Detention
Stage 2	Day in Reflection & 45 minute After School Detention
Stage 3	60-minute SLT Detention - Friday
Stage 4	Parental Meeting

Alumni Network

If you are a former pupil, we want to hear from you!

Thank you for the overwhelming support we always receive from parents.

We are extremely proud of our Alumni. When our students leave following completion of their GCSEs, they progress on to some incredibly exciting and far-reaching pathways.

What is it?

The Consilium Alumni will be a network of former students across all Consilium Academies.

The Alumni programme aims to:

- Allow continued support where needed for our former pupils
- Create a network of former pupils who are now in further education or employment, who may be able to use this experience to inspire and support current students
- Celebrate the achievements of former pupils
- Advertise local jobs which may appeal to former students and their families

Who can join?

Any former student or staff member from one of our Consilium Academies schools.

Join our network today and help us continue to build our Consilium community!

[Sign up here](#)

Parent Information

Get in touch

- At Thornhill Academy we understand the importance of sharing information and news with our parents and carers. Each week we publish our Parental Bulletin to ensure you are kept up to date with recent school news.
- We also want to hear from you! We love to share good news stories and the amazing accomplishments made by our pupils.
- If you have some good news to share about your child, please get in touch via email:
- thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com
- Follow us
- Don't forget to follow us on social media for the latest updates on school activities



Twitter@thornhill_uk

Instagram@thornhill_academy

FacebookThornhill Academy

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:

[View Parents Letters](#)