



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

20th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware, members of the National Education Union (NEU) have voted in favour of industrial action.

Currently we anticipate that Thornhill Academy will be able to remain open to all students throughout this action. Should this position change, we will inform you as soon as possible and endeavour to remain open for those students who most need it.

We are, as always, working hard to ensure that we can continue to offer the education we pride ourselves upon despite these challenges.

Yours Sincerely,

Headteacher





20th January 2023

Parent/Carer Voice Council Thursday 9th February 4pm

At Thornhill we feel it is of the greatest importance to work in partnership with all of our community. Parents and Carers are a voice we want to hear from. As a result, we will be hosting half termly parent/carers voice councils. Within this forum we will focus on working together to cover all aspects of student welfare such as mental health and wellbeing, progress, SEND, Anti Bullying, Health, safeguarding, Healthy Relationships and all other areas of student welfare. There will also be an opportunity for parents to highlight any important work they feel the Academy can develop further.

If you would like to join the parent/carers voice council a link will be sent out week commencing 16th January to express your interest in attending. Any questions, please contact Miss Leigh Coates - Head of safeguarding and Wellbeing - leigh.coates@consilium-at.com

Newsletter

As you may be aware Thornhill Academy is a part of Consilium Academies Trust. At Consilium Academies we are deeply committed to serving our communities, this is reflected in an integral part of our mission statement which is, 'a dedication to do all we can for the communities we serve.'

On Monday 23rd January you will receive a link via email/text inviting you to take part in our annual Consilium Community Engagement Survey.

Completing this survey gives you the opportunity to tell us how we are doing and where our priorities should be placed.

You are a vital member of our community, and we value your opinions and feedback as we strive to be even better and provide your children with great opportunities and the best education – allowing them to succeed both in the classroom and beyond.

It is crucial that we receive as many responses as possible, so we gain a representative understanding of your views. Therefore, we will be giving away a £100 gift voucher to one lucky respondent to the survey. The deadline for submissions is 24th February.

We look forward to receiving your responses and hearing your thoughts.

Year 11

Celebration and Success

We would like to congratulate Year 11 for fantastic exam conduct during their business exam, a huge well done to all of those involved!

This week's best attending reg group is **11UON!**

This week's highest total of praise points goes to **11MEM!**

6th Form Pathways

We would like to thank Mrs Bagshaw from Southmoor Academy 6th form for joining us on Thursday this week to lead a talk for our students about life at 6th form and how this might be the right pathway for them. This is the first in a number of opportunities for student to hear about different pathways for their future beyond Thornhill. Students listened attentively and we have already had queries from students considering 6th form as their next steps.

Parents and student can find out more on their website:

[Who you are tomorrow begins with what you do today \(thesixthformatsouthmoor.co.uk\)](https://www.thesixthformatsouthmoor.co.uk)

And you can book a visit here:

<https://www.thesixthformatsouthmoor.co.uk/visit-our-sixth-form/>

In the next few weeks, we will welcome 6th form students into Thornhill to lead some small group revision with our students during P6 sessions.

Revision and Intervention

Period 6 Sessions

Many students are regularly attending our P6 revision and study sessions from 2:45- 3:15. Just 30 minutes extra each day can make all the difference and there is an expectation that all students attend. Parents will be informed of non-attendance, and we ask for your support in ensuring your son/daughter takes advantage of this opportunity.

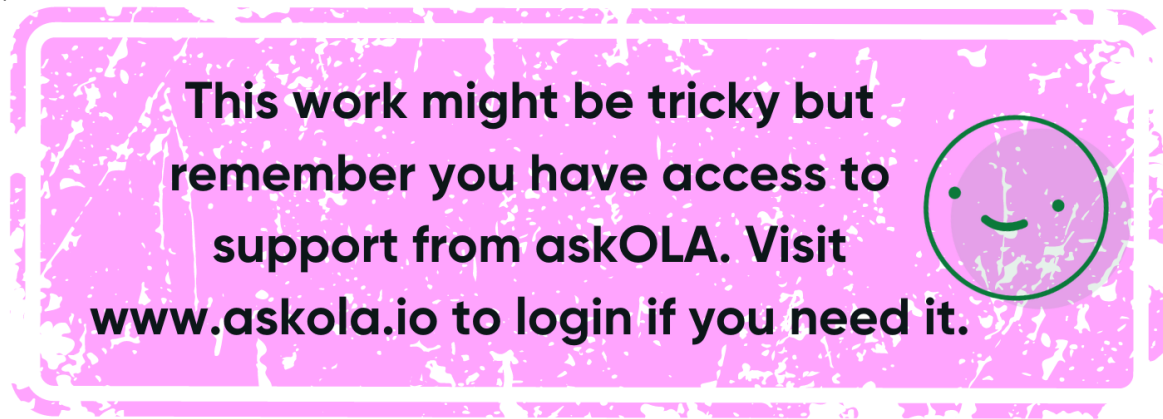
Homework Expectations

From next week we will be increasing our expectations of student completing their Homework in core subjects. Homework and independent study are proven to increase the progress and achievement of students at secondary school. In year 11, Homework is carefully designed to support the curriculum to help student to consolidate, extend or revise key knowledge and skills needed for their examination success. We will be reporting back to parents when our homework expectations are not met so that we can offer any additional support that student might need.

askOLA

Next week we will be relaunching askOLA with our students. This is an online tutor platform that students can log into from 9am to 9pm every day to get advice and support with their English,

Maths and Science studies as well as any wellbeing support, they might need. More information for parents will follow next week.



Parent can find an overview of all of our intervention currently offered to Year 11 via the link below:
<https://www.thornhillschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=460&type=pdf>

Key Dates

February 2nd - Year 11 Parents evening. Look out for further communication regarding our Parents evening for Year 11. This will be an important opportunity to talk to subject teachers to get the information and advice around your child's progress.

February 3rd (9 am): BTEC Travel & Tourism Exam. This is an external exam and attendance, and punctuality is essential. Students will not be able to sit this exam at any other time.

13th February: The next round of Mock exams to help prepare and guide students towards the summer exams start the week beginning 13th February and will continue after half term for a further 2 weeks. Timetables for these will be issued in advance.

15th May: We have 13 school weeks left until the first GCSE exams. which start in the week beginning 15th May 2023.



Wellbeing Weekly

We are excited to introduce our Wellbeing Weekly section of our parental bulletin. Every week we will be sharing thoughts, tips and advice to support student, parent and staff wellbeing. The first focus is advice around a weekly check in. if you feel you need further advice and support

from the Academy around your child's mental health and wellbeing, please contact Miss Leigh Coates Head of safeguarding and wellbeing.

WEEKLY WELLBEING CHECK-UP
Try using this list each week to check in with your mental health

#ADDRESS YOUR STRESS

Where's my mental health today?
How do I feel today?
Mentally?
Physically?

Looking after my wellbeing
Am I drinking enough water and eating a balanced diet?
How did I sleep last night?
Did I feel rested when I woke up?
Is there anything I can improve?

How's my thinking today?
How are my thoughts making me feel?
Am I having unhelpful thoughts?
For free resources on spotting and challenging unhelpful thoughts, visit getselfhelp.co.uk or moodgym.com.au

My Stress Container
How full is my container?
Am I using helpful coping strategies?
Are they working?
Learn about your Stress Container at mhfaengland.org/mhfa-centre/campaigns/mhaw2018

MHA England
There are simple steps you can take to #AddressYourStress. Check out our resources at mhfaengland.org

Spotlight on Safeguarding

Every week we will be highlighting, sharing and signposting families and students to support around local and national safeguarding concerns so that parents and the Academy can equip our community to keep themselves safe. The first focus of this is sharing the times, dates and locations of the 'Wear Here for you' bus from together for children. The bus provides support from a number of targeted 0-19 services. We have attached the poster for further information. If you can any concerns in relation to safeguarding, please contact Miss leigh Coates Head of Safeguarding and Wellbeing.



Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 options evening will take place on Thursday 9th February 2023. This is an opportunity to visit the school with your child and to explore the choices available to them to enable them to choose their GCSE options. It would be very beneficial if you could attend and the perfect opportunity to meet the staff and ask any questions which you may have.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that all students are required on site for 8.20 am and breakfast club is available from 8am **FOR ALL STUDENTS**, whether they are eligible for free school meals or not.



Wear
HERE 4
YOU

The **Wear Here 4 You** prevention bus is back on the road and in the community in 2023!

Tuesday 14 February to Thursday 16 March

Tuesday | Princess Anne Park

Thursday | Sulgrave

Tuesday 18 April to Thursday 18 May

Tuesday | Downhill or Redhouse

Thursday | Hylton Castle

Tuesday 23 May to Thursday 22 June

Tuesday | Houghton Skate Park

Thursday | Hetton Lyons Country Park

VISIT *Liverpool*

JOIN HISTORY AND MUSIC ON A DAY TRIP TO LIVERPOOL

International Slavery museum

Hear the untold stories of enslaved people and learn about historical and contemporary slavery.

British Music Experience

From the Beatles, The Rolling Stones and Bowie to The Spice Girls, Oasis, Adele and X-Factor, the BME boasts an unrivalled collection of memorabilia, stage outfits, instruments, images and footage. It charts the beginnings, rise and influence of British pop from 1945 to the present day.

Mersey Ferry Tour

Enjoy a 50-minute River Explorer Cruise on the world famous Mersey Ferry, and see incredible views of Liverpool's world-famous waterfront.

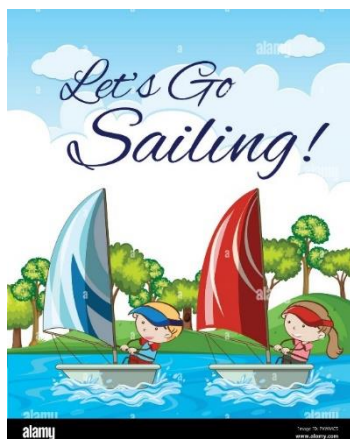
Our on board commentary highlights the River Mersey's key landmarks as well as their history, so the cruise is the perfect mix of fun and education.

More information next week

Coming Soon



All Aboard!!



You may have seen through our social media streams, an amazing opportunity for our current Year 9 cohort next year. Setting sail from Royal Quays Marina, North Shields on Monday 15th May 2023, 12 students will be selected to spend 5 days and 4 nights aboard a fantastic fully funded sailboat, travelling up and down the northeast coast, stopping off at local ports to spend days on the beaches and going on fantastic adventures!

If this is something your child in would be interested in, they can apply for a place by completing an application for

explaining the reason why they should be chosen for this once in a lifetime experience. applications should be no more than one side of A4 and can be handwritten or typed. If you have any further questions, you can visit the organisations page via the link: <http://www.oytnorth.org.uk/> or contact Mr Haley- Head of Year 9.

Sunderland AFC



As a school, we use a teacher supply agency, AK Teaching, who are also one of the main sponsors for Sunderland AFC. As a result, we have secured 12 tickets to the home game on Sunday 22nd January Sunderland Vs Middlesbrough! Out of the 12

tickets, six pupils will have the chance to be on the pitch as flag bearers, when the players walk out on to the pitch prior to kick-off. This is open to current Year 7 & 8 pupils. To be eligible to be chosen, your child must have 100% attendance and excellent behaviour between the dates of 5th-13th January 2023.

Safeguarding

Can we all please use the streets opposite school, or other safe parking spaces outside of school, to drop children off on a morning and collect in the afternoon. Students can then use the crossing to safely cross the road.

There must be no children getting out of cars on the main road especially on the zigzag lines, even if stopped at the crossing, as this is extremely dangerous.

Rule 191 of the highway code states

'You MUST NOT park on a crossing or in the area covered by the zig-zag lines.'



School Uniform Donations

Do you have any school uniform items which you no longer use, which could be given to other families? They are probably taking up space and would be greatly appreciated by families who could utilise them.

ParentView Questionnaire

We would love to hear your views on our school. Please take a moment to register via email and complete the 2-minute questionnaire about Thornhill Academy using the link below.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

Parent App

We are encouraging all parents/carers to sign up to the SIMS Parent App.

The App enables us to communicate easily with you and allows you to keep your child's information up to date.

Once signed up, please check the data collection sheet as this shows the details that we hold for you and your child.

At the end of the process, you will be required to review the changes and submit to the school for us to process your changes.

If there are no changes, please ensure you click on the confirm no changes button on the page.

We have included below the parent guide on how to register for the App.

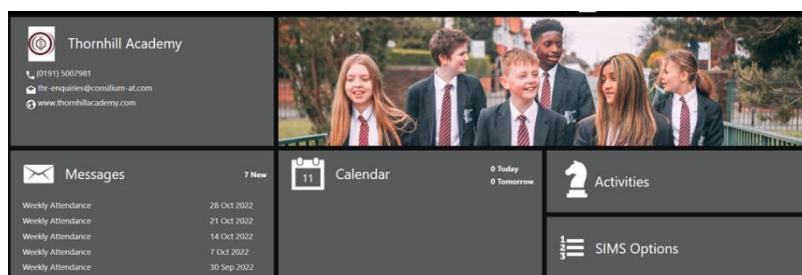


SIMS PARENT APP QUICK SETUP GUIDE

The SIMS Parent app allows us to easily communicate with you, the parent/carer. Whether it's sharing information such as attendance, termly assessments, conduct, school reports and sending messages to or from the school. The app also allows you to keep your child's information up to date! All of the information is easily accessible from the convenience of your smart phone, tablet or PC.

We can now easily send automated alerts and notifications directly to your phone! By sharing information with you on attendance, termly assessments, timetables or school reports and conduct, you can stay on top of your child's progress. A clear dashboard gives you an overview of your child's school life and the data collection functionality within the app and website lets you easily update your contact information too.

Follow the steps below to setup and install the SIMS Parent App.



STEP #1: Receive the Activation Email

1. We will send you an activation email. Simply click on the link inside the email from your tablet, PC or smartphone to activate your account.
2. After clicking on the link in the email you will now be asked to login using your Facebook, Twitter, Google or Microsoft (including Office 365) account username and password. Don't have one of those accounts then click on More for the option to create a Microsoft account.
3. You will be asked the date of birth for one of your children at the school.

4. Click Verify and complete your registration.

Now you just need to download the app!

**The email will be from noreply@sims.co.uk so please check your SPAM or JUNK folder if you cannot find it. If you still cannot find it then please contact the school on thr-enquires@consilium-at.com to confirm that we have the correct information for you.*

STEP #2: Download SIMS Parent App & Login

The app is free to download and can be used on both iPhone and Android devices.

1. Open the Apple store or Google Play store on your mobile device.
2. Search 'SIMS Parent app' and select SIMS Parent by Capita PLC.
3. Click install to download the app
4. Once installed, open the app on your device.
5. You will be asked 'Have you received an invitation from your school and completed registration?' Click yes
6. Login using the account you signed up with.

Alternatively, you can login in via the website: www.SIMS-PARENT.co.uk

Vacancies

We are looking for friendly professional people to join our team, please see our website for further details.



Attendance

A massive thank you to all the parents who are continuing to support the increase in attendance for their child by sending children into school. We are seeing excellent progress in attendance and student knowledge.



Parents must be aware that their child will receive a U code if they arrive to school after 9.10am. This means they will have 0% attendance for the morning. This is massively impacting on student's attendance and can easily be improved.

Uniform

Thank you for your ongoing support with the standards and expectations around your child's jacket inside of the school building and the type of jacket they must wear to school. Please be reminded that body warmers, sports jackets and hoodies are all unacceptable pieces of uniform for Thornhill.

School Contact Details

Telephone: 0191 5007981

Email: thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Website: <http://thornhillschool.org.uk>

Twitter: @thornhill_uk

Facebook: Thornhill Academy