



NEU Strike

27th January 2023

Further to correspondence sent last week around industrial action from members of the National Education Union (NEU) We can confirm that Thornhill Academy is able to remain open to all students throughout this action.

All students should attend school as normal.

Key Term Dates

2nd February Year 11 Parents evening from 3:30pm

9th February Year 9 Parents evening and options event from 3:45pm

13th February Year 11 GCSE Mock Assessments

24th April Key Stage 3 Assessments

4th May Year 10 Parents evening from 3:30pm

15th June Year 8 Parent evening from 3:30pm

19th June Year 10 GCSE Mock assessments



Celebration and Success

Engineering and English Assessments – Congratulations to Year 11's again for fantastic exam conduct during their mocks! As we begin to prepare for our GCSE's it is wonderful to see Year 11's settling into routine.

Period 6 Sessions- Well done to Mrs Todd and her French students for the best % attended P6 session this week!



Revision and Intervention



AskOLA- All students have been reminded of the benefits of askOLA and have been given a session to help them successfully log in and ask their first questions. This is an invaluable resource for students to gain expert advice for homework and revision when studying at home.

AskOLA can help parents too! Please see below for a link to our bespoke video for Thornhill Parents.

LINK

Travel & Tourism Exam- In lessons students have been preparing for their first attempt at their external exam component for their BTEC qualification. Below is a link to a knowledge organiser that students can access and give to parents. You can use this to quiz and support revision in the run up to the exam.

[TT-C2-Knowledge-organiser.pdf](#)

Homework- This week we begin our homework follow up. Parents will be informed if students fail to submit their homework for these core subject areas.

- 1 missed HW- parents will be informed via text
- 2 missed HW- parents will receive a formal letter
- 3 missed HW- parents will be invited to discuss their son/daughter's homework and any additional support that might be required.

We know that with school and parents working closely together, we can increase progress and achievement.



Maximize

Maximize- We are really excited to welcome Maximize into Thornhill to work with our students on study skills and revision.

This will be a boost of motivation and advice as they get prepared for their next Mocks coming up in the next 3 weeks!

Year 11 Parents Evening

There is an online booking system via <https://thornhillacademy.schoolcloud.co.uk/> parents should have received log-in details, however, should you have any issues please contact school, who will be more than happy to make appointments on your behalf.

All parents need to attend to talk to subject teachers to get the information and advance around your child's progress and how to support them.



All appointments will take place within the Thumbprint Restaurant.

English Assessments- To support students' preparation for English GCSEs there will be weekly formal assessments taking place each week. These will take place in formal exam venues to help increase student familiarity with this. There will be a mixture of partial and full assessments. This half term's dates are listed below. Look out for guidance and support for these via Class Charts.

- Tuesday 31st January P2
 - Monday 6th February P5 &6
 - Monday 13th February Breakfast Workshop from 8:00am. Assessment starts at 8:45am.
- Punctuality on this day is vital.**

Key Dates for Year 11

February 2nd (Thursday) - Year 11 Parents Evening. All appointments will take place within the Thumbprint Restaurant.

February 3rd MAXIMIZE- Motivational revision and study skills event for year 11.

February 3rd (9am): 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.

February 7th History Twilight- 12:45pm - 5pm. All History students are to attend a twilight session to support the American West section of their GCSE. It is essential that all students attend, and refreshments (possibly Pizza) will be provided!

February 13th 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.

February 14th Geography Twilight- 12:45pm to 5pm. All Geography students are to attend a twilight session to help prepare for their upcoming fieldwork trip. This is an essential component to the course, therefore support with this preparation will be valuable to all students.

February 16th History Live Drop-down day for all History students.

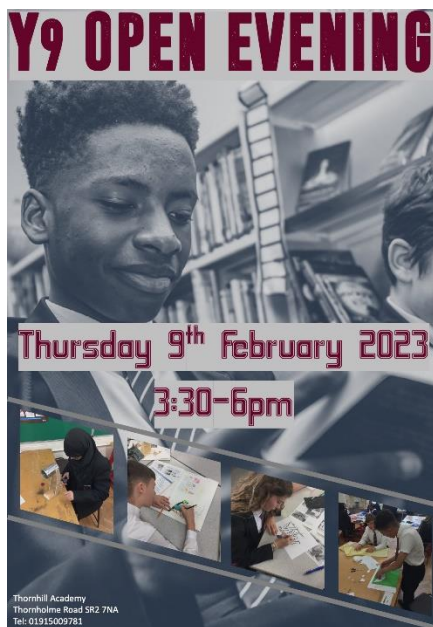
May 15th: We have 12 school weeks left until the first GCSE exams which start the week beginning 15th May 2023



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



Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 option evening is Thursday 9th February 3:30-6:00pm. Parents of year 9 pupils should now have received invitations via email and post. We look forward to seeing you at the open evening.

Sunderland A.F.C Flag bearers



Eight proud students from Thornhill Academy, part of Consilium Academies, were chosen by Sunderland A.F.C as flag bearers for a home match against Middlesbrough, which took place at the weekend, on Sunday 22 January. Year 7 and 8 Thornhill students were given the unique opportunity to walk out on Sunderland AFC's pitch prior to kick-off, as a reward for their 100% attendance and excellent behaviour at the start of this term. Afterwards, they were lucky enough to watch the match and experience the atmosphere of the stadium. The opportunity comes as part of the school's attendance and behaviour strategy, which rewards students with exciting prizes when they attend well and behave as expected. The tickets were kindly provided by teacher supply agency, AK Teaching, who are one of the main sponsors of Sunderland A.F.C. Ridwan, Saqeeb and Taieb, Year 7 students at Thornhill Academy, said: "We had so much fun at the match, thank you so much to our teachers for this opportunity! "Everything about the day was great, we got high fives from the players, it was the best." Susan Hamilton, Headteacher at Thornhill Academy, part of Consilium Academies, said: "It was an honour for our students to be given the chance to shine by Sunderland A.F.C and make our school community proud this weekend. "At Thornhill we have a positive school culture which rewards and praises excellent attendance and behaviour. These students thoroughly deserved this wonderful experience, and we look forward to rewarding more students in this way across the year. Thank you to AK Teaching and Sunderland A.F.C for this opportunity."

Spotlight on Thornhill Curriculum



Each week we will focus on a different curriculum area to share with parents the experiences, activities and learning taking place at Thornhill.
This week we put the spotlight on...

Music

In Music we thrive in providing performance opportunities for our pupils and the best way to tell you about our subject is to show you. So, we have provided a small video to demonstrate what we have been doing in Music recently.

 [Subject Showcase Music .mp4](#)

For current Year 9 who are perhaps thinking about Music as an option this video may help.

 [GCSE Music .mp4](#)

Drama

It's not every day a teacher asks a student if they would like to "punch" their teacher. But it is never a dull day in drama! So far this year, both Y8 and Y9 have been practicing the art of stage combat and how to safely perform moves performed both on stage and T.V. Y8 have been applying these techniques to create a modern-day adaptation of the prologue from Romeo & Juliet. Whilst Y9 have been exploring issues faced by the working-class community in the Northeast and creating their own piece of Soap Operas to address these struggles. I think it is fair to say we have some budding actors, who would give Danny Dyer a run for his money!

Y7 have also started their drama journey here at Thornhill, where they are currently exploring storytelling and bringing a script to life. It is fantastic to see so many of these young people building their confidence and sharing their work with peers. Keep up the great work Y7.

The creativity does not just stop at KS3, a special shout out goes to our Y10 and Y11 classes who are both working on their upcoming performances, which will go towards their GCSE's! Y10 students are currently exploring creating their own, original piece of drama, whilst Y11 are bringing the page to the stage. I am sure you will all wish them the best of luck in these assessments.

Highlight of the term

There have been so many highlights this year, but Miss O'Neill is extremely proud of the 30, Y8 students, who have recently passed their English-speaking board exam. Students spent the first term working on their oracy and were able to confidently read an extract from the book Wonder by R. J Palacio, learn and perform a poem or monologue and create a 4-minute

presentation on a topic of their choice. Below you can see examples of some of the visual aid's students created to support them in their presentations.

How to find out more

For all things drama, give @thornhill_drama on Instagram, for weekly updates. We also have a special announcement coming soon, so watch this space!

History Club

History club have been taking on their own projects to develop confidence and presenting skills. We've travelled to many different periods including the Ottoman Empire and South Korea as well as the presentations done by Miss Lloyd on things such as Genghis Khan, Chernobyl, Dark Tourism, the Holocaust and Jack the Ripper. There are many more exciting things to come with Egypt, North Korea, the Roman Empire, the French and Russian revolutions all on the agenda from both student presentations and guest teacher appearances.

This week Meybeline and Feyi done an amazing presentation on South Korea taking on the difficult task of tackling the History club! They had not only a presentation but a game and snacks (Milk tea is in the mini cups) There were some challenges, but with the help of MX.G and the support of everyone else the pair were fantastic pronouncing traditional dish names and that of the Korean leaders.

We have a 7-week agenda/ waiting list for presentations so history club is going strong!



Attendance

SHOW UP FOR YOUR GRADES.

Your child is more likely to get the results they want if they come to school regularly.

Proud to be part of Consilium Academies
Thornhill Academy

Attending School on Time

The school day starts at 8.40am for all students, students arriving after this time are late and as a result, they are missing valuable learning time. Registers will remain open for 30 minutes, closing at 9.10am. Students who are extremely late, arriving after 9.10am, will be marked with a U code which means they will not gain their legal morning mark, this will impact negatively on your child's attendance.

Students arriving at school ready to start the day at 8.40am - On Time – Good Work

Student arriving between 8.40am and 9.10am - Late – late message via InTouch will be sent to student contacts

Students arriving after 9.10am - will be marked U on register – student will not attendance for the morning session – U code is classified as unauthorised absence

The Importance of attending In-School Meetings

In-School meetings are very important, here at Thornhill Academy we want every child to succeed, not only in school but life after school.

Meetings are booked to discuss your child's personal needs and support, if you are unable to attend a meeting that has been scheduled for you, please contact the school to re-arrange. It is vital that you attend these meetings.

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.

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

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

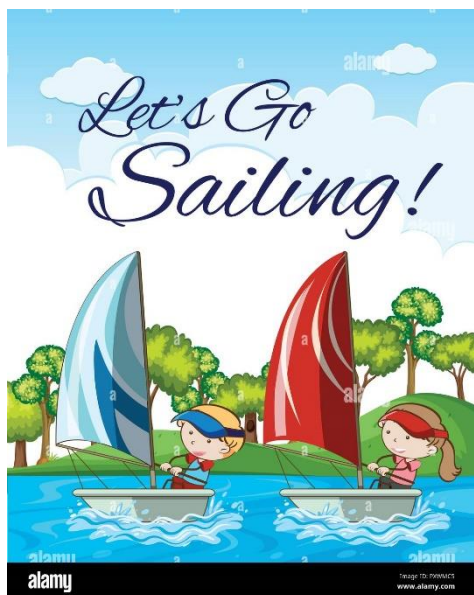


Breakfast Club

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.



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.oynorth.org.uk/> or contact Mr Haley- Head of Year 9.

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.

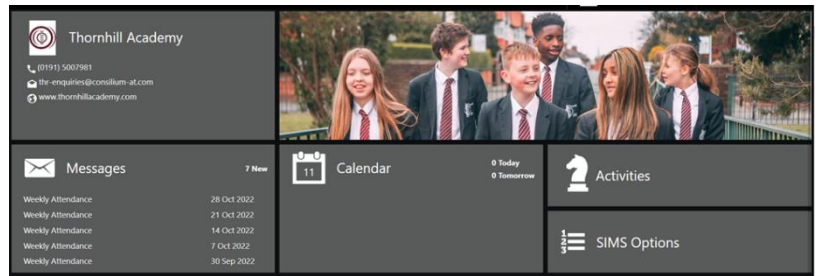
We have included below the parent guide on how to register for the App.



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-enquiries@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

School Contact Details

Telephone: 0191 5007981

Email: thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

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

Twitter: @thornhill_uk

Facebook: Thornhill Academy

