



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

Welcome to our new look newsletter, we hope it's new format will make it easier for you to find the information that is most relevant to you.

Our trust is currently conducting stakeholder voice and your views are very important, currently we have 77 parental responses, it would be great to have the views of more parents. The link to the survey is <https://forms.office.com/e/zJy2a7HF7u> and it closes on 24th February.

A reminder that school closes today (Friday 17th February) for half term and reopens on Monday 27th February for the start of our next half term.

Important dates

February 23rd: Art, Graphics and Photography coursework morning

February 27th: The Mock exams continue after half term. Timetables for these have been issued. Please use link to view timetable on our school website:

<https://www.thornhillschool.org.uk/page/?title=Exam+Timetables&pid=76>



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

Thornhill Academy, Thornholme Road
Sunderland, SR2 7NA
0191 500 7981
thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Spotlight on Curriculum



French Department

What have we been learning?

Year 7 – Since September, we have learnt how to describe ourselves and others in our family. Currently we are learning about how to describe where we live and exploring different towns in France expanding our knowledge of different cultures.

Year 8 – We have been talking about what food we eat, how to order at a market and which celebrations we prefer. Also, year 8 have been learning about how we celebrate festivals in different countries.

Year 9 – With options being at the front of everyone's mind, we have been looking at how languages can help in your future career, through videos and discussion. Year 9 have been learning how to describe family's jobs and express what they would like to be in the future.

Year 10 - Year 10 have started their option subject very well. So far, they have covered family relationships, how they use the internet, TV and cinema habits, as well as going to the shops and buying clothes.

Year 11 - Continue to work towards their upcoming examinations. With the speaking examination being in April, we are practicing role plays and photo cards when possible. Revision strategies and techniques are being used in lessons to help with their preparation.

Religious Studies

Thanks to Andy Osenton from Wearside YFC, our special guest in religious studies this week, who has been taking some fun filled lessons with our year 8s, 9s and 10s. Year 8s have learned about a variety of beliefs about the existence of God, exploring both sides of the argument. Andy's lessons with year 9s involved students exploring the theme of discrimination and year 10s have been playing detective, examining the theories, beliefs and evidence about Christian beliefs in the resurrection of Jesus. Thanks Andy!



lessons
of

English

The English department would once again, like to congratulate our wonderful year 11 pupils for their exemplary performance and attitude, when completing their poetry assessment on Monday. Many pupils joined us for breakfast and engaged in some warmup activities prior to the exam.



It was great to see them grasping every opportunity to achieve success! We would like to encourage all students to partake in our breakfast workshops during the mock window.

To support our pupils in preparing for their mocks, we will be providing them all with a revision pack, with some sample exam questions, as well as scripts to support their responses for Literature and Language. Whilst we fully appreciate that they need to enjoy their holiday, we would advise that they spend half an hour each day revising.

Some suggestions of activities they could do:

- Plan responses to questions provided in the pack
- Mind map themes from the literature questions
- Spend time annotating extracts and selecting evidence they would use to respond to both Literature and Language texts
- Timing themselves when responding to the 10 marks questions for Language
- Plan a narrative/ transactional piece of writing and write their introduction
- Visit the following site: [Eduqas Digital Educational Resources](#) - type in Language or Literature/ KS4 and complete some of the digital resources available
- Remember to askOLA!



History

History live event

Yesterday our year 11 historians took part in a history live event around the medical problems caused on the Western Front and how medicine

developed during this the war. Students got the opportunity to experience what it was like as a soldier and travel through the stations of the evacuation route. We then handled weapons from the war and looked at the injuries they caused, as well as smelling what gas might have smelt like. Overall, this was an extremely successful day, the students learned a lot from this experience and demonstrated their impeccable behaviour. Well done year 11.



Geography Drop down

Can we say a massive well done to those who stayed for the full session. The student's efforts were fantastic, and the discussions we had were impressive. The session was vital for them to be able to complete their fieldwork and part of their paper 3 exam. We are now fully prepared to go to Blyth

beach on the 31st of March and we are excited to see what results we get, and of course visiting the fish and chip shop!

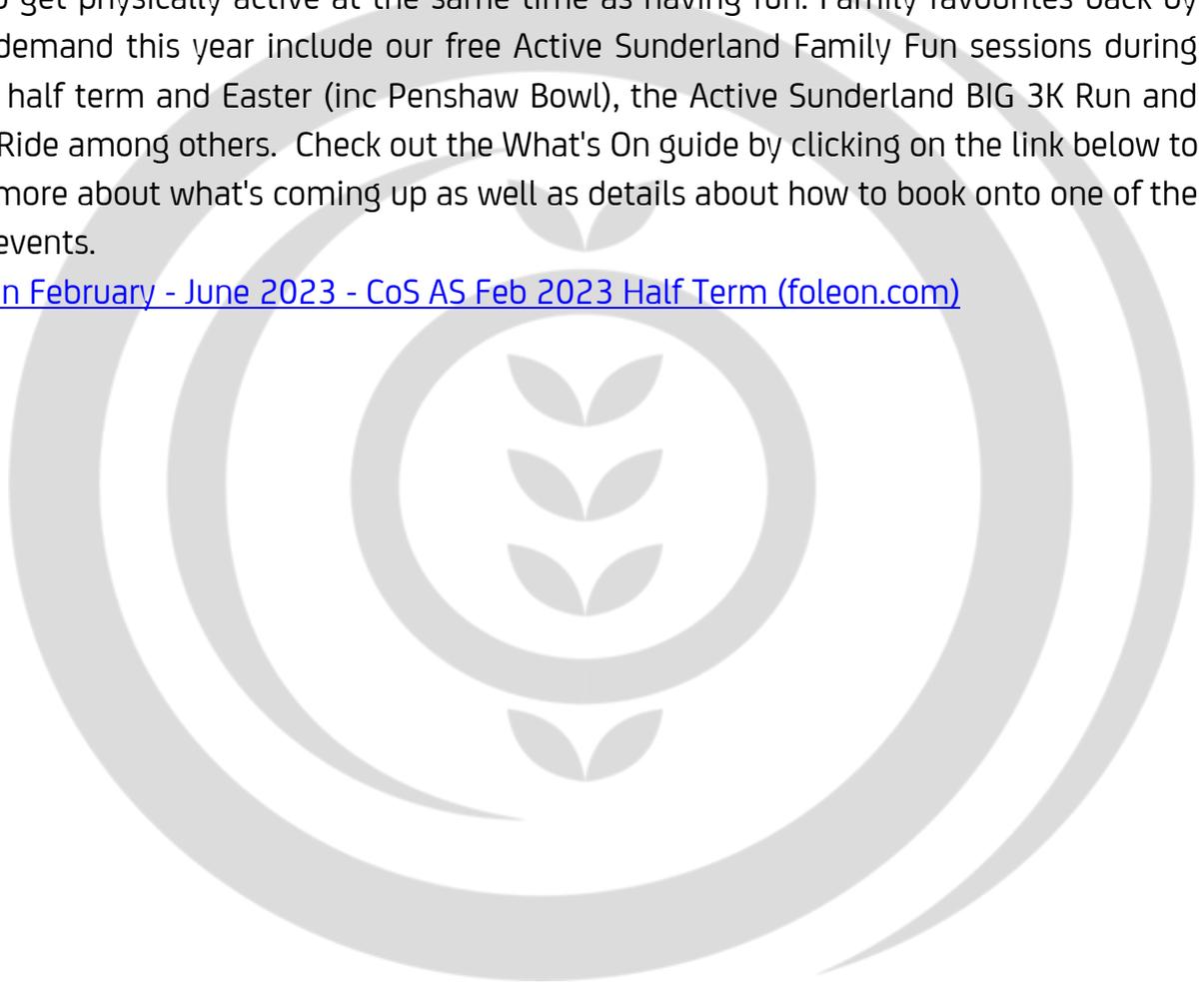
School News

From the Local Authority

Active Sunderland - What's on in Sunderland?

We are looking forward to a bumper year of active events, with opportunities galore for people to get physically active at the same time as having fun. Family favourites back by popular demand this year include our free Active Sunderland Family Fun sessions during February half term and Easter (inc Penshaw Bowl), the Active Sunderland BIG 3K Run and BIG Bike Ride among others. Check out the What's On guide by clicking on the link below to find out more about what's coming up as well as details about how to book onto one of the exciting events.

[What's On February - June 2023 - CoS AS Feb 2023 Half Term \(foleon.com\)](https://www.foleon.com/active-sunderland-what-s-on-february-june-2023)





Sunderland Rowing ... @Sunderlan... · Jan 23 ...

Would you like to try rowing? We have learn to row courses available to all ages 10+ For more information contact us on:

Email: sarahsue_12345@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 07546363662

@thornhill_uk @StRobofNew @OxcloseA

@SouthmoorAc @BiddickPEdept @WhitCofEAcad

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY ROWING?
Sunderland Rowing Club

LEARN TO ROW!

Rowing
Is a truly inclusive sport. It's fun, friendly, addictive and it's never been easier to have a go!

So what are you waiting for?
Sunderland Rowing Club are running learn to row sessions all year round. Sessions involve water and fitness land sessions.

Contact us
☎ 07546363662
✉ sarahsue_12345@hotmail.co.uk
📍 Sunderland Rowing Club
Riverside Park, South Hylton, SR4 0RT

Session Dates
Saturday 28th January 10:00am
Saturday 4th February 10:00am
Sunday 5th February 10:00am
Saturday 11th February 10:00am
Sunday 12th February 10:00am

First 3 sessions are FREE!!!



Trips & Visits

KS3 – Don't forget about the amazing opportunity to visit France next year. Register your interest with Miss Harris or Mrs Todd.

More details to follow soon.

Year 7 Year 8 Year 9
Visit FRANCE

JOIN HISTORY AND FRENCH IN 2024
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST WITH MISS HARRIS/MRS TODD

World War 1 trenches
Experience a WWI trench as we visit the Somme. Learn about the horrors of World War One first hand as we visit this iconic battlefield.

Paris
Enjoy a day trip to one of the world's most famous cities taking in all the sites and sounds. Join our trip and cruise on the Seine. Visit the sites of the French Revolution including the Bastille Prison

French experiences
Including amazing visits to a French bakery, Market and a chocolate factory. Enjoy your stay in a 17th Century Chateau.

Science Revision Weekend

Year 11 students will have the opportunity to attend a science revision weekend 10th-12th March, at Newby Wiske Hall – North Yorkshire. Teacher-led revision sessions will take place across the weekend combined with motivational adventure activities to support our students with their science revision. Every day will include 4 x 1 ½ hour activity

Science

REVISION TIME



sessions along with evening entertainment.

The Ocean at The End of the Lane

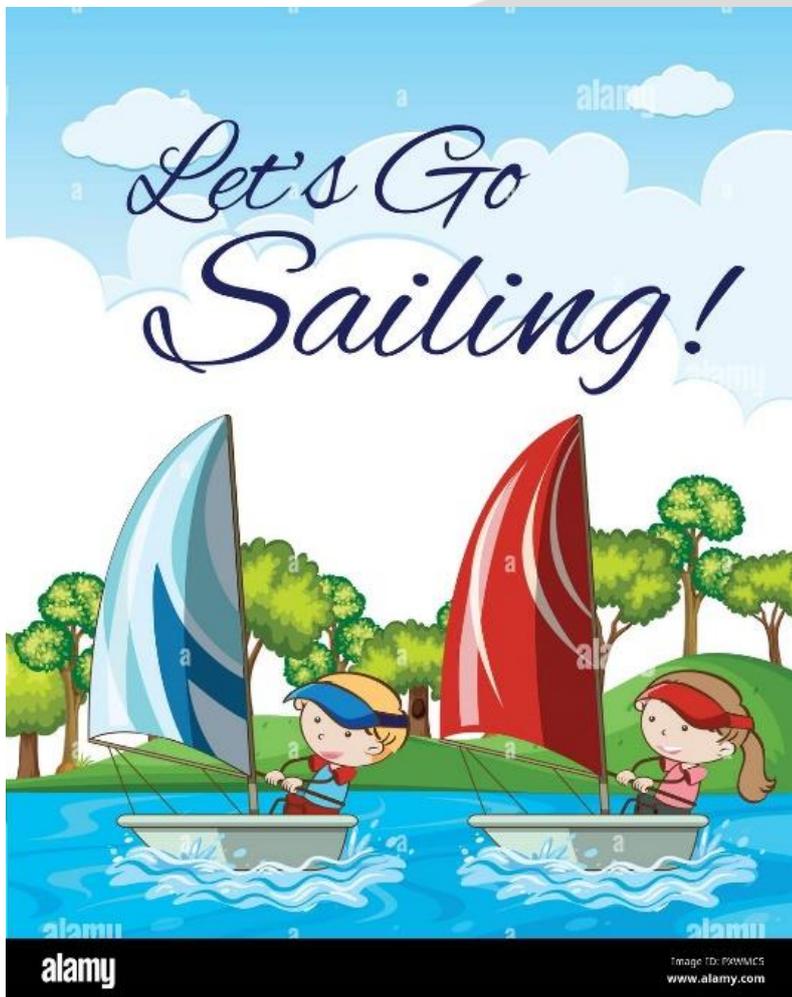
On Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 2:30pm, 45 students are going to have the fantastic opportunity visit Sunderland Empire to watch the National Theatre's major new stage adaptation of the Ocean at the End of the Lane.

These tickets will be completely FREE and will be open for Y10 GCSE Drama and Y9 students. This is a fantastic opportunity that should not be missed! If you are interested, please come, and obtain a letter from Mr. Leadbetter or Miss O'Neill.



Trailer: [Trailer: The Ocean at the End of the Lane | West End - YouTube](#)

All Aboard!!



You may have seen through our social media streams, an amazing opportunity for our current Year 9 cohort. 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 form, 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 paper 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.

Alumni Network

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

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](#)

Consilium Community Survey

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 received 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.

Complete here:

[Consilium Community Survey](#)

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. It also provides the opportunity to share information such as attendance, termly assessments, conduct, school reports and sending messages to or from school.

Once you are 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 the parent guide on how to register for the App below.

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

Parent App Step 2 - Download SIMS Parent App and Log in

thr-enquires@consilium-at.com

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

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