



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

As we finish today for the Easter holidays, I look back on what has been a very busy term, which initially saw a number of new staff join our academy in January. It is great to see them settling well into Thornhill and working really well with our existing team to make a real difference to the lives and life balances of our students.

There is so much going on in our academy, and with Mrs Crooks now leading on Personal Development, I am sure we will go from strength to strength.

You can read for yourselves about all the fantastic events that have happened within the last week. These things don't happen by chance, they require time and effort in planning and supporting them to occur and that comes down to time, and effort of our fabulous staff team who are always willing to go above and beyond for our young people. I am so fortunate to work with them.

Many of our staff are giving up time within their Easter holidays to run revision sessions for our year 11 students to ensure we support them on that final push to GCSE success. We are really proud of the way we are approaching their studies.

We will return to school on Monday 17th April, we look forward to welcoming all of our students back on that day for the start of the summer term, which I am sure will be even busier than this one has been.

From the staff team and I, thank you for everything you do to support your children and us, to help them be successful in all aspects of their lives

Sue Hamilton
Headteacher



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

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

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:
[*View Parents Letters*](#)

Spotlight on Curriculum

PE

Well done to our sports leaders for organising, running, and delivering the year 4 primary school Dodgeball Event. They were excellent role models to the pupils who attended and represented the school fantastically throughout the afternoon. Great work.



What have we been learning?

KS3

Year 7

Pupils have been exploring the swimming pool, looking at building their own water confidence and aquatic skills, ranging from buoyancy, starts, turns and diving. They have also been building and developing their swimming techniques in all four major strokes: frontcrawl, backcrawl, breaststroke and butterfly.

They will continue to improve these skills and begin to develop their own race style and speed.

Year 8

Pupils have been working extremely hard on water safety and personal survival in the pool. They have been engaging in the skills required to save your life in water. They have looked at how the body can react in different temperatures and studied the effects of hypothermia. They will continue to develop these fundamental skills such as HELP positions, treading water, buoyancy assistant and grouping survival techniques.

Year 9

Pupils have been studying different elements of their own personal safety in the water in both deep and shallow depths. They have also learned how to self-rescue, rescue others from both dry side and wet side. They have developed the skills required to carry out a rescue in different scenarios that might occur around water, as an individual, or as a team. They will continue to develop these skills and look at basic CPR and first aid around water safety. This will be built on more at KS4, when doing their lifesaving certificate.



School News

Free school meal vouchers

Vouchers for free school meal vouchers have now been issued for the Easter period. Should you be entitled and have not received the link please contact the main school office between 9.00 – 3.00 pm Monday – Friday.

Student Council

We were really pleased to have held a full student council meeting this week. Our agenda, as decided by our head students, was the 'Spirit of Thornhill' and 'Extra Curricular opportunities'. Our head students led the very professional discussion and all student council members, in attendance, contributed to the conversation with thoughtful reflections and great ideas for improvement. It is wonderful to hear how much our student body, care about their school, how they talk about this with such passion, want to be involved in shaping and developing this for our whole school community. Our council members shared the thoughts and feelings they had gathered from our full student body, and we look forward to feeding back our next steps to everyone after Easter. For any ideas and issues student want to share, our current school council members can be identified by their name badges and school lanyards. We are keen to grow our student council and will be looking to welcome new students in the new term.

Gold Medal Winner

Congratulations to Hayden, our Y11 Sports Leader on receiving a gold medal in the Trampolining competition for his KS4 routine. Great work.



Eggsellence Award

Congratulations to the pupils who have 100% attendance, no negatives and over 2,000 praise points.



Maths

On Monday 27th March, a group of our year 9 and Year 10 students represented Thornhill Academy at the regional Maths feast at Newcastle University. This is a national competition that tests problem solving and teamwork skills; and our students were exceptional during the visit.

Our Year 10 further Maths students came 8th in the competition, that saw 17 other schools from around the region participate, while our Year 9 came 12th. Our Year 9 students competed against Year 10 students from other schools and held their place well. They are excited to return next year to finish in the top 3.

On the same day, we had another group of Year 10 further maths students and Year 9's attended the inaugural Maths unbounded event at Durham University. They participated in lectures given by top Mathematicians, on subjects such as the formation of black holes and the mathematics behind the card game 'Dobble'.



English

The English department would like to invite all year 11 pupils to join an online masterclass to support their revision and preparation for their final examinations.

English Department Masterclass



Calling all year 11 students

GCSE English Literature Masterclasses begin this Saturday Via ZOOM.

Invites will be sent via class charts to all pupils in year 11.

First session: Saturday 1st April 10:30am until 11:30am.

The focus for this week is 'An Inspector Calls'.

An announcement will be sent via class charts on Friday as a reminder to all.

A copy of the resources will be uploaded prior to the event.

I hope to see as many of you as possible, but if you are unable to attend, please make use of the resource to support your revision.

We would really appreciate your support in encouraging students to attend.

Work Experience

This week, Year 10 students have been introduced to their workplace experience opportunity, to take place at the end of the summer term. Students will have a choice to organise their own face to face experience or take part in a virtual programme via the Springpod online platform.

[It's time to take control of your future | Springpod](#)



Both methods have their benefits, and all students will be able to explore the world of work. This will help build knowledge of careers and future jobs, develop confidence and workplace skills, and have that amazing work experience to put on their CVs when applying for education, training or employment in the future.

We would encourage all students to sign up to the platform, the link to the video below will share more information with students and parents as to how to sign up and what they can offer. Year 11 have also been asked to explore their own virtual work experience before they move on to their new adventures in September!

https://youtu.be/rXcwYx_DTSU

We look forward to supporting students to get the most out of this careers and workplace opportunity. For any further information please contact Mrs Crooks.

Year 11 Prom

Prom will take place on Thursday 22nd June at the Stadium of Light. Arrival from 6:30pm.

Prom tickets will be available for purchase next week on Parent Pay or via school reception – price of tickets will be £38.50.

We have launched our attendance initiative which can see pupils earn up to £18 off prom. Each week of 100% attendance for the next 12 weeks will see £1 off prom each week. If pupils have 100% attendance for all 12 weeks, a 50% bonus will be given, giving a total of £18 off tickets – reducing price to £20.50.

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

All orders must be placed by 01/04/23:

To place an order, please visit the following website: <https://shop.fizz-group.co.uk/>

Our School Unique ID is: 27474YR1

Would you like to volunteer at a World Class Event?

British Triathlon are looking for volunteer 'Tri Makers' to volunteer at this summer's World Triathlon Championship Series Sunderland 2023 (29th and 30th July, Roker). The World Triathlon Championship Series will be held for the first time in Sunderland on 29-30 July 2023 when the world's best triathletes will compete along the Sunderland seafront starting from the spectacular Roker Beach. Alongside the elite athletes, there will also be swim, bike, run events for participants of all levels and experiences. You can help to make World Triathlon Championship Series Sunderland happen by applying to volunteer to be a Tri Maker at the 2023 event.

We have a variety of volunteer opportunities (please see the list of roles below and attached posters and information). We encourage you to get involved whether you are a triathlon enthusiast or completely new to the sport. We will have roles available from Friday 28 July for event preparation and throughout the event weekend 29-30 July.

By being a Tri Maker, you can contribute to the success of one of Britain's most prestigious triathlon events and experience an event like you've never experienced before by volunteering to be part of an exciting weekend of swim, bike, run. For more information or queries please contact: trimakers@britishtriathlon.org.

[Volunteer - 2023 World Triathlon Championship Series Sunderland](#)



 World Triathlon
Championship Series
SUNDERLAND
2023

**29-30
JULY 2023**

VOLUNTEER - BE A TRI MAKER

- Be part of a world class sporting event
- Gain valuable experience
- Help to promote Sunderland
- Volunteer as part of a great team

REGISTER NOW AT
bit.ly/Sunderland2023



Are you interested in our vacancies?

Thornhill Academy – Invigilators Required

Are you (or someone you know) at university or retired and would be interested in becoming one of our diligent exam invigilators?

You must be available between Monday 15th May until Wednesday 28th June 2023.



Please contact Thornhill Academy for more details on **0191 500 7981** or email thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Little Treasures

"As recommended by our parent SEND event, Little Treasures hold a number of sessions across Durham for young people who are ASD and their families. These aren't postcode restricted so any family can turn up.

Little Treasures also hold social inclusion activities during half terms such as farm visits, bowling, quad biking etc. They have in house activities within group sessions such as sand art, donkey therapy etc.

Please contact Little Treasures for more information"





£5 for one child £7 for family
of more than one child.
2nd and 4th sat every month.
11-1.30pm

Lumley sensory session

Venue: Great Lumley community centre, Front street, Great Lumley, dh34jd.

This group is for AUTISTIC young people aged 2-16 and their siblings.

We have play equipment, specialist sensory equipment, tents, juice, cakes and tea.

These sessions are run by parents of autistic young people, they are safe environments for the young people to truly be themselves with no judgment from others while parents get peer support.

SIBLINGS WELCOME AND PARENTS MUST STAY!

We hold various activities through the year for children to access, such as, relaxed kids, pet therapy, Christmas parties and much more!

We also offer level two government funded courses on and around autism for parents, we have various workshops for parents such as, sex education for children with autism, sensory workshops, anxiety courses and Makaton. For more details email littletreasures18@gmail.com



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.littletreasuresautism.co.uk





£4 per person, tots and children welcome if needed.

3rd Monday every month

10.30-12

Belmont Parent Support Sessions

Venue: Belmont community centre, Durham, dh12ll

Sessions for parent/carers of **AUTISTIC people of any age.**

It's nice to have a safe space to chat with people who understand, gives you an opportunity to make new friends and to find out what you can do as a parent/carer from others to help you in your caring role.

There's no pressure to chat, we have some parents who come and just listen to others and that's fine, you can input as much or as little as you like.



We also get speakers in to discuss what their organisation does and how they can help you.

Most important information is there will be tea, coffee, and cakes.

For more details, please email littletreasures18@gmail.com



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£4 per person, tots and children welcome if needed.

2nd wed every month

10.30-11.30

Peterlee parent Support Sessions

Venue: The guide hall O'Neil drive, Peterlee, SR85UD

Sessions for parent/carers of **AUTISTIC people of any age.**

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Information from Sunderland Council

Easter Holiday Activity and Food Programme

Our Sunderland Easter Holiday Activity Programme will run during the Easter Holidays from Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April (excluding weekends and back holidays). All activities will be live on our website from Monday 13 March 2023.

<https://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/HAF>

Standards & Expectations - Uniform

As we have approached the start of the new term, we would like to ensure that we have the highest possible standards and expectations for all our young people. You should have received a letter, outlining the standards and expectations we expect from each student. Whilst the large majority of students wear their uniform with pride and attend school in the correct uniform, standards are not where we want them to be.



Thornhill Academy Uniform



Thornhill Academy Uniform:

What you need:

- Black embroidered blazer
- White shirt with a collar
- Maroon and silver striped tie
- Black V Neck Jumper (optional) no sweatshirt
- Black Charleston style skirt
- Black trousers (no jeans or leggings)
- Black school shoes (no trainers)
- Dark coloured waterproof coat



You will need a bag and a pen, pencil and ruler.

Thornhill Academy Uniform

- No excessive or heavy make-up
- Short, neutral-coloured nails only
- Baseball caps are banned, and other hats/hoods must not be worn inside the buildings
- No jewellery except a single pair of stud earrings and a watch
- No extreme haircuts, lines, or shading
- Mobile phones are not permitted and will be confiscated if seen or heard
- No smart watches

MAIN ACADEMY UNIFORM

Black blazer embroidered, replacement of blazer with an alternative jacket, hoody or tracksuit top is not allowed.

Formal white school shirt - to be tucked in, this is not a polo shirt.

School maroon and silver striped clip-on tie, this must be worn at all times.

Black V Neck Jumper (ONLY), round neck sweatshirts are not an alternative, wearing a jumper does not replace the wearing of a blazer.

Black school shoes – Leather type, footwear must be 100% black with no logos. No trainers or canvas material.

Dark coloured waterproof coat (ONLY), no hoodies, tracksuit tops, sweatshirts, denim jackets. to be worn under the blazer, or to be worn inside of the building.

Black tights or black/white socks, no patterned tights.

Formal black trousers or black charleston skirt, skirts must be a black charleston style skirt with a flat upper section and pleated lower section. Short 'tube' type designs are not acceptable. Trousers must not be denim, jeans, or jean style, no leggings are allowed.

Non-uniform items will be confiscated.

Important information to also note:

No excessive or heavy make-up, short, neutral-coloured nails only. Baseball caps are banned, and other hats/hoods must not be worn inside the buildings. Jewellery which can be worn, are a single pair of stud earrings and a wristwatch. No extreme haircuts, lines, or shading. Mobile phones are not permitted and will be confiscated if seen or heard.

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

Ms Luke

Spotlight on Safeguarding

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/>

School Nurse Drop ins - At Thornhill the wrap around and wider care of our pupils is paramount to ensuring they feel fully supported. We have moved our School Nursing drop-in sessions from the LRC, to our new Safeguarding and Wellbeing area of the school (Students would know this as where learning support used to be). The school nurses will be in school every Wednesday Lunch time and will discuss any health-related issues with students and sign post them to appropriate support. Students can gain further information from Miss L

Trips and Visits

Coates.

We are planning an end of year school trip to Flamingo Land on Monday 17th July. In order to establish the cost and travel arrangements, we are asking all parents to complete an expression of interest form which has been pinned in Class Charts announcements. Please can this be completed at your earliest convenience.



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.

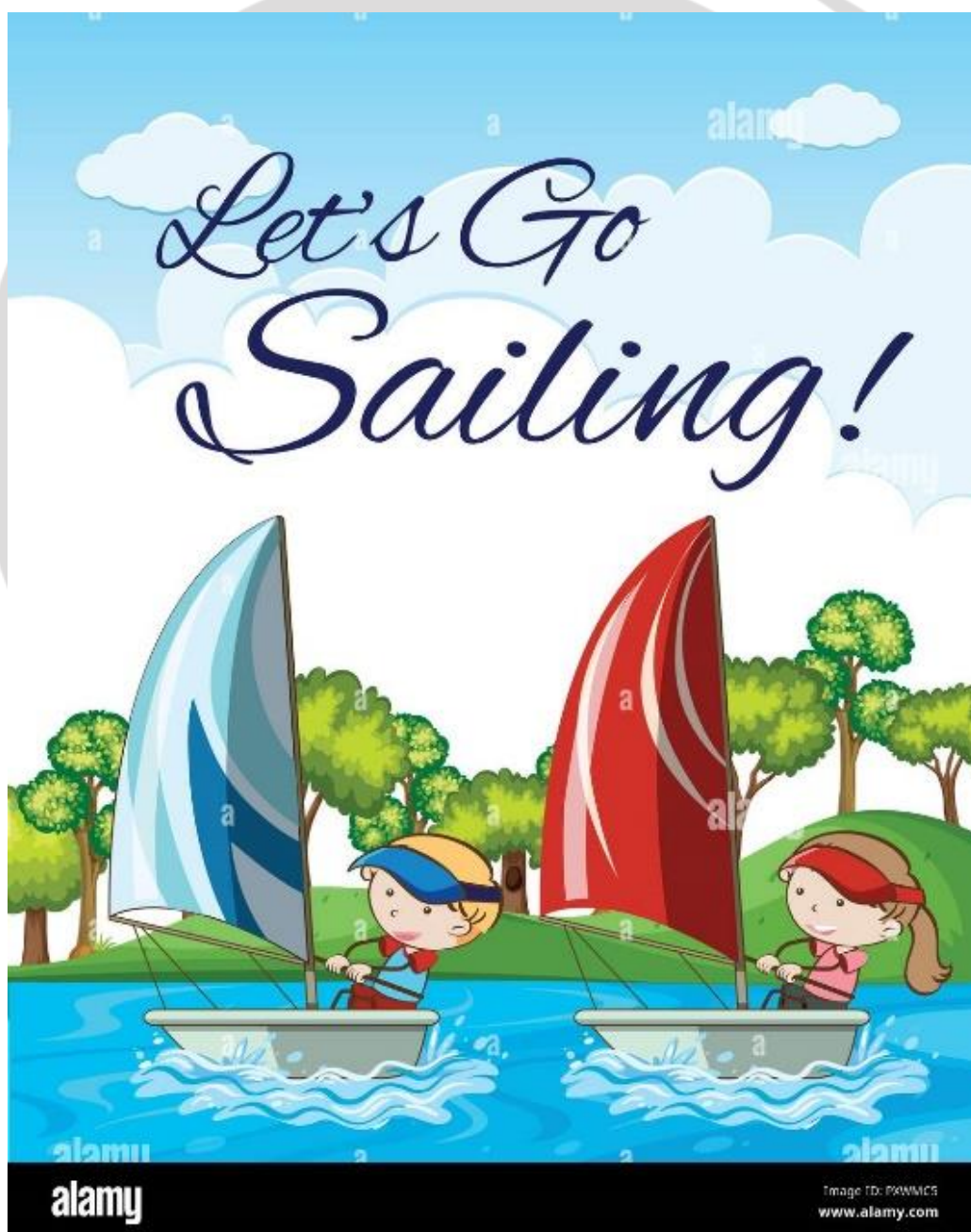


KS3 – Don't forget about the amazing opportunity to visit France next year. Register your interest with Miss Harris or Mrs Todd.

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.



Attendance



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](#)

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

