



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

As we move every bit closer to GCSE exams for year 11, I would like to praise our students for their positive response to all the extra intervention and revision sessions that are being made available for them. I would also like to thank the staff for all the additional hours of planning and teaching they are doing. These include the additional period 6 sessions at the end of the day, twilight online sessions from 5.30-7.30pm and Saturday schools. Keep up the efforts year 11, we are very proud of the mature and focussed way you are approaching this really important time.

In the midst of all this, two of our year 11 students Poppy and Amy last night presented at the Teach First STEM conference. This is no small achievement - well done girls!

Performance through Drama and Music are a very important part of our school. On Tuesday evening, Summer in year 9 represented the Academy at the Search for a Star, City Final. It's fantastic to see our young people showcasing their talents.

This week we learned that our school will be strengthening its ties with the Sunderland Empire. This will provide many opportunities for our young people in the coming year, many of them coming at no additional cost to families or the school. We are really grateful to the Sunderland Empire for this opportunity to work so closely in partnership with them.

School will be closed on Monday 1st May for the May Day Bank Holiday. Thornhill Academy is not impacted by the strike action by NEU on Tuesday 2nd May and will be fully open on that Tuesday.

Sue Hamilton



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

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thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Important Parent Reminders

Thornhill Academy want to make communication with you easy and ensure that you never miss an important message about your child's education.

There are some easy steps that you can follow to help us achieve this:

- Ensure that we have up to date contact details for you and all emergency contacts.
- Sign up for the school Parent App – if you have not registered yet and need an activation code, please contact the main school office, and then simply download the free SIMS Parent App through Apple store or Google Play store.
- Log into Class Charts to follow your child's progress, view timetables, review behaviour and communicate with school staff.
- Use ParentPay as a way of adding funds to your child's lunch account, pay for school events and trips, etc. This is the safest and quickest way to make payment to the school and helps us move towards our goal of being a totally cashless site.
- Log into the website frequently to see the latest news from [Thornhill Academy](#)
- Follow the website link to add your details to the Free School Meals portal. Even if you are not currently entitled by registering with the portal we will automatically be notified if due to a change in your circumstances your child becomes entitled to Free School Meals [Free School Meals portal](#)

If you have any questions about accessing these services, please contact the main school office who will be more than happy to help you set up the communication channels.

We are committed to keeping you informed of all aspects of your child's education – please sign up to enable us to achieve this.

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:

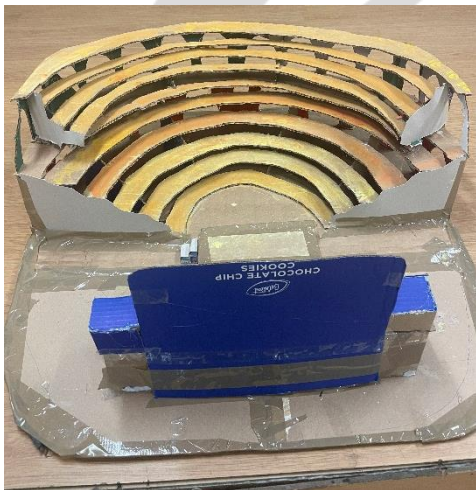
[*View Parents Letters*](#)

Spotlight on Curriculum

Y7 Homework Competition

Over the past two weeks, Y7 have been learning all about the origins of drama and Ancient Greek Theatre. As part of their homework, they have been given the task to create their own Amphitheatre in any way they like. There have been some fantastic entries so far, which had to be shared! Miss O'Neill looks forward to looking at all their work over the next few weeks and share the winner with you all.

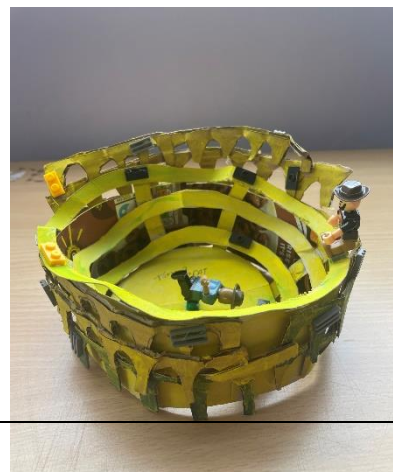
Jaber



Bianca-loana



Tathya



Speak up Update – Music and Drama

A lot has happened since our last Speak Up update! 7AL1 have had the opportunity to work with an animation artist and most recently Dom, a local rap artist. For those who are unfamiliar with Speak Up, it is a nationwide project for schools, which will see young people working in co-creation with local artists and teachers to lead creative projects in response to issues that are most important to them. Below you can read the poem that 7AL1 have written with Michael in our latest sessions together. We are excited to say that he will be coming back, to work with this class more.

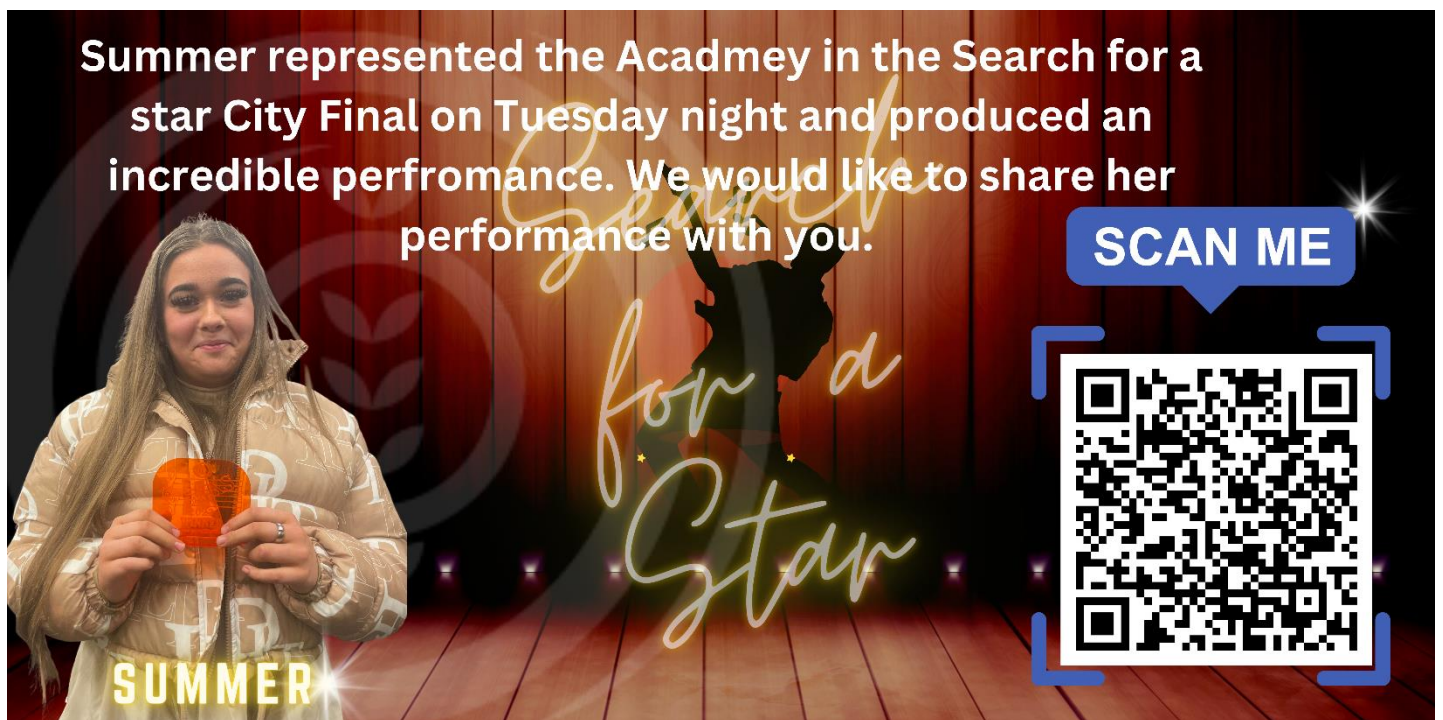
Thornhill Academy Speak Up – Family Poem

Family is home –
A safe space with a mix of golden rainbows,
Blue heaven and pink paradise.
Family is a Nando's platter, KFC bucket-meal
A shared pot of curry and rice.
Family is sweet like ice cream, cotton candy,
Double mint and cool perfume.
Family is celebrating birthdays, taking holidays
Sunset beaches, soaking up views.
Family is Bangladesh, West and South Africa
Over oceans to Sunderland's Wear.
Family is the heart, nose, eyes, and throat,
is always everything, I hold dear.

School News

Search for a Star

Summer represented the Academy in the Search for a star City Final on Tuesday night and produced an incredible performance. We would like to share her performance with you.



SCAN ME

SUMMER

Work Experience

Just a reminder for all year 10 students to ensure they are organized, with a workplace experience by 19th May.

Students can either:

Organise their own placement by approaching a company and completing our online form (link below) with the company's details. Our vetting service will then do the rest!

Sign up for a virtual workplace experience via Springpod. We advise that all students make an account and browse opportunities available to them.

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

Either way, all students must have completed the online form indicating their chosen workplace experience by 19th May, or a virtual placement will be allocated to them.

<https://forms.office.com/e/sBK0duFF7n>



Student Council

Our student council met last term to discuss 2 key areas of importance to the student body. These were The Spirit of Thornhill and Extracurricular Opportunities. Since then, head students have met with the Senior Leadership Team to share their proposals for improvement. Below is a summary of their discussions and agreed next steps.

What we discussed	What ideas we explored	Our first next steps
The Spirit of Thornhill	Ways to celebrate our diversity. Ways to create more competition and events the whole school can get behind. Ways to build the reputation of Thornhill in the community.	To organise a Culture week in July for all students. Head students to meet with Heads of Departments next week.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities	How to broaden the options available to us. How to ensure the opportunities are more consistently available. How to get student leaders and older students involved in running activities.	Head students to issue a survey to all students and staff.
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We are very excited about creating a Culture Week in the summer term and if any parents would like to be involved or suggest ideas for how we might celebrate this please contact Mrs Crooks at cherry.crooks@consilium-at.com



Over this half term, we will be recruiting more students to become involved in our council. This will start with appointing our new Head Students from year 10, who will take over after May half term, as our current year 11's move on and hand over responsibility. As democracy is one of our fundamental British Values, we will be holding a whole school election to vote in new members of our school council, who will represent our school student community and voice. We have so many students who we encourage to take part in this opportunity to be more involved. If students wish to be involved, support and guidance is available on Class Charts.

Careers Opportunities

Each Tuesday we aim to have local colleges, schools and training providers attending students of all year groups to drop in to find out more about future pathways. Below is an overview of the dates for the remainder of this term. More to come in June and July!

2nd May- Gateshead College
16th May- Newcastle College
23rd May- Sunderland Collage

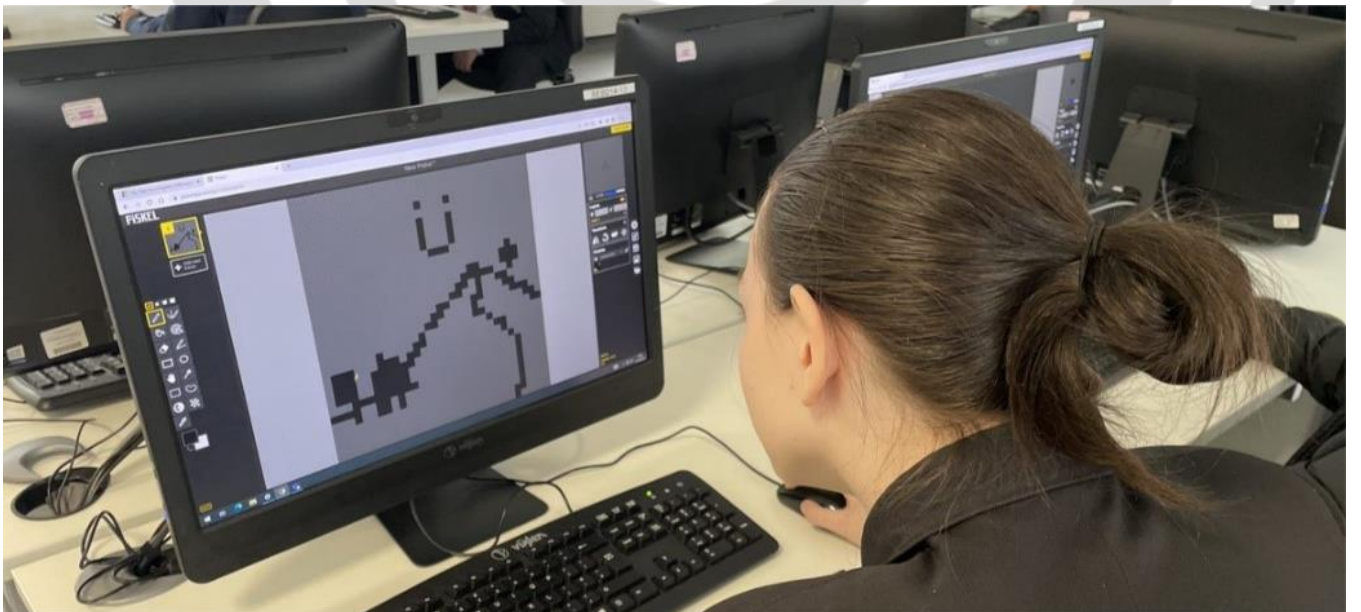
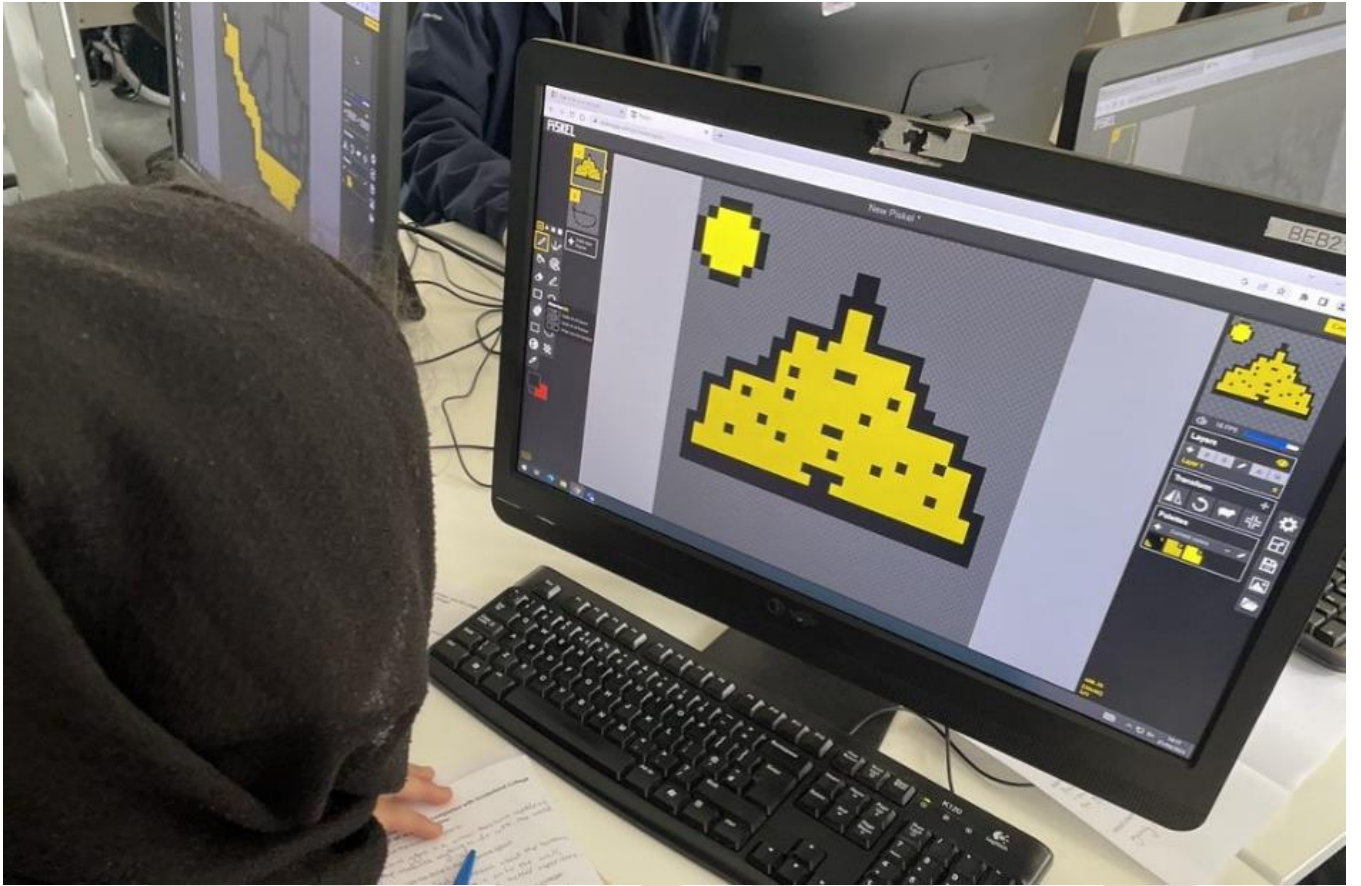
Digital Careers Event

On Friday, 20 students attended a Digital Careers Event with Software City at Bede College. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of the variety of exciting opportunities and job roles in the growing Digital and STEM Industries and raise aspirations and engagement with young people.

During the session, students had taster sessions from the college, including their 360° immersive igloo, a tour of the college, as well as input from local businesses attending. We were very impressed with the animations they created.

Students were a credit to the Academy and have also entered a competition to win a prize so we will keep our fingers crossed for a Thornhill winner!







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 Coates.

Trips and Visits

Wicked

The music department are pleased to announce that they have secured excellent stall tickets for Wicked on Wednesday, 2nd October 2024. This matinee performance, due to the date, is only available for Y7 Y8 and Y9. The option to pay for tickets on ParentPay will be open shortly.



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.

MUSIC AND HISTORY

Instalments 1:
£10.00 28/02/2023

Instalments 2:
£20.00 31/03/2023

Instalments 3:
£15.00 30/04/2023

Instalments 4:
£15.00 31/05/2023



UPDATE

We are excited for our Liverpool trip and plans are taking shape. We have booked TGI Friday for food before we return to Sunderland. A letter with itinerary, menu choice and further details will be released shortly. Please contact mark.leadbeater@consilium-at.com if you have any queries regarding the trip.

LIVERPOOL

JUNE 29th 2023

TGI FRIDAYS

Flamingo Land Trip

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.



Assemblies

This week our assemblies were led by Andy from Youth for Christ. Andy and his team are regular visitors to Thornhill, and they always engage and entertain the students, whilst sharing important moral and spiritual messages. This week's theme was 'Good News' and reflecting on how we should not only share good news but go out of our way to create good news to be caring, compassionate and good citizens in our community.

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 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

