



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

This week I received a lovely letter from an ex-student of Thornhill. It contained a photocopy of a picture when he was at the school, sometime between 1946 to 1948, when he was somewhere between the age of 4 and 6 years old. On the picture, he is sat two down and one along to the right of the teacher, who is wearing glasses. It was so lovely to be sent this. At the time, the school was called Thornhill Grammar School. We would love to start a school alumni, where ex-students can share their photos, memories and even experiences with our current students. If you are, or know ex-students, please encourage them to contact school, we are always really interested to know what you, or they have gone on to do.



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

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This week saw our year 11 students receive their leavers hoodies. The Thornhill tradition is that these hoodies are maroon and can be worn by students in place of their blazer. It's nice to see them wearing them with pride around the school site, though it does remind us of how close we are to the final exams. Keep up the effort year 11, we are really proud of you!



Next week, 11 year 9 students will step right out of their comfort zone and head to sea with OYT north using their 70-foot, 54 tonne James Cooke vessel. They set sail on Monday from Royal Quays Marina and from there, travel up and down the North Coast. They will use the weather forecast and tides to determine their travel, using the navigations and maps available to them. Throughout the full voyage they will be steering and sailing the boat, cooking, and cleaning up themselves too! We hope they have good weather so they can visit some secluded beaches and enjoy a fresh swim in the North Sea! The full voyage is trackable using the navigation on the boat, so we and their parents can keep a watchful eye on their maiden voyage! I am sure you will agree that this is an amazing opportunity for them. I am sure we will all be keen to hear how they got on.

Following two bank holiday weekends, we return to a normal five-day week for the last two weeks of this half term. Just so you have advanced notice, school will close on May 26th at 2.45pm for the half term holiday and reopen on Monday 5th June for the last half term before the summer – this year seems to be passing by very quickly!

Sue Hamilton

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. We would like to thank the parents/carers who have already signed up and encourage anyone who has not done this yet, to do so.

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*](#)

School News

Sunningdale sports day

Due to the excellent support our year 9 pupils displayed last year, we have, once again, been invited to support with the sports day at Sunningdale school. Thornhill pupils help to lead on the various activities throughout the day, support with 1-1, help completing activities, and socialise with the pupils throughout the day. Last year was a great success and all pupils gained valuable experience, leading and supporting pupils with additional needs. We can't wait to visit Sunningdale's new school this year!



RAF visit

On Thursday 6th July, we have a very special day planned with a visit from the RAF! This is something very unique to our school. The instructors will deliver a 2-hour session on a range of activities, practical leadership tasks, STEM, physical training, and a presentation from the Royal Navy. Keep a look out for an expression of interest form in order to register!

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 (linked 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>

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!

16th May- Newcastle College
23rd May- Sunderland Collage



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. Head students to issue a survey to all students and staff.
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.	

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.

PE After school club

The PE Departments new after school timetable for this term. No experience needed, just come along after school, and try some new sports, or develop those existing skills from your PE lessons. Everyone welcome.

Thornhill PE Department				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
Week 1 Netball Mrs Corrigan Sports Hall	Week 1 Football Mr Hayley/Coach Football Field	Week 1 Tennis Tennis Courts	Week 1 Football Mr Hayley/Coach Football Field	Week 1 Fitness/Metafit Mrs Corrigan Fitness Suite
Week 2 Swimming Mrs Corrigan Swimming Pool	Week 2 Football Mr Hayley/Coach Football field	Week 2 Tennis Club Tennis Courts	Week 2 Football Mr Hayley/Coach Football field	Week 2 Fitness/Metafit Mrs Corrigan Fitness Suite

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

Geography Trip



HILL WALKING AND
ORIENTEERING

CANOEING

ROPE COURSES

The 5-day course will allow pupils to improve their self-awareness, ability to work with others and as part of a team to solve problems and increase their enjoyment of learning. Pupils will be able to do this through a range of activities



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**More Information
see Miss Crossley**

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 WW1 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.

More details to follow soon.

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.



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.



Assemblies

Assemblies this week have focused on the important trait of confidence. The presentation explored how we see ourselves, and others, and things we can do to develop our self-belief and confidence in different aspects of our lives.

Our year 11 assembly focused on our preparation for the formal start of GCSE exams next week and the importance of being organised, being onside and being prepared.

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