



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

Week 2 of the full GCSE series, and it is wonderful to see our students continue to give their all in these really important exams.

It's also lovely to see how well they support one another. The weeks half term will enable them to recharge their batteries, ahead of the final two and a half weeks of exams after half term.

For the rest of the school, normal life continues, and is as busy as ever.

This week, interviews have been a major focus for us. I am extremely happy to report that we have appointed all posts we advertised for and have some excellent staff joining our already strong team in September.

In addition to staff appointments, Mrs Crooks and I had the absolute privilege of interviewing and appointing our senior students, Alexia B, Ismael A, Rejjat H, Naail J, Thakiya I, Matthew J and Catherine P for the coming year.

Sue Hamilton



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

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Important Parent Information

RECEIVE £40 TO TAKE PART IN RESEARCH

Please can you help? Sunderland City Council are working with Social Marketing Gateway (SMG), an independent research company, to explore how local parents/carers feel about HPV vaccination for their children aged 13 – 18 years old (school Year 8 and above).

SMG are conducting interviews with parents/carers of children who have **not** received their HPV vaccine. This research is being done over the phone or online using Zoom or Microsoft Teams and will take around 60 minutes. **Parents will receive £40 to thank them for taking part.**

If your child has **not** received the HPV vaccination and you are interested in taking part, please fill out the sign-up sheet linked below, or contact Megan at SMG (megan@smgateway.co.uk)

SIGN UP SHEET: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SunderlandHPV/>

All the answers given by parents will be kept by SMG in the strictest confidence and findings are completely anonymous – no individuals will be identifiable. SMG abide by the Market Research Code of Conduct and GDPR so the information provided will only be used for the purposes of this project.

Thank you for your help. It's very much appreciated.

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 man 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

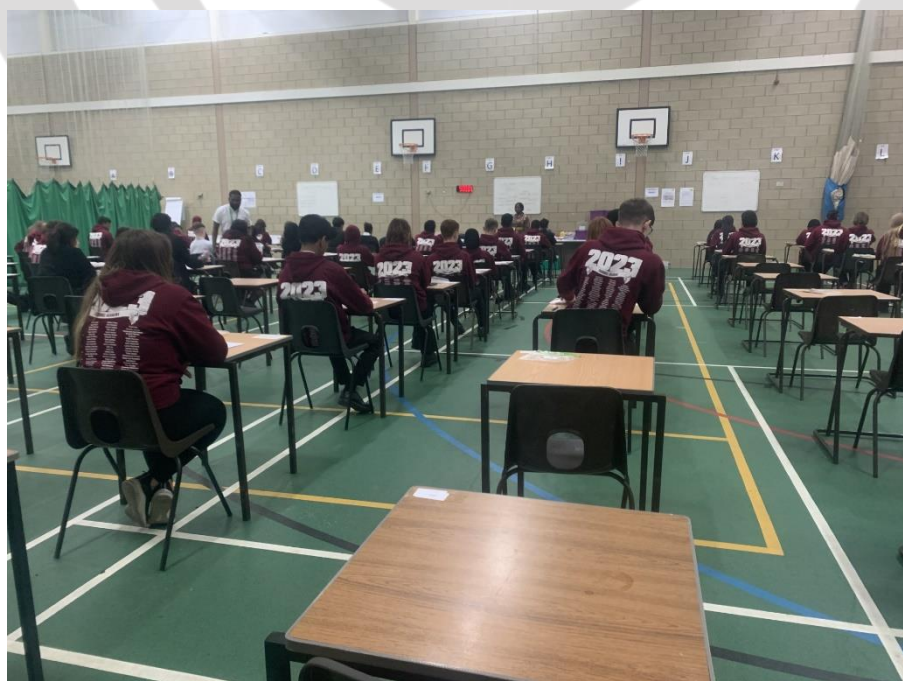
Exams

Year 11 Exams

The exam season continues to go well, and students are focused, and taking all opportunities to prioritise revision and get that extra support.

Students are engaging with structured revision online, with teachers via zoom in an evening, and in school from 8am, getting that last minute exam boost in the mornings. We could not be prouder of their attitude and commitment. We break for half term today, but exam support continues over the holidays, as will students' independent revision. It is important that year 11's take time for themselves and their family at this time too.

On the first day back, students have their first English language exam in the morning, followed by French and Bengali languages exam in the afternoon. Well done year 11, be proud of all your hard work and effort so far!



Careers

Apprenticeships

For year 11 looking for apprenticeship opportunities in September below is a link to the latest vacancies via our website. This displays local vacancies at intermediate level (level 2/ GCSE equivalent) and Advanced Level (Level 3/ A level equivalent).

To support year 11 there will be an expert from Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge in schools and colleges (ASK) in school on the afternoon of the 6th June to run a workshop with students. The workshop will share how to register and apply for apprenticeships as well as preparing for the recruitment process once an application has been made. Students should look over this list in advance to consider if there is a current vacancy they would like to apply for.

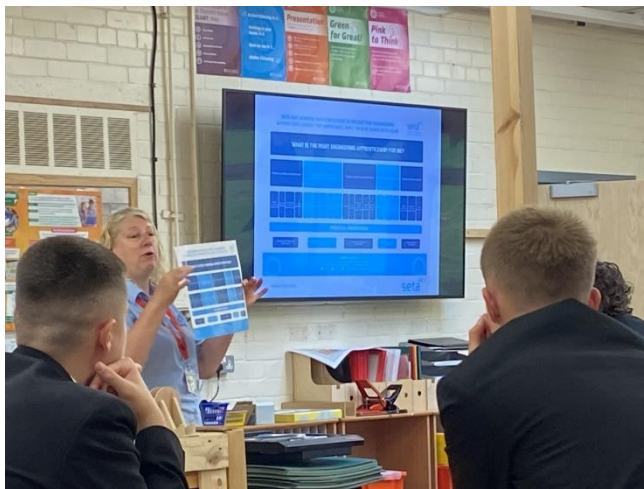
<https://www.thornhillschool.org.uk/page/?title=Local+Apprenticeships&pid=126>



Apprenticeships

Year 10 Apprentice visit from SETA

On Thursday, year 10 Engineering had a visit from SETA, a local training provider, to show them the next steps after school life, and the different pathways available to them. This was an amazing opportunity for the pupils to get a glimpse to what is on offer out there in the world of work in Engineering. As well as finding out about a multitude of jobs and companies in the Northeast which offer apprenticeships. They were given key information that they need to achieve in school, through their individual exam results, to be able to fulfil the numerous jobs out there. This will prepare them well for applying in year 11. SETA were very clear about the importance of high attendance to school and working hard to gain the best exam grades they can, which shows a good work ethic. These are the key things their future employers are looking for and what our pupils are well capable of achieving. We are looking forward to more visits and trips to find out even more about the Engineering opportunities out there.



Year 10 Careers Interviews

All students are entitled to independent careers advice before they leave school. This will begin in year 10 and follow into year 11. Next half term, we will begin to allocate students an appointment to attend during the school day. They will get a chance to discuss their career and future ambitions, and gain guidance to support their next steps. An action plan will be devised and shared with the student too.

Year 10 Taster Sessions

We are pleased to announce that we are setting up a Taster Day for our current Year 10 to spend the day at Sunderland College and experience some of the courses they have on offer. This will take place on Wednesday 21st June.

Students need to access this link:

<https://sunderlandcollege.ac.uk/.../year-10-taster-sessions/>

in order to choose which venue and which courses they would like to participate in. Students will walk to the college with staff and be dismissed from their chosen venue at the end of the day.

If students do not make a choice, a place will be allocated for them onto any courses left available.

Work Experience

The deadline for organising work experience for year 10 has now passed. All student must be signed up to Springpod and if a face to face placement has not been arranged then a virtual session is required. Students have had the opportunity to drop in to support sessions all week to help with any organisation. **Any student who has not completed the form (below) indicating their work experience, either virtual or face to face, by the 5th of June will be allocated a virtual session by the school.**

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



For more information on virtual work experience for students there is a parent event available through 'Speakers for Schools' for any parent or carer who would like to find out more about the wide range of opportunities available all year around. This takes place on 7th June at 18:30- 19:30 and you can sign up via the link below. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-hybrid-work-experience-session-for-parentscarers-of-14-19yr-olds-tickets-622448218377>

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!



STUDENT COUNCIL

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

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

Boat trip

Please find the link to our Y9 boat trip from last week, all pupils were a credit to the Academy.

<https://sway.office.com/T9CC5zSeORRk8DLt?ref=Link>

Geography Trip



The poster features a central image of a person canoeing on a lake with mountains in the background. Below this are three circular inset images: a group of people on a hillside, two people in red gear in a canoe, and two people on a rope course. At the bottom, there is a description of the 5-day course and the Thornhill Academy logo.

Derwent Hill 2024

15TH - 19TH JULY 2024

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

 Thornhill Academy
Enrichment, Inspiring Ambition

**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.



Attendance

Year 11 Attendance

Year 11 exams are well underway, and it has been fantastic to see so many of our young people engaging in the additional revision and booster sessions. Whilst the exam season has started, there are still courses where students have not finished their coursework. It is essential that Year 11 students are in school each day, to ensure that they get the opportunity to complete all their work to the best possible standard. In lesson time, staff are able to share their expertise, and guide student's revision in the lead up to the exams. The best place year 11 can be, at the moment, is in school.

Assemblies

On the 13th June year 10 will have an assembly talk from Southmoor 6th form about their post 16 options. From this, interested students will be able to sign up to a taster afternoon on the 12th July.

Standards and Expectations

School Bag and Equipment

At Thornhill Academy we have high expectations of our students, and we expect students to be 'Ready To Learn' when they arrive in school. With this in mind, the uniform policy will change in September 2023 to include a school bag and correct equipment as compulsory items.

The following items must be carried by each student, each day:

- Black Rucksack or Black Tote style bag (Must be large enough for an A4 file)
- Pencil case
- 2 black pens
- 1 green pen
- 2 pencils
- 1 Ruler

To help to support parents a pencil case including the correct equipment can be purchased from school at a budget price. These items will be payable via Parent Pay.

School Bag:

The following bags are examples of what is appropriate.



As we approach half term, we would like to ensure that we maintain the highest possible standards and expectations for all of our young people. Whilst the large majority of students wear their uniform with pride and attend school in the correct school uniform each day, we would like to outline our expectations so that is clear for all parents/carers.

MAIN ACADEMY UNIFORM	
Guidance	
Black Blazer embroidered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of the blazer with an alternative jacket, hoody or tracksuit top is not allowed.
Formal white school shirt - to be tucked in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is not a polo shirt.
School maroon and silver striped clip-on tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tie must be worn at all times.
Black V Neck Jumper (ONLY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round neck sweatshirts are not an alternative. The wearing of the jumper does not replace the wearing of the blazer.
Black school shoes – Leather type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footwear must be 100% black with no logos. No trainers or canvas material.
Dark coloured Waterproof Coat (ONLY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No hoodies, tracksuit tops, sweatshirts, denim jackets. Not to be worn under the blazer. Not to be worn inside of the building. Non-uniform items will be confiscated.
Black Tights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No patterned tights.
Formal Black Trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Important information to also note:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, is a single pair of stud earrings and a wristwatch. This will be confiscated if worn. 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.

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](#)

Get in touch

Parent Information

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