



Thornhill  
Academy  
*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

# Parental Newsletter

## Message from Head Teacher

On Wednesday we welcomed our new year 7 pupils who start with us in September with their parents and carers to our transition evening. It was lovely to welcome new members of our Thornhill family who are at the start of their journey with us.

As is always the way in schools, as we prepare to welcome a new group of students, we prepare for another group to leave. Yesterday we said goodbye to our wonderful year 11 students in their final celebration assembly. This was such a wonderful event, with lots of smiles, laughter, and tears.

Our head students prepared a speech for this occasion, which I want to share with you. Schools are about relationships and the impact we have on the young people we serve. I feel this says it all!

Sue Hamilton

### Head Student's Speech

Fellow students and teachers.

As we stand before you today, preparing to leave the school for the last time, we share a moment of melancholy and excitedness. We bid farewell to the familiar walls of Thornhill to venture on to our next steps.

Firstly, we would like to pay tribute to the staff who have nurtured us, guided us, and have left us with memories, with deep gratitude for their unwavering support throughout our 5 years here at Thornhill.

To Mrs Hamilton, we want to take a moment to express gratitude for your dedication to our school. You have created an environment where we have felt valued and respected which has left an incredible mark on us all.

To Ms Luke who has been with us on this entire journey – you have instilled in us a sense of self-belief and confidence, when we did not often see that for ourselves.

To Miss Mills, your approachability and willingness to listen has created a space safe in which we sought your advice and shared our concerns. We are immensely grateful for the hours you have invested in shaping us beyond the classroom, into well-rounded individuals.

To the rest of the Heads of Years, you have guided us through a massive change in our school careers and done it all with a smile on your face, even when times were tough.



Proud to be part of  
**Consilium**  
Academies

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To our form tutors, thank you for putting up with us each morning. We aren't often the happiest and enthusiastic bunch before 9am and yet every morning, we start our day with someone who cares, someone who was always willing to listen.

To our teachers, our learning has been impacted profoundly and our academic growth supported by you all every step of the way. Your expertise and willingness to go the extra mile have helped us overcome any challenge in the classroom. Your belief in our abilities have pushed us and empowered us to achieve beyond our expectations. We will carry the lessons learned and memories made with us into our next chapter of education and through the rest of our lives.

This milestone signifies the closing of a chapter in our lives, a chapter filled with growth, challenges, and knowledge. We have witnessed friendships blossoming, have overcome obstacles together and embarked on the often-challenging journey of self-discovery. Every classroom, corridor and yard, our conversations at break and lunch, have shaped us into the individuals we are today.

As we gather here today, ready to take our first steps beyond the school walls, you might feel nostalgia creeping in, tears welling up in your eyes. We will miss the sense of community and sense of belonging that Thornhill has provided us with, however, we will take our community with us within a special place in our heart wherever we venture next.

Amidst these emotions, there is a spark of excitement for the adventures that come next. Life is filled with endless opportunities and Thornhill has equipped us with the confidence to navigate this new path and face new challenges.

Today, fellow year 11 students, we say goodbye to our second home. Let us treasure the moment, this celebration of our achievements and carry the spirit of Thornhill with us wherever we go.

Thank you to our teachers, for always believing in us.

Farewell Thornhill, and hello to the exciting adventures await us all.

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:

[\*View Parents Letters\*](#)

# School News

Hayden has been a fantastic role model during his time as a Sport Leader. He has demonstrated great communication skills and taken a leadership role in many different sporting events. During his time at school he has assisted, organised, and lead inter form competitions, such as, dodgeball and school charity events. He has planned and delivered sports activities within the local community, as well as leading events for our primary schools including sports days and multi sports competitions. Hayden has represented Thornhill in several different competitions as a Sports Leader, such as, swimming and trampolining, where he received gold medals. He has developed effective communication skills and is able to motive others to share his passion for school life through PE and sport.

Hayden has had recent success in his new venture into Club Rowing. The rapid progress he is making has been celebrated by his club who have nominated him for the Junior Team GB trials. The dedication and commitment shown by Hayden (who has only been rowing since February) to rowing is a testament to his attitude and desire for success.



Video link to the race

<https://streamable.com/x7crb6>

## Culture Week



From the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, we are celebrating our Thornhill Culture Week. Our student council have discussed lots of ideas on how to share the 'spirit of Thornhill', and their favourite idea was to create a Culture Week. We have a vibrant and diverse mix of students from so many different cultures and countries, therefore it is important for us to celebrate and reflect on our own culture and identity, as well as others around us.

Throughout the week, learning in lessons will take a cultural slant, where students can enrich and broaden their learning in each subject area. There will be varied games, music and sports activities each lunchtime, and a tutor group competition. The restaurant will be celebrating too, with a different culture represented each day for students to try new food from around the world.

Students are most looking forward to our Cultural dress day on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June. This will be a non-uniform day for students to come in their 'cultural' clothes. We will be asking for a £1 donation from students coming to school in non-uniform.

THORNHILL ACADEMY MUSIC  
PRESENTS



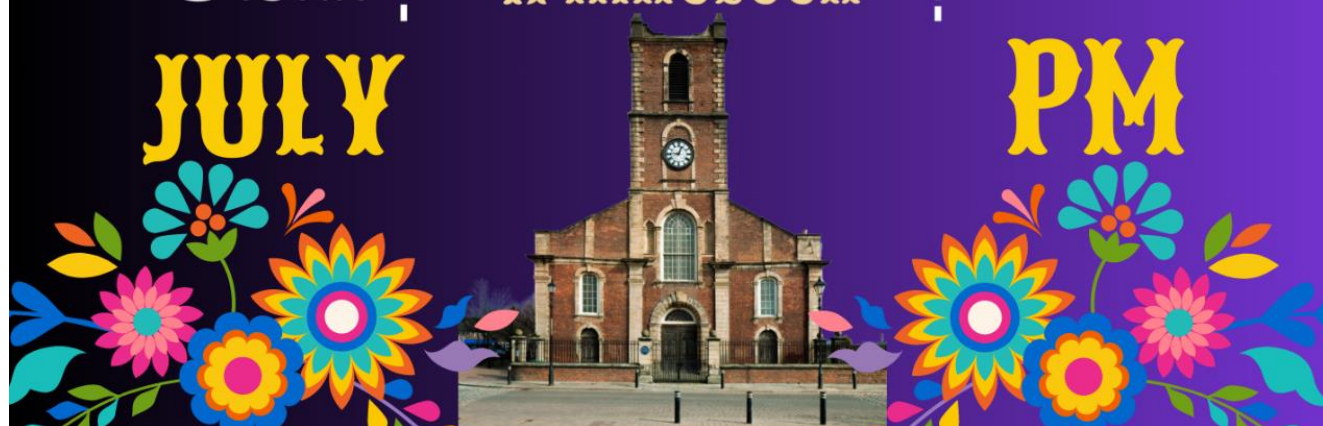
SUMMER

CONCERT

6th  
JULY

£2  
PARENTPAY  
17 Nineteen

6:00  
PM



## Lunchtime pop ups

Our lunchtime drop-ins continue, as post 16 providers pop up in our LRC each Tuesday lunchtime, for all year groups to pop in and find out more about their future pathways. This week SETA training, who support training and apprenticeships were in school, and below is an overview for this term:

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June - ASK and Newcastle UTC  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Sunderland College  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Newcastle

All students are welcome to drop into the library every Tuesday lunchtime, to talk to different colleges, schools, and training providers to find out more about their future options. Next week we invite Jodine from ASK to share information about apprentices, and Jen from Newcastle UTC for more vocational options.

## 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 (level2/ GCSE equivalent) and Advanced Level (Level 3/ A level equivalent).



# Apprenticeships

## Careers

**TRN Training Offer:** Year 11 students interested in construction, have had an opportunity to talk to Elaine from TRN, who has offered students the opportunity to take part in a summer construction course, to support their progression into the construction industry.



**Politics Talk:** On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July we have a Careers in Politics talk available for students to sign up to. This will share the range of jobs in politics beyond being an MP. To sign up please see Mrs Crooks.

### **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

**Consent slips must be returned no later than Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June.**

### **RAF Visit**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, we have a very special day planned with a visit from the RAF! This is something 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!

### **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
<i>After school</i>	<i>After school</i>	<i>After school</i>	<i>After school</i>	<i>After school</i>
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Netball</b> <i>Mrs Corrigan</i> <i>Sports Hall</i>	<b>Week 1</b> <b>Football</b> <i>Mr Haley/Coach</i> <i>Football Field</i>	<b>Week 1</b> <b>Tennis</b> <i>Tennis Courts</i>	<b>Week 1</b> <b>Football</b> <i>Mr Haley/Coach</i> <i>Football Field</i>	<b>Week 1</b> <b>Fitness/Metafit</b> <i>Mrs Corrigan</i> <i>Fitness Suite</i>
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Swimming</b> <i>Mrs Corrigan</i> <i>Swimming Pool</i>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Football</b> <i>Mr Haley/Coach</i> <i>Football Field</i>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Tennis</b> <i>Tennis Courts</i>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Football</b> <i>Mr Haley/Coach</i> <i>Football Field</i>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Fitness/Metafit</b> <i>Mrs Corrigan</i> <i>Fitness Suite</i>

## 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

## France Trip



**JOIN HISTORY AND FRENCH IN 2024  
PICK UP A LETTER FROM 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**

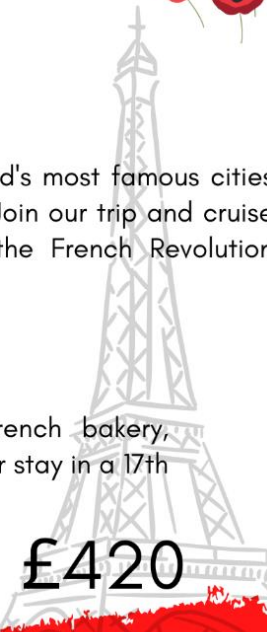
Enjoy a day trip to one of the world's most famous cities taking in all the sites and sounds. Join our trip and cruise on the Seine. Visit the sites of the French Revolution including the Bastille Prison



### **French experiences**

Including amazing visits to a French bakery, Market and a Snail Farm. Enjoy your stay in a 17th Century Chateau.

**Cost: £420**



Details of our existing trips can be found by clicking on the links below:

### **Geography Trip**

[Derwent Hill Trip details](#)

### **Liverpool Trip**

[Liverpool Trip details](#)

### **Flamingo Land Trip**

[Flamingo Land details](#)

### **Wicked**

[Wicked Theatre Trip details](#)

## **Assemblies**

Year 10 have had a great opportunity to hear about life at Sixth Form through their assembly this week. This was followed up with our lunchtime pop up with Southmoor Sixth Form. Year 10 students will also have the opportunity to sign up to attend the Sixth Form taster sessions in July. In addition, we had visitors from Springboard for students to find out more about vocational pathways available to them in the future.

## **Standards and Expectations**

### **E-Cigarettes and Vaping**

National and local intelligence indicates that the use of e-cigarettes/vapes amongst young people has been increasing. Vapes are not for children and young people. We don't know the long-term effects of vaping on our health yet – so they shouldn't use them. Nicotine containing vapes are age restricted and regulated by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). It is illegal to sell nicotine vaping products to anyone under 18 or for adults to buy them for those under 18 years old.

## Vaping - School

We are aware that there is an increase in the number of young people carrying or using vapes. It is illegal for a young person to be sold vapes and these items are therefore not permitted in school. We are aware that a number of students have brought vapes into school and as a result we have experienced disruption to the school day as vapes have activated the fire alarm. If we have suspect that a young person has been vaping on the school site or has a vape in their possession, then like other schools in the local area, we may use a metal detecting wand to identify these items and confiscate them. Alike other contraband items confiscated these items will remain at the main office for an adult to collect.

## 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"> <li>Replacement of the blazer with an alternative jacket, hoody or tracksuit top is not allowed.</li> </ul>
Formal white school shirt - to be tucked in		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is not a polo shirt.</li> </ul>
School maroon and silver striped clip-on tie		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tie must be worn at all times.</li> </ul>
Black V Neck Jumper (ONLY)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Round neck sweatshirts are not an alternative.</li> <li>The wearing of the jumper does not replace the wearing of the blazer.</li> </ul>
Black school shoes – Leather type		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Footwear must be 100% black with no logos.</li> <li>No trainers or canvas material.</li> </ul>
Dark coloured Waterproof Coat (ONLY)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No hoodies, tracksuit tops, sweatshirts, denim jackets.</li> <li>Not to be worn under the blazer.</li> <li>Not to be worn inside of the building.</li> <li><b>Non-uniform items will be confiscated.</b></li> </ul>
Black Tights	or Black/White Socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No patterned tights.</li> </ul>
Formal Black Trousers	or Black Charleston skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skirts must be a Black Charleston style skirt with a flat upper section and pleated lower section.</li> <li><b>Short 'tube' type designs are not acceptable.</b></li> <li>Trousers must not be denim, jeans, or jean style.</li> <li><b>No leggings are allowed.</b></li> </ul>
Important information to also note:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No excessive or heavy make-up.</li> <li><b>Short, neutral-coloured nails only.</b></li> <li>Baseball caps are banned, and other hats/hoods must not be worn inside the buildings.</li> <li><b>Jewellery which can be worn, is a single pair of stud earrings and a wristwatch. This will be confiscated if worn.</b></li> <li>No extreme haircuts, lines, or shading.</li> <li><b>Mobile phones are not permitted and will be confiscated if seen or heard.</b></li> </ul>

# Alumni Network

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

Thank you for the overwhelming support we always receive from parents. 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](mailto: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

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