



## Message from Head Teacher

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This week has been as action packed as the last few. On Monday, 270 students and staff boarded a fleet of buses and coaches for an action-packed trip to Flamingo Land, the first of its kind in the school life of our current students. This will no doubt be a calendared event here on in.

The students remaining in school had an extensive range of enrichment activities to choose from. I think it's fair to say that the staff were exhausted by the end of the day.

This week year 10 students embarked on the first work experience in many years at Thornhill. We are so proud of how well they have embraced this opportunity and all the great reports of their efforts and conduct.

On Wednesday, we had an ice cream van on site, and all students and staff enjoyed a bit of down time with a nice, sweet treat. Don't worry year 10, we won't be leaving you out, we have something planned for you at the start of next term.

As we close for the summer, we naturally start to prepare for the new school year in September.

I am looking forward to being able to give you more information with regards to our school rebuild, which, behind the scenes, is starting to gain momentum.

For now, though we wish all our students, parents and carers, a happy, but safe summer and we will look forward to the start of our next academic year, after a much-needed rest and recharge!

Take care and make lovely memories with family and friends.

Sue Hamilton

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:

*[View Parents Letters](#)*



# School News

## Letter from the Lord Mayor of Sunderland



Sue Hamilton  
Headteacher  
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Date: Wednesday 12 July 2023  
Our ref: DT/AC/MH  
Your ref: RemSreb23

**This matter is being dealt with by:**

(Mandy Howard, PA to The Mayor, [Mayor@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Mayor@sunderland.gov.uk), 07766 367 426)

Dear Ms Hamilton,

### **REMEMBERING SREBRENICA – TUESDAY 11 JULY 2023**

My name is Councillor Dorothy Trueman, Mayor of Sunderland.

On Tuesday 11 July, I hosted the city's Remembering Srebrenica Commemoration Service in Sunderland Minster to honour and remember the victims of the Bosnian Genocide that occurred between 1992-1995.

Over the past few months, my office has been liaising with one of your colleagues Mr Mark Leadbeater, who kindly agreed to pupils of the Thornhill Academy Choir to come along and sing during the service.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr Leadbeater for his hard work hosting practice sessions and preparing the pupils ahead of the service and ensuring everyone arrived at Sunderland Minster safely.

My thanks and gratitude to your students involved, their rendition of 'Somewhere only we know' was heart-warming and beautifully sang. I must also give a special thanks and congratulations to Caleb who so bravely performed solo, singing 'Shipyards' by local lad Martin Longstaff better known as 'The Lake Poets', he did a remarkable job.

Everyone in attendance at the service were praising your school choir including the Deputy-Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear, Mr Umesh Patel MBE, DL and the High-Sheriff for Tyne and Wear, Dame Irene Hays DBE, DL.

The talent your students displayed was second to none, they are exceptional individuals that Thornhill Academy can be proud of.

I would be most grateful if you could please convey my thanks to those involved and I do hope the Office of the Mayor have the opportunity of working with your school again in the future.

If there are any events your school host please feel free to invite the Mayor along, or if you have a school council that would like to visit the new City Hall for a tour by the Mayor etc, please do not hesitate to contact Mandy Howard in the Mayor's Office via email address [Mayor@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Mayor@sunderland.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely



Councillor Dorothy Trueman  
The Right Worshipful the Mayor of the City of Sunderland



Music supported the City's Remembering Srebrenica event on Tuesday evening. The Choir and Caleb gave fabulous performances and contributed to a moving service.

## Staffing Changes

As the year closes, we say goodbye to the following staff:

Michael Haley (Head of Year 9)

Aimee Maitland (Head of Year 10)

Sarah Briggs (Head of Food Technology)

Ryan Gibbons (English)

At Christmas, Alex Taylor was seconded to us from Washington Academy, as Assistant Head Teacher (SEND/CO). Alex is returning to Washington from September, but will be replaced by our new, permanent Assistant head Teacher, Janey Stubbs. Alex will continue to be the point of contact for SEND over the summer.

We will introduce new staff to parents and carers nearer to the start of the autumn term.

## ParentPay App – REGISTER TO WIN!



*Thank you to all parents and carers who have registered for the ParentPay App – our lucky winner of a £50 shopping voucher is Jade Conlin – congratulations!!*

*We will run a further prize draw in September for all those who register over the summer. To ensure you have registration details we will send a letter via post to all families who have not yet registered – please look out for this and action ASAP.*

*The winner of the next prize draw for those who have newly registered will be announced on 25<sup>th</sup> September.*

*Good luck!*



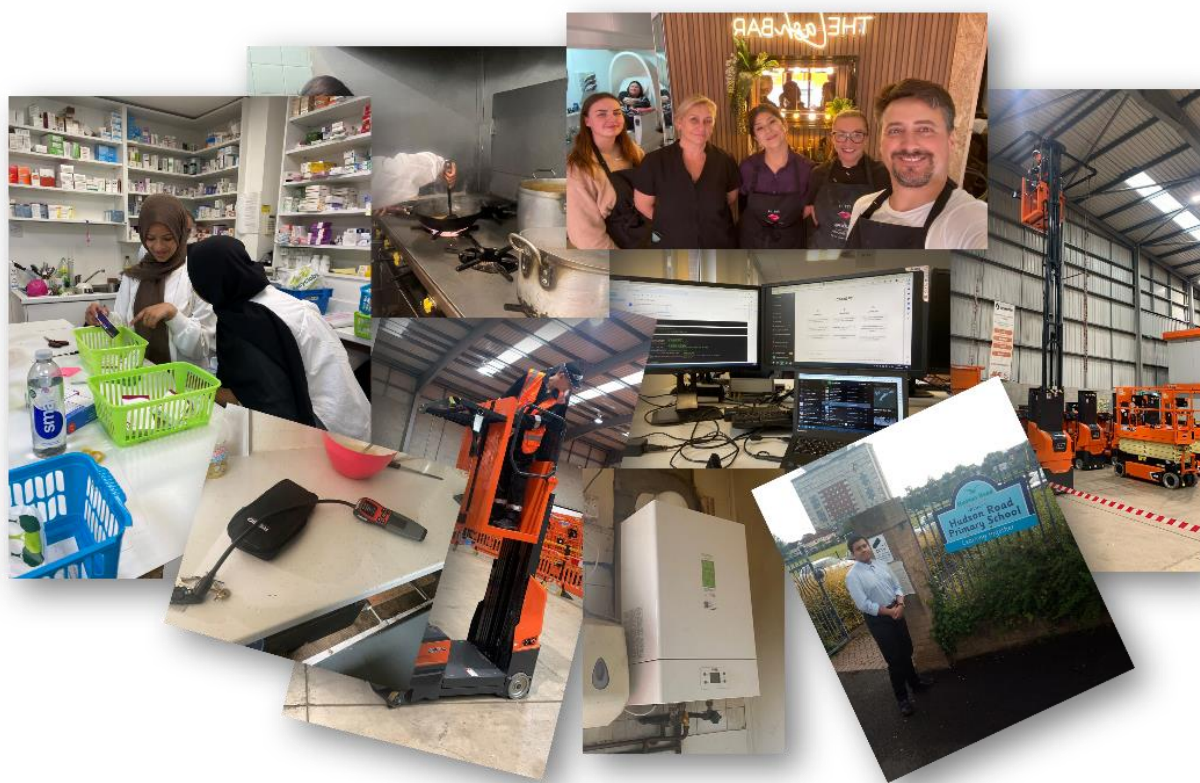
## Careers

Please find the link below for East Durham College's summer newsletter. This gives advance notice of events in September, for those exploring their next steps after school.

[EDC Newsletter - 3 - A4 \(canva.com\)](#)

## Year 10 Work Experience

We have been so proud of our year 10 students out on work experience this week. Our students have worked with vets, pharmacists, teachers, technicians, chefs, electricians and finance analysts to name just a few! We have had great feedback about our students and one member of the public went out of their way to contact the school to praise and share their experience and the great impression one of our students made.



Many students have explored virtual work experience via Springpod, to gain experience of sectors and business that don't often offer face to face placements.

Students in school have been supporting our teachers, technicians, and site team, and have had an insight into all of the workings of the school, and what happens behind the scenes. They have been a real support, and always worked with professionalism and gave 100%. In addition, we have held employability workshops in school, for students and sessions exploring 'careers of the future' and 'green careers'.



## Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders spent the afternoon at Richard Avenue Primary School, for the Y5 and Y6 Sports Day. Pupils worked alongside some primary Sports Leaders and staff, to help with the running, delivering, and officiating of the athletics events. It was a fantastic afternoon had by parents and pupils. Finishing off with a very close relay race at the end. Congratulations to all winners in their events and well done to all the pupils at Richard Avenue for competing.



## Consilium Olympic Games

Last Friday saw the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Consilium Olympic Games. This year it was held at Heworth Academy. 32 Thornhill pupils were chosen to represent our school at the games, and they rose to the challenge, taking gold in the javelin, 800m and high jump, silver in the shot put and bronze in the 200m relay. Well done to all schools who competed it was a brilliant day.



## RS Visit

Year 9 students had a fantastic educational experience this week on a multifaith visit to the Sikh gurdwara in Ashbrooke and then on to the minster in Sunderland city centre. We invited our good friends at Washington Academy along as part of the Consilium Academies Trust. We are really looking forward to our trip in the new term to the mosque on Chester Road with Imam Shuheb.



# Spotlight on Curriculum

## Drama

### ESB Speaking Exam

Back in January, I was happy to announce that 30 Y8 students had passed their English-speaking board exam. Although it is the end of the academic year, we are proud to say, that on Tuesday and Wednesday, another 30 Y8 students have also been through this process. As part of this qualification, students had to read an extract from the book, Wonder by R. J Palacio, learn and perform a poem or monologue, and create a 4-minute presentation on a topic of their choice, in turn, developing their public speaking skills. All students were excellent, and the examiners commented on how polite our students were. I cannot wait to share the results of our students with you all, come September. Below you can read some comments from our young people about the process and images of the day.

*"I feel more confident about speaking in front of people now!" – Matthew*



*"I am more confident in doing things in front of people" – Jiban*



*"At first, I was terrified! But it was a lot better than expected and when people asked questions it was less pressure. " - Sumaiya*



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EDUCATION AND CULTURE

# CREATE YOUR SUMMER



**INSPIRED**  
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**Inspired (Sunderland Cultural Education Partnership) invite you to join the Holiday Activity and Food Programme**

**Sign up to a range of exciting cultural activities this August. Sessions are free to eligible families.**

**7th August-10th August. 10am-2pm. Creative making at Seventeen Nineteen, Holy Trinity Church SR1 2BB. Suitable for Y6 2022-2023.**

**Over the course of 4 days, in the beautiful setting of Seventeen Nineteen, take part in basket making, a trip to Sunderland Museum, stained glass workshop, walking tour, pottery workshop and lino printing.**

**14th August-17th August. 10am-2pm. Musical theatre at Sunderland Empire, SR1 3EX. Suitable for 8-12 year olds. Over the course of 4 days take part in a behind the scenes tour and a series of musical theatre workshops. Open to all abilities.**

**21st August-24th August. 10am-3pm. Song writing at Bede College Performing Arts Academy, SR3 4AH with Sunderland Music Hub.**

**Suitable for young people aged 13-16. Young people will work with professional musicians and songwriters to write their own music. Open to beginners and those who are more experienced.**

**29th August-1st September. 10am-2pm. Creative activities at Washington Arts Centre, NE38 8AB. Suitable for 8-12 year olds. Over the course of 4 days you will experience workshops in circus skills and movement, visual arts and animation.**

**SIGN UP AND REGISTER NOW HERE!**

Contact: [beth.ross@togetherforchildren.org.uk](mailto:beth.ross@togetherforchildren.org.uk)

Arts  
Centre  
Washington

SUNDERLAND  
MUSIC HUB



Sunderland Empire  
Creative  
Learning

together fo  
children  
SUNDERLAND

## 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

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

## Geography Trip

[Derwent Hill Trip details](#)

## Wicked

[Wicked Theatre Trip details](#)

# Standards and Expectations

## Student Leadership Programmes Uniform

As we continue to raise the standards and expectations for our young people, it is important that we have consistent standards of uniform for all students. Whilst students' leadership programmes will continue to run, student leaders will no longer wear a modified

version of school uniform from September. In order to support parents financially, we as a school, will provide parents of all student leaders with a voucher to redeem a school blazer from Little Gems, our current uniform supplier.

At the start of the term all students will be provided with equipment, such as:

- Pencil case
- Pens
- Pencil
- Ruler

If any items are lost, students must replace them.

## 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