



## Message from Head Teacher

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This week has seen the relaunch of our homework policy in school. Your children will be recording homework in their planners and details of their homework can be found on classcharts.

All students have login details for this. As a parent, if you haven't got login details you can get them by contacting the main office.

Your support with their engagement with homework is greatly encouraged. This week saw the start of period 6 sessions for year 11 students. These sessions run for all year 11 students each evening and are compulsory.

Parents of year 11 students are to attend a parental event on Thursday 2nd November, at which we will discuss with you, ways to support your child in this important year.

Yesterday was a new step with our school rebuild when our newly assigned project manager from the DfE made his first site visit. There is much work to be done behind the scenes before any building can begin. In fact, we currently have no idea of what the new school may look like. I know this is something that everyone is eager to know, and I will keep you updated as plans form. We currently know that nothing will start this academic year.

An important piece of trust news was the appointment of our new trust C.E.O, Michael McCarthy last week. Michael is from the Northeast and is currently C.E.O of The Priestley Academy Trust, based in Bradford, he takes post up in January. I am sure he will be writing to let you know more about himself, and his vision for the trust moving forward.

Exciting times ahead for Consilium and Thornhill!

Sue Hamilton

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:

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



# School News

## Open Evenings:

Year 7      Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> October  
Year 11     Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November

## Meet the Staff

We are excited to introduce you to the experts that teach your child and support the day to day running of the school.

### Thornhill Academy's expert series.

#### Miss. L. Coates. Head of Safeguarding and wellbeing.

**Introduce yourself:** My name is Miss. Coates, I lead safeguarding and wellbeing at Thornhill Academy. I joined the school in January 2023.

**What do you like the most about Thornhill?** I love how caring, welcoming and kind the students and staff are.

**What makes you an expert?** I have worked in schools for many years. I have developed expert knowledge of pastoral care and safeguarding during this time. I also hold a BSc degree in Sports Science, and I am also qualified as an advanced mental health lead.

**Interesting fact:** I was formerly a gymnast, specialising in acrobatics.

Meet the staff. Miss. Coates.



Department  
for Education

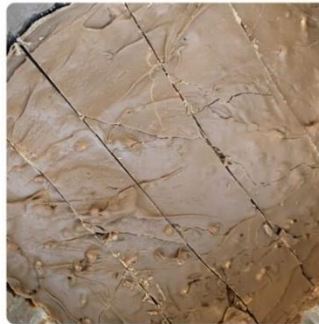
### A world-class education system: The Advanced British Standard

Please follow the link below for information from the DfE

[A world-class education system: The Advanced British Standard \(govdelivery.com\)](https://www.govdelivery.com)

## Charity Bake Sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our bake sale and bake offs last week for the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity. We raised £144.61 in just 1 day. Well done, Thornhill!



## ParentPay App

Thank you to those parents and carers that have registered to use ParentPay over the summer and the start of the new year.

Across school, we still have nearly half of all students whose parents or carers have not registered for ParentPay, meaning that we are seeing huge amounts of cash on site. From a security and safeguarding standpoint, we want to stop this.

### YOU MUST REGISTER FOR PARENTPAY NOW



If you need help completing the registration, we are happy to accommodate this in school. Please phone 0191 500 7981 and if we cannot help over the telephone, we can book a convenient time for you to attend school so that we can work together to activate your account.



## Thornhill Academy Breakfast Club

**Free breakfast available for ALL students**

**Monday to Friday 8:00am**

**A great way for them to start their day  
and get ready for learning.**



If you do not register or advise school why you are unable to, your child may miss out on opportunities as ParentPay is the quickest way to pay



## Free School Meals Process

You must apply for Free School Meals using our quick and easy online form:  
<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

***PLEASE NOTE: if your child is currently receiving free school meals, you must still apply via the link above to reconfirm your eligibility direct with the academy – this also applies to new year 7 students moving from primary to secondary.***

***Don't let your child miss out.***

We encourage all parents and guardians to apply irrespective of their income. This is because if your circumstances change, you will automatically be enrolled, and your child can start receiving free school meals right away.

***But it's not just about the free meals.***

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. This additional funding is used to improve educational provisions and resources at the academy.



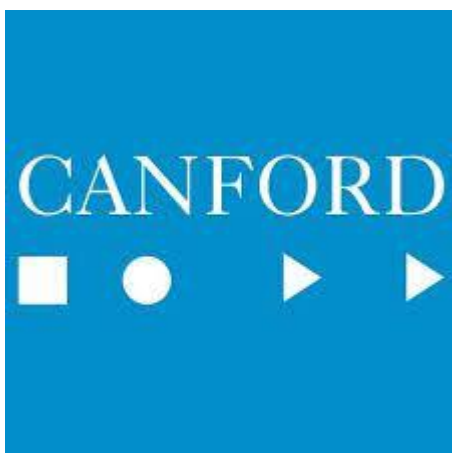
## Careers

**Careers Café-** This week, Newcastle college visited school to talk to our Year 11 students about their next steps. They were also available for all students to drop in and visit over lunchtime, at our Careers Café. It was great to see so many students leaving with a prospectus, to explore their future options.

**Business Breakfast-** Next week, we have our first Business Breakfast of the year! This is an opportunity for students to come along to Breakfast Club in the restaurant and speak to local businesses and employers. Student can find out about different jobs, careers and pathways, as well as be inspired for their own futures!



# Wates





We look forward to inviting in Wates Construction, Equans, Canford and the RAF!  
Please encourage your child to come into school a little earlier on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of this opportunity!

**Careers Fair-** On Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, Thornhill Academy will host its annual Careers Fair. This is where a large number of local, and national businesses, employers, education and training providers set up a stall and our students get an opportunity, on the day, to go and talk to our visitors, and find out about jobs, and sectors they might be interested in, in the future.

After school, we are also inviting in parents to visit the stalls, to find out more with your child, or to explore opportunities for yourself!

For students interested in a future career in the Arts, the Northern School of Art begin their open events next week. More information and links to sign up, can be found on their website here: <https://northernart.ac.uk/study-with-us/middlesbrough-campus/a-level-ual-diploma-access-hnd-courses/>

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# OPEN DAYS

MIDDLESBROUGH

2023

TUES  
3<sup>RD</sup>  
OCT

SAT  
18<sup>TH</sup>  
NOV

SAT  
13<sup>TH</sup>  
JAN

2024

MON  
12<sup>TH</sup>  
FEB

TUES  
19<sup>TH</sup>  
MAR

SAT  
15<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE



NORTHERNART.AC.UK

BOOK NOW



# Student Voice Feedback



**Over 93% of our students feel like they have been welcomed back after the summer break.**

*72% students have set targets for this school year. We are asking staff to help aid students set these targets during tutor time. We are also looking to build support for our Post-16 opportunities. This past week, we have had Newcastle College in discussing careers, as well as Sunderland College the previous week. Newcastle University are also booked to come in for course opportunities.*

*Just 66% students feel like their peers are helpful. Let's change that trend by trying to help at least one fellow student each day. Whether this be holding a door open or helping resolve an issue they may have. Let's be kind to each other and create a positive community 'The Thornhill Way'.*

## High Standards!

**94%**

*94% of students say teachers have a high expectation of them*

*78% of students said that they log into class charts every day. We encourage all students and parents to log into the platform where you can track behaviour points. If you are unsure of your login details, contact tutors or the relevant Head of Year.*

*91% of students feel they have been recognised and received praise. We have our weekly rewards assembly for each year group, as well as our termly rewards for students who have performed throughout the year.*

*'I like to check how I do every day' - Alex G (Year 10)*

# Spotlight on Curriculum

## Geography



### Groundwork North East Visit:

Last week, some year 7 and 8 pupils were involved in a workshop which talked about waste recycling. We had Laura who works for Groundwork NE, a charity which involved the local community in many different projects, which promote sustainability and communities working together.

Laura came into school and provided us with vital information about waste recycling and why it is needed in today's world. She also shared with the pupils about E Waste Day coming up in October.

The pupils were outstanding in behaviour, and there were some amazing questions asked during the 4 sessions that were ran.

We are looking to work with Laura in the future to set up a visit to the waste recycling plants in Gateshead and Teesside!

Exciting times ahead!

# Co-curricular Activities

There is a real buzz around school as our new co-curricular offer is now well underway with new clubs being added all the time. Next week a British Sign Language Club will start on a Monday afternoon. We are always keen to get feedback and ask that parents take a few moments to complete this brief survey to help us improve this provision even more!

<https://forms.office.com/e/qSveb50jaM>

## Afterschool Club - Drama

Starting from next week drama club will take place on Thursdays 3:00 -3:30. This is an opportunity for both KS3 and KS4 students to get to know each other and be creative!

	Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Starfish Club	Careers Café Diversity Club Italian (1) German (2)		Games and Chats Yav- Chance to Shine Doorstop gigs (1)	Lunchtime Music	Doorstop gigs (2) Charity Club
After School	Netball Puzzle Club Choir Coding Club British Sign Language			Ready Steady Bake Football Star Wars Crest Award	Badminton Hidden Histories Further Maths	Ukulele Friday!

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# Assemblies



This week we marked the start of Black History Month 2023. This is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. Mrs Reed, Head of Year 9, led the assemblies and shared her own multi- racial and multi-cultural upbringing, as well as sharing some of the exceptional achievements of pioneering black people in leadership and innovation. This was followed up in tutor time, with discussions around why it is important to hold Black History Month.

# 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/>

# 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

## Standards and expectations – Uniform and Equipment

A massive thank you to parents for their support in ensuring students have full uniform, including a jumper, bag, equipment, and planner. If students have misplaced their planner, they can be purchased via the main office and money is payable via Parent Pay for £4. Other stationary items can also be purchased in the same way, 25p per item or £1.50 for the pencil case with all equipment.

## Class Charts - PLEASE LOGIN

*Please can we ask you to ensure that as a parent you have downloaded the app or access class charts via the browser <https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login> to login.*



Class charts is the main method of communication between staff, parents and pupils. If you do not have these details or need your password resetting, please contact school and we can give you this over the phone or alternatively email [thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com](mailto:thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com)

## Attendance

Each week, your child will be recording their cumulative attendance streaks (number of consecutive days in school) and weekly attendance in their planner. We aim for students to be in school more than 96% of the time and this will give you a way of keeping track of this.

Punctuality to school is really important as every second in school counts. Please can we remind you that registers close at 9.10am, which means any student arriving in school later than this will gain a U code and this means they have an absence mark for the full morning. Please can we encourage students to be on time to avoid this happening.

Year after year, the students with the best school attendance achieve the best results. The table below shows the achievement made by students in the 2023 cohort. **Students with 95% attendance on average are meeting their target grades** in every subject. **Students with below 80% attendance made, on average, almost three grades less progress in every subject.** We are passionate about providing students with the best possible life chances and as such, know they have to 'be here to get there.'

### Pupils with attendance over 95%

63% achieved Grade 4 in Maths and English

44% achieved Grade 5 in Maths and English

### Pupils with attendance over 80%

55% achieved Grade 4 in Maths and English

38% achieved Grade 4 in Maths and English

# 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



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