



Thornhill
Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

Message from Headteacher

Here we are at the end of the first week back after half term. It was lovely to see staff and students return after their holidays and hear all the stories about what they have done.

During half term, the DfE conducted a huge survey of the site, that was needed for decisions around the new build. This has made it feel a little more real. I will keep you updated with news as and when we get it, as I know lots of you are asking, and being asked questions about it.

The weather this week has certainly had its challenges, but Thornhill staff and students have responded in their usual stoic manner. They really do deserve praise for this, as every downpour seems to have coincided with our social times, lesson change over or arrival/exit from school.

Yesterday was our careers event which had over 30 providers. Students, parents and staff really enjoyed this event and providers commented upon their warm welcome, and the keenness of our students. Mrs Crooks is already planning an even bigger event for next year, and I am sure she will be true to her word.

I hope you have a lovely weekend, though judging from the weather forecast it isn't likely to be much drier!

Sue Hamilton

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:
[View Parents Letters](#)



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

Thornhill Academy, Thornholme Road
Sunderland, SR2 7NA
0191 500 7981
thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

School News

Open Evening:

Year 11 Wednesday, 8th November

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.

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

Easyfundraising

Thornhill Academy are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All funds raised will be paid directly to the Academy to use for the benefit of the students.


These donations really mount up and make a big difference to us, so we would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It is completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thornhill-academy/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1



Turn your online shopping into magic



Hi,

Welcome to easyfundraising and thank you for registering Thornhill Academy.

My name is Josh and I'm a Customer Success Manager at easyfundraising. I'm passionate about helping you get the most out of easyfundraising for Thornhill Academy.

easyfundraising is the UK's biggest charity fundraising site and it's really simple to use:

- ★ Search for the brand you want to shop with on easyfundraising.
- ★ We'll take you to the brand's website and activate your donation.
- ★ Get a free donation when you checkout - your shop will cost exactly the same!

Look out for more emails from me where I'll be sharing tips and advice to help you raise as much as possible. Just reply to this email if you have any questions - I'm here to help you get started.



Josh Lloyd

Customer Success Manager, easyfundraising





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.





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.**



Careers event

We are so proud of how well our students have engaged in this week's Futures Fair, finding out about different careers, education and training options for their futures.

We have received such positive feedback from the providers, about how curious and confident our students of all ages were, when talking to our adult visitors.

Thank you to parents who braved the weather to attend after school too.

As part of our careers education, Key stage 4 have begun work with Elaine from the Department of Work and Pensions, who is delivering sessions on employability which will lead students to being able to create strong CVs and personal statements for future applications. We thank Elaine and the DWP for this opportunity and look forward to seeing her around school over this half term.



Blast from the past... Our 2015 Careers Event



Year 9 have an important year ahead, as they begin to consider their options for key stage 4 and understanding how different subjects, interests, and skills link to different careers, and pathways will be very important to help them make the best decisions.

Year 10 have begun their careers pathways, and will be using our careers platform, Morrisby, a lot this year, as they plan and prepare for their workplace experience in the summer term. We will also be looking at how we build our employability skills, prepare for work, and create applications and CVs.

Year 11 are now ready to make applications for college, sixth forms, apprenticeships and training programmes, and we aim to give them as much exposure as possible to help students keep their options open, and make successful applications. All Year 11 students also receive independent 1:1 advice and guidance from Career Wave.

In all year groups, there are opportunities across the year to:

- Meet employers and training providers
- Meet with further and higher education providers
- Gain a trip or visit with a career focus
- Track careers education on Morrisby
- Explore careers linked to subject areas and interest
- Develop their employability skills

Careers

Apprenticeships workshop

B&Q- 15 Year 11 students signed up to a targeted workshop, to support them in understanding the process for applying for apprenticeships. This was facilitated by the national organisation Wisser Futures, in conjunction with B&Q. There will be more opportunities in the next half term for students in year 10 and year 11 to continue to explore the apprenticeship route and obtain the bespoke support they need for success.



Personal development

In our personal development tutor session this week, in response to student curiosity and concern, we have taken the opportunity to learn about the current conflict in Gaza. It is important for our students to educate themselves equally about the beliefs, experiences and history of people on both sides of this conflict. Students were encouraged to reflect upon how people living in, or with connections to that part of our world, must be feeling right now. In addition, it is important for students to know how we can stand up for what we believe and surface important discussions, in ways that demonstrate tolerance and mutual respect. This is part of the fundamental British Values we teach, and is important to our diverse school community, which we are very proud of.



Thornhill Academy – Invigilators Required

Are you (or someone you know) interested in becoming one of our diligent exam invigilators?

You must be over 18 years old and **available between Monday 13th May until Friday 28th June 2024.**



Please contact Thornhill Academy for more details on **0191 500 7981** or email **thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com**

Spotlight on Curriculum

Speak Up – Launch week

As some of you may remember, last year, Y7 had the fantastic opportunity to be part of a nationwide project, Speak Up, launched by the National Theatre. This program allowed young people to work in co-creation with local artists and teachers, to lead creative projects, in response to issues that are most important to them.



Last week we were lucky enough to re-launch this project with the current Y7's! As a result of this, students gained the opportunity to work with Sally Anderson (local artist) and Holly Sounds (local musician). These sessions allowed students to discuss what is important to them and in turn express their thoughts and feelings through art and music. Take a look at some of the great work produced:



Tutor time

In tutor time this week, students began the lead up to World Kindness Day on, Monday, 13th November and watched the video on the 'Science of Kindness' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9UByLyOjBM>

Key stage 4 students have been asked to plan ahead, acts of kindness they can complete each day, and record these in their planner. Key stage 3 students have their very own Kindness Bingo card to complete and hand back to their tutor before 13th November!

KINDNESS BINGO

Offered a tissue to a person that needed it	Left a positive note on a random locker	Read to someone	Introduced myself to a new person	Did my chores without being asked
Invited another student to play	Held open a door	Got at least 30 minutes of exercise today	Helped someone	Texted a positive message to a friend
Returned a shopping cart	Asked someone about their day	FILL IN YOUR OWN ACT OF KINDNESS	Made a new friend	Gave a friend or family member a hug
Cleaned up a mess that wasn't mine	Put something in the recycle bin	Said 'thank you' to someone	Invited someone who was eating alone to join me	Woke up with a smile on my face
Made a 'things I'm thankful for' journal entry	Made someone laugh	Let someone go in front of me in line	Gave someone a compliment	Smiled at another student

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
FOUNDATION 

Assemblies

This week, our assemblies have focused on resharing with students, our standards and expectations as part of our Thornhill Way. All actions come with consequences, and we want to be able to consistently reward positive behaviours and positive choices. Through ClassCharts praise points, students build towards rewards, such as trips, parties, activities and prizes. Equally, negative behaviours and poor choices will warrant a negative consequence. Most students respond well to our restorative justice conversations (RJC's) with teachers, and positive choices are made as a result. For the minority, there will need to be further sanctions and our updated behaviour systems have been shared with students and parents this week.

Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing our Thornhill Way to ensure all students fully understand our basic expectations to be ready, respectful and safe at school.



Newcastle university assembly

We welcomed Newcastle university into school, to meet with our year 11 students to find out more about university life, and for students to consider their aspirations for the future. We look forward to running more sessions next half term for Year 7, Year 9 and Year 10 with St Annes College at Oxford University.



Local Authority Information



Have Your Say...

Do you have a 2-3 year old? Help change the flu vaccine programme for young children in Sunderland.

Answer just one quick question and be in with a chance of winning one of five £50 Amazon Vouchers.



Scan here to win!

Sunderland
City Council

Improving uptake of influenza immunisation in pre-school children – Sunderland City Council and Caja Ltd

Win a £50 Amazon voucher in just 60 seconds!

We are working hard to improve the flu vaccination programme for young people in Sunderland and we think you can help. If you have a 2-3 year old child and they have not yet had their free flu spray, we want to hear from you.

Click this link to make a difference in your community:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SCCFluViews>

By taking 60 seconds to answer just one question you will give yourself the chance to win one of five free £50 Amazon vouchers!

Please direct any question to:

Andrew.dewis@cajagroup.com

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](#)

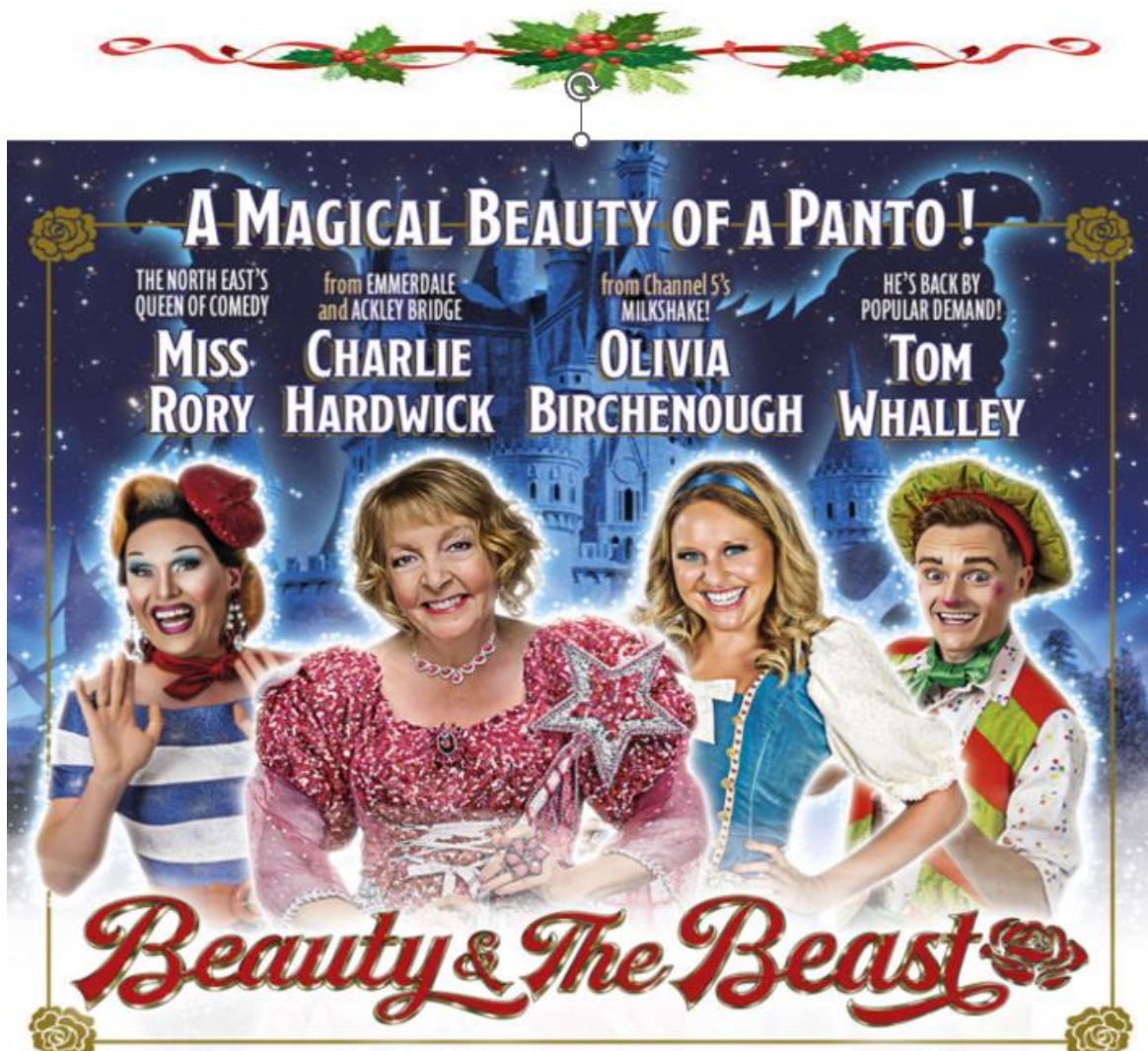
Wicked

[Wicked Theatre Trip details](#)

Y7 Rewards – Beauty & the Beast

As part of our fantastic rewards opportunities, Y7 have been given the opportunity to go and see Beauty & the Beast at a discounted rate. The trip to Sunderland Empire will take place on Tuesday, 12th December, during school time. This is a great opportunity that you do not want your child to miss out on!

To ensure they do not miss out, please purchase tickets no later than Friday, 10th November, on Parentpay. Any questions, please contact Miss O'Neill or Mrs Reed.



**Year 7 Pantomime Trip
Tuesday, 12th December 2023
Tickets can be purchased via Parentpay**

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 enquiries@consilium-at.com

Behaviour Policy

The behaviour policy has been reviewed, and there are changes which will be implemented to ensure there is a clear escalation process which is explicit to students. After school,

detentions will replace the RJC system that we have at present. The staged response is outlined in the table below. When a child reaches a C4, they will be given a same day 30-minute detention notification, this will be via class charts. If a child has two C4 behaviours in one day, they will be placed in Reflection for the remainder of the day and the same day, detention will be extended to 45 minutes. Parents will receive a second detention notification where this is the case. As detentions are on the same day, it is essential that all parents have access to class charts to ensure you receive these notifications.



If a child fails to engage, or fails to attend the detention, then there will be an escalation process and the detention will be extended. The next stage will be implemented the following day in school.

Stage 1	45 minutes After School Detention
Stage 2	Day in Reflection & 45 minute After School Detention
Stage 3	60-minute SLT Detention - Friday
Stage 4	Parental Meeting

Lates

Good punctuality at school is essential for students to achieve their full educational potential. It is also vital for students to form good habits for later life. Pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on learning leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Where students are persistently late this will impact on the progress that students make in school. We do appreciate that there may be an occasion where a child is late for school with a genuine reason for lateness, however, where this is a recurring issue, a detention will be issued. If a child has three late marks in a half term, they are persistently

late to school. When a student reaches three late marks in a half term, they will be issued a same day 30 minute after school detention. This detention is compulsory and will escalate if the student does not attend. This is a deterrent to help improve punctuality and reduce lost learning time.

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

Follow us

Don't forget to follow us on social media for the latest updates on school activities



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