Thornhill Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Parental Newsletter

Message from Head Teacher

Message from Headteacher

As I am sure you are aware, this week we did our lockdown drill. As parents and carers, you would have received a notification that we were going into a drill and one when we came out of the drill. In school, we were incredibly proud of the way our students responded to what was being asked of them, and how naturally they acted. This kind of drill can cause a lot of anxiety for those involved in it. Before the drill, and after, students had lots of very sensible questions in relation to it. This may be something you want to talk to them about at home.

On a lighter note, the recent poor weather has led to wet break and lunchtime arrangements, resulting in more students indoors. Many of them enjoyed playing board games, and as a result of this, we would like to make more available in school, if you have any at home that are unused, we would really appreciate them in school. We are also looking to start a chess and draughts club, so any support with such games would be really appreciated.

It is hard to believe that by the middle of next week, we will be in December. Can I give you advanced notice of our Christmas Carol concert. At 17Nineteen on Wednesday 20th December, starting at 7.00pm, tickets are £2, and can be purchased on ParentPay.

Sue Hamilton

To view all Parents Letters please click the link below:
View Parents Letters

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

School News

We are seeing increasing debt on pupil's lunch accounts at a level which we are unable to sustain. By continuing to carry this debt means that we are restricting essential spend on learning resources for your child.

Please can parents make payment to clear debt of their child's lunch account as soon as possible. We will no longer be able to provide a meal for your child unless there is sufficient credit on their account.

If this will cause undue hardship, please speak to your child's Head of Year or access the FSM portal to see if your child could be entitled to free school meals FSM eligibility checker

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.

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.

Is your child accessing our breakfast club – open every school day from 8.00 am in the school canteen.
Breakfast can set children up for success and have a positive impact on the day's learning. We want to hear your thoughts on the impact of breakfast on your child. This will help us and the National School Breakfast Programme to improve the breakfast we provide. Parents, have your say here –**click here**
#NSBP

Thornhill Academy Music

presents

Christmas

CONCERT

7pm

£2

parentpay

17Nineteen

Thornhill Academy's

Bring a Buddy week

Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December

Don't forget it's bring a buddy to your co-curricular club.
Pupils who bring a buddy receive 10 extra praise points to help towards rewards week.
New pupils attending a club will also receive 10 extra praise points.

Thornhill Academy

Proud to be part of Consilium Academies

Co-Curricular

Our co-curricular timetable continues this half term, with a wide range of activities for students to get involved in. In guidance, students are learning about transferable skills, and skills for employment. Taking part in activities at school, is integral to developing these life skills and preparing our young people for adult life. We aspire for all students to attend least 1 activity each week. It is great to see our library open again during social times, where students are making the most of the study space and games.

If parents have not yet given their feedback on our co-curricular provision, you can do so here: https://forms.office.com/e/qSveb50jaM

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Starfish Club	Careers Café Diversity Club Italian (1) German (2) Handbell Club	Yav- Sports Doorstop gigs (1)	Lunchtime Music	Doorstop gigs (2) Charity Club
After School	Netball Puzzle Club Choir Coding Club Sign Language	Debate Club	Football Star Wars Crest Award Cricket Christmas Craft Club	Badminton Hidden Histories Further Maths Drama	Ukulele Friday

Assemblies

This week our assembly focused on one of our employability skills- **Aiming high**.

This skill is about being able to plan effectively - both to achieve organisational goals, and to set personal development targets. Initially, this is about knowing when something is too difficult, and having a sense of what doing well looks like for us. Then about working with care and attention, taking pride in success, and having a positive approach to new challenges. Individuals with this skill, set goals for themselves and create plans with clear targets.

In the assembly, we explored the career path of Stephen Frayne who, despite a tough upbringing, showed great aspiration and determination to succeed.

Today we know him as Dynamo and with worldwide fame for his magic and illusions. We ask all students to consider what they aspire to be!

Careers

THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW NORTH EAST 21-22 NOVEMBER 2023 UTILITA ARENA, NEWCASTLE

The Apprenticeship Show- A group of aspirational, Y11 students attended the National Apprenticeship Show in Newcastle this week. They visited many organisations, to find out about future opportunities, and information on how to apply. Students in Y11 will get a chance to sign up to a workshop next week, to get support with the application process for apprenticeships- look out for a message on Class Charts.

ASK Apprenticeships- Next week, Y10 will gain an additional assembly from ASK, on the apprenticeship pathway to support their future decision making.

READYCON Careers talks- This week all of Y10 took part in the READYCON careers talks, where they found out about different trends and labour market information in the sectors, they are most interested in. Knowing what is changing will help them carve their pathway to a successful future career. These talks heavily focused on the influence and impact of technology and AI when considering future pathways.

There are many open events and virtual work experience opportunities for KS4 students, who should keep a close eye on Class Charts for opportunities for different sectors they might be interested in.

Student Voice Feedback

Thornhill Academy
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

96% of students said they are aware of co-curricular activities. Look out for our new display and booklet to help you choose from the wide range of clubs you can come along to!

Those students who do come along to the co-curricular activities say doing so helps to develop their confidence, talent and independence as well as having fun! Sometimes trying something new can help build friendships and provide a chance to learn new skills and abilities. If you haven't already, sign up to one of our clubs!

95% of students say they get homework on a regular basis. It is hugely important to engage with this learning, as it will provide a better understanding on the topics currently being covered in your lessons!

Homework

99%

99% of students say homework is communicated on Class Charts. Remember to check!

Just 74% of students say that they use their planner to write down the dates they got homework and when this is due.

Not only does writing this in your planner alert parents to help support you with completing homework, but it also builds organizational skills! It also lowers the chances you will forget!

Some students have explained that they feel like the homework 'assignments are really helping'.

Our next student voice is imminent and will cover guidance and careers.

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

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.

C1 Warning
C2 Second Warning
C3 Teacher Conversation

C4 Intervention - Relocation or Reflection

After School Detention – 30 mins

C5 Reflection – Whole Day
C6 Cool off
C7 Suspension

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.
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- 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

Local Authority Information

BetterPoints Sunderland

Record your walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport trips to earn rewards that you can exchange for Sunderland Gift Cards, spend at local cafes or donate to St Benedict's Hospice or Grace House.

It's as easy as 1-2-3:

1. **Download the free BetterPoints app from the App Store or Google Play (scan the QR below)**
2. **Register, join the BetterPoints Sunderland challenge and take the baseline survey to earn your first 250 BetterPoints and unlock earning for green and healthy trips**
3. **Turn tracking on in the top right-hand corner of the app then walk, wheel, run, cycle and use public transport to earn BetterPoints**

Keep an eye on your timeline for offers, prize draws and useful information in the app. If you don't register with a Sunderland postcode but work or study in the city, enter the referral code **BPSOOA**

Download the free app and track your trips to earn rewards and help to make Sunderland a happier, healthier, greener place to live, work and study.

Download the free app

Let's talk about...

SPEED

Every day, five people die on UK roads.

Speed is a factor in every crash.

Every 1mph increase in speed, increases crash frequency by 5%.*

Whoever you are, however you travel, we need to talk about speed.

Join the conversation
www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek
#RoadSafetyWeek

*Finch et al. (1994) TRL Project Report 58: Speed, Speed Limits and Accidents

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Organised by Brake the road safety charity

Sponsored by ARVAL BNP PARIBAS GROUP

DHL

AUTOGLASS

Supporting THINK!

The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.

Scan the QR code to take part

CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

THE BIG AMBITION

Help at Hand is a service for children and young people in care, leaving care, living away from home or working with children's services. If you are a young person and would like any help or assistance, you can call 0800 528 0731 or email help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

Measles awareness and the importance of children having two doses of MMR vaccine

Measles is an infection that spreads very easily and can cause serious problems in some people. Having the MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent it. Two doses are needed to be fully protected. The uptake of MMR in Sunderland at age 5 years has reduced recently, putting some children at risk.

Information for parents:

Complete routine schedule for UK:
Complete routine immunisation schedule - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Measles: Don't let your child catch it leaflet:
MEASLES - Don't let your child catch it (publishing.service.gov.uk)

What do I need to know about the MMR vaccine?:
What do I need to know about the MMR vaccine? - UK Health Security Agency (blog.gov.uk)

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

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 hgave 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

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

We are pleased to announce that children and families across Sunderland will now be able to access Lumi Nova - an exciting online therapeutic game for children aged 7 - 12 years experiencing difficulties with anxiety.

Please use the link below for instant access to Lumi Nova!
Sign up here - https://luminova.app/sunderland

We are also excited to offer you a place on an upcoming Lumi Nova Discovery Session for Sunderland. Within the 30-minute webinar you will learn how Lumi Nova can support students aged 7-12 to tackle their fears and worries and build lifelong skills, how families from your school can access Lumi Nova for free and how this digital therapeutic intervention can complement your whole school approach to wellbeing. Please use the link below to register.

Book here!

In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about Lumi Nova and how it can support your students go to luminova.app or reach out to us via our email address:
luminova@bfb-labs.com

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE - WARNING TO PARENTS – DO NOT BUY E-SCOOTERS AS CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

It is against the law to ride a private e-scooter on a public road or pavement.

We understand that buying your own e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as:

MOT, Licensing, Tax, Insurance

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

Although unable to ride your own, there is a government trial taking place in the North East where you are allowed to ride a rented e-scooter.

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE