



**Thornhill
Academy**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Proud to be part of
**Consilium
Academies**

Thornhill Parent Update 1st March 2024

As we move into the second half of the academic year, and the days get longer and warmer, this is a great time for our students to really embrace our extra-curricular offer. Whether this be clubs, teams or out of school trips.

We have at Thornhill, a brilliant and diverse offer, and we also encourage our students to ask staff for specific clubs if there is something they would like, but we don't offer.

Please talk to your children about taking part in activities through school, that go beyond the classroom. We encourage students to take a friend with them initially, as we know that sometimes doing something new by yourself is challenging.

Further in our newsletter, you will read about an opportunity to discover rowing through Sunderland Rowing club. This offer is for students, parents, and carers. This is a great opportunity to try something new. In February 2023, Hayden McDonald was in year 11, he saw on the school's social media, the opportunity to try rowing. He went along, loved it and is now part of Team GB! Below are some pictures of Hayden in his own boat!



Mrs S Hamilton

Headteacher



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

Free School Meal Vouchers

We have received confirmation from the Local Authority that they will, once again, be supporting families with the cost of meals over the Easter school break. Vouchers of £60 will be issued to families for each child in school who is in receipt of free school meals.

If you do not currently receive free school meal entitlement, please check via FSM checker ASAP and you may be able to claim free school meals and the £60 voucher for Easter.

#LetGirlsPlay

After an incredible summer that saw England's Lionesses follow their Euros win with a run to the World Cup final, what better time to #LetGirlsPlay.

Thornhill Academy PE dept have signed up to take part in the #LetGirlsPlay football initiative, aimed at getting as many girls playing football as possible. On Friday, 8th March all girls PE lessons will have a football theme from developing skills to playing games or matches. They will also have the chance to play football at lunchtime in the sports hall.



Assemblies



This week's assembly was led by Andy from Youth for Christ. Andy is a regular visitor to the Academy, delivering Religious Studies lessons and assemblies, with his high energy and meaningful messages. This week he didn't disappoint! Students began by recognising positive and negative character traits in well-known TV and film characters, before testing their resilience in a game of, what can only be described as Chopstick Maltesers! Andy used these activities to share the message of optimism, and how important this is in our lives. Students were asked to reflect on whether their 'glass' is half full or half empty, and how we might support and rely on each other to have a positive mindset.

Personal Development

Guidance Curriculum

Please see below for our Guidance lesson Themes from this week:

Year 7	Personal Hygiene
Year 8	Self Confidence
Year 9	Romantic Relationships
Year 10	Drugs and Distribution
Year 11	Parenthood and Fertility

We are pleased to invite, Active Sunderland into school over this half term to work with year 7 students on their healthy lifestyle's topic. The first of these sessions was this week, with more classes meeting Kay and her team over the next few weeks. Kay will be talking about healthy eating, and the dangers of some behaviours, such as vaping.

active Sunderland



Parents can support their child's learning, in their personal development education by:

- **Celebrating individual differences** to promote a greater sense of belonging for everyone in society.
 - **Talking openly** with your child to model confidence in discussing tricky topics.
 - **Listening to your child** without judgement.
 - **Engaging** with the school's parent consultations about RSE topics.
 - **Staying up to date** with what is being taught, and when, so you can follow up on these topics at home.
 - **Asking for support** if you need it - you are not expected to know everything!
-

Co-Curricular

We have been asking students for their feedback on our co-curricular clubs and activities. We hope to broaden the number of lunchtime activities over this half term!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Time	Starfish Club	Careers Café Handbell Club	Yav- Sports Doorstop gigs (1)	Lunchtime Music	Doorstop gigs (2) Charity Club
After School	Netball Puzzle Club Choir Coding Club	Debate Club	Football Star Wars Cricket	Badminton Hidden Histories Further Maths Drama	Ukulele Friday

Enterprise Co-Curricular

This week, students from year 9 and 10 began their journey with 'Young Enterprise'. Carolyn came into school to introduce students to the Company Programme, where students learn to build their own business. Both, Carolyn from Young Enterprise and Dannielle, our careers advisor were very impressed with the student drive and creative ideas. Within 48 hours the students have designed products, a business plan and have already sourced revenue by selling shares!

If more students want to get involved, please see Mrs Crooks.



Next week, we will start our journey into 'Social Enterprise' and will be looking to recruit a group of students to consider products or services that will benefit our local community. This is the first year the Social Enterprise Academy programme has run outside of London, and we are privileged to be chosen to take part. More information will follow on the student bulletin. Please see Mr Rice if students want to be involved.

Careers

Next week is National Careers Week, #NCW. We hope to share with parents, students, and staff a range of opportunities to find out more about careers and explore potential future options!

In school we will find out more about the career pathways of our different staff members, take part in virtual careers fairs, competitions, and form time activities. Some students will also gain the opportunity to take part in visits.

- Year 10 health and social care students will be working with Sunderland University to explore careers in healthcare.
- 15 Lucky year 9 students will be taking part in a weeklong work experience with Sunderland Empire Theatre and the Aladdin production. We look forward to sharing with you the events and activities across the week.
- Many year 7 students will engage with the Royal Navy to explore careers and take part in team building activities.



We would like to start by sharing a range of events available to students and parents ran by a range of companies and sectors.

Join Siemens for a Live Virtual Career Event

05th March - 18.30-19.15 for Parents and Influencers

Is your student thinking about an exciting future career at Siemens?

Join to understand more about the early career schemes.

Use the link below to register see the announcement on Class Charts.

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/12d165f1-2667-4bf6-aae8-7d83e122b9ae@2c8c4c97-6926-4adc-ac27-287bc4c1c16b>

An advertisement for Siemens Apprenticeships. The background is a dark blue image of a young man smiling and looking at a computer monitor. The Siemens logo is in the top right corner. The text reads: 'Siemens Apprenticeships. Great minds think differently.' Below that, it says: 'We have two very exciting events coming soon for students, parents and influencers. Click to register for your chosen event.' Then it asks: 'Why Siemens? Why Apprenticeships?' At the bottom, it says: 'A live event for parents and influencers Tuesday 5th March | 6.30pm - 7.15pm' and there is a green 'Register' button.

Discover Creative Careers



Sign up for our 'Discover! Creative Careers' virtual information event for parents/carers. This webinar will highlight the value of careers in the creative sector and will challenge some of the preconceptions that surround the creative sector. We will have 4 keynote speakers from a range of employers in the creative sector who will talk about their careers and experiences, and there will be the opportunity for parents and carers to ask our speakers any questions. Book your place by following this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-parent-carer-open-evening-to-discover-creative-careers-tickets-841439547337>

Teens in Artificial Intelligence Opportunity

Teens in AI #IWD GLOBAL TECHATHON

Celebrate International Women's Day with Teens in AI

Are you a tech-savvy teen ready to change the world?

Join the Teens in AI #IWD2024 Global Techathon designed for teens aged 12-18! Engage with cutting-edge artificial intelligence, tackle real-world challenges inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and collaborate in a fun environment.

👤 Open to teens aged 12 - 18 🌈 All genders are welcome 🆓 Free to join 🧑‍🎓 Beginner friendly

📅 16-17 March 2024 | 09:00 - 18:00

📍 Newcastle University
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU, UK

🌐 bit.ly/IWD2024_Newcastle

Over the 2 day programme, you will learn and experience:

- How AI works, its ethics and why it matters
- How to develop code responsibly
- How to build a prototype
- How to pitch a project in front of a judge panel

Platinum Partner Sage

Are you aged between 12-18, based in the North East, and want to learn more about AI? In celebration of International Women's Day, Sage have partnered with Teens in AI to host a free, in-person hackathon-style programme at Newcastle University's School of Computing on Saturday, 16th and Sunday, 17th March.

Build your skills and work together using AI and Data Science to solve real-world problems for social good.

Spaces are limited, so register your interest and sign up now:

<http://1sa.ge/itEy50QI9Bp>

To learn more about teens in AI and the Techathon, head to:

<http://1sa.ge/G9vu50QI9Bo>

Medic Mentors

MEDIC MENTOR



YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

Is your child interested in a career in medicine, dentistry, or health care? There are a range of opportunities available for students in year 9 and beyond, through the Medic Mentors Programme. To find out more about careers and get support on their way to university to work in healthcare and medicine. Please see the announcements on Class Charts for more information.

Sustainable Careers



WWF

During National Careers Week, WWF-UK is hosting The Sustainable Futures Showcase.

A series of live Q&As with some of the biggest names in industries across the UK.

We're inviting young people (age 13-21) to discover how sustainability can play a role in all types of careers – even ones they might not expect!

Our panellists include Tottenham Hotspur's player Amy Turner; Sustainability Director at Depop Justine Porterie; and Executive Chef of Ottolenghi restaurants Neil Campbell.

Students will have the chance to hear what actions our guests are taking to be more sustainable in their role and pose the questions that matter to them.

Secure a FREE spot by signing up to one or ALL the talks. <https://www.wwf.org.uk/get-involved/schools/sustainable-futures/showcase>

M10 Boys Network

We are looking forward to numerous events coming soon:

Year 7 and 9	Navy Teambuilding – 6 th March
Year 7	STEM event - 18 th March
Year 8	STEM event - 13 th March
Year 8	Safety works trip – 25 th March
ALL	Inspiration Day – 12 th March
ALL	Young Enterprise
ALL	Financial Awareness Week
ALL	Make Your Mark – Youth Parliament Voting

ParentPay App

Student Information – PLEASE UPDATE NOW

It is important that we have up to date information on your child. This includes correct address and telephone numbers, emergency contact details, medical updates, including allergies, etc.

Much of this can be updated by parents/carers through the ParentApp. Please log into ParentApp and check that all the information that we hold for your child is correct and update where necessary.

If you are unable to access ParentApp, please contact the main school office who will be happy to assist by making the changes and helping you set up ParentApp for future use.

Free School Meals

Please see the school details for information around Free School Meal entitlement. If you are not currently entitled to receive Free School Meals, complete the form and if, in the future, circumstances change, the entitlement could automatically start for your child.

Lunch Accounts

We are currently looking at all student lunch accounts and will be contacting parents/carers where there is significant debt on a student's account. We will no longer be able to provide meals for those students who have considerable debt on their accounts and who make no payment to reduce the balance.

Please clear any overdrawn balance now or contact the main school office if this will cause undue financial burden.

Breakfast Club

Your child is also entitled to attend our free daily breakfast club.

A reminder that the daily School Breakfast Club starts at 8.00 am each school day. Students will not be able to access the club before 8.00am



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.



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**

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/>

Standards and Expectations

Uniform and Equipment

As the temperature has now dropped, please can we remind students of our uniform expectations, standards need to be maintained in all weather. Students must wear a Black V Neck Jumper underneath their blazer each day. If additional layers are required, then this needs to be a dark waterproof coat which is worn over the blazer. There should be no additional layers beneath the blazer. Tracksuit tops and Gillet style jackets are not permitted and will be confiscated if worn. Also, a reminder that trainers or converse style shoes are not permitted.

Students are required to bring their bag to school each day, along with their planner and pencil case with equipment. Please can you check that your child is fully equipped for school each day, ready to learn.

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.

Thornhill Academy PE Kit

What you need for PE:

- Navy Blue polo shirt
- Navy Blue shorts
- Navy Blue tracksuit bottoms or
- Navy Blue / Black Leggings
- Navy Blue Football socks
- Pair of trainers



What you need for Swimming:

- Swim shorts / trunks
- Swim costume
- Towel
- Goggles (optional)
- Swim Cap (optional)

Thornhill Academy PE Expectations:

- PE Kit needed each lesson
- PE Kit should be loaned if forgotten
- Long hair must be tied back
- All Jewellery must be removed
- Mobile phones are not permitted
- Chewing gum is not permitted

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.

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.

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	

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.

Please can we remind all parents that we request students to be on site for 8.30am each day, classes start at 8.40am prompt.

We would like to thank you in advance with your support on this matter.

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

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](#)

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



Twitter@thornhill_uk
Instagram@thornhill_academy
FacebookThornhill Academy

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

Sunderland Rowing Club

Discover rowing with Sunderland Rowing Club. Are you an adult looking to dive into the exhilarating world of rowing? Or perhaps you're a junior aged 12 – 18, eager to explore sport. If so, why not join us at Sunderland Rowing Club and unlock the excitement of rowing on the picturesque River Wear.

Every weekend, our dedicated team of volunteer coaches opens our doors to aspiring rowers of all ages and skill levels, for free learn to row sessions. Come and experience the joy of rowing, in a supportive and inclusive environment, guided by passionate individuals who love to share their expertise.

Program Highlights

- Improved fitness and well-being – experience the physical and mental benefits of rowing, while getting in shape.
- Competitive opportunities – take part in local and national regattas and challenge yourself in friendly competitions.
- Teamwork and communication – learn essential life skills as you collaborate with your crewmates on the water.
- New friendships – connect with like-minded individuals and build lasting friendships in our welcoming community.
- Expert guidance – our dedicated volunteer coaches bring their experience and passion to every session, providing comprehensive instruction and support.
- All equipment provided – no need to worry about gear – we will supply everything you need to get started.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to explore a new sport and become part of our vibrant rowing family.

To reserve your spot, simply fill out the Learn to Row form on the following website:
<https://forms.gle/91dZMeDEwHbdTj2X6>

For further details, visit our website:

<https://sunderlandrowing.co.uk>

or reach out to us via email:

contact@sunderlandrowing.co.uk

We will be thrilled to welcome you aboard at Sunderland Rowing Club!

Government Advice

Back to School advice - UKHSA

[UKHSA reminds parents of back-to-school advice - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

The poster features a central image of two young rowers in blue uniforms holding oars. Above them is the Sunderland Rowing Club logo with the year 1889. A QR code in the top right corner is labeled 'scan me to sign up'. The main headline reads 'JOIN OUR FREE LEARN TO ROW SESSIONS!'. Below this, a section titled 'ARE YOU READY TO ROW?' includes the sub-heading 'Unlock Your Potential' and a paragraph: 'Join Sunderland Rowing Club for our FREE! Learn to Row sessions every weekend. Discover the thrill of rowing in a supportive and friendly environment. No experience necessary – just bring your enthusiasm!'. It also says 'Sign up now by scanning our QR code'. A 'Contact us' section lists the phone number 07885628432, email contact@sunderlandrowing.co.uk, and address Sunderland Rowing Club, Riverside Park, South Hylton, SR4 0RT. Training fees are listed as 'Juniors Training £12.50 / monthly £150 / yearly' and 'Adults Training £15 / monthly £180 / yearly', with a note that 'First 4 sessions are FREE!!!'. The bottom of the poster includes the website SunderlandRowing.co.uk and social media icons for YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram.