



**Thornhill
Academy**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

Thornhill Parent Update 22nd March 2024

For the last few weeks I have been talking to you about our school values of excellence, opportunity and partnership. Today I want to share with you what can happen when all three of these come together.

We are really proud to announce that one of our outstanding Year 11 students, has been recognised with a fabulous award. Last Friday, at the Rainton Arena in Houghton Le Spring, Sunderland City Council held their prestigious Sunderland Young Achievers Awards, where music student Caleb stood out among the city's brightest young talents.

The Arts and Culture Award, presented annually to exceptional young achievers, was handed to Caleb by Barry Hyde, frontman of 'The Futureheads, and also a former Thornhill pupil himself.

Caleb's passion for music sets him apart. A multifaceted talent, he excels as a singer, drummer, and self-taught guitarist. However, it is his extraordinary ability to discern pitch with unparalleled accuracy that truly distinguishes him. With a rare gift possessed by only one in ten thousand individuals, Caleb can identify any note played, even if four notes are played at the same time.

His involvement in the Young Musicians Project has been transformative. This collaborative initiative brings together young artists to compose and perform music while building confidence, wellbeing, and musical skill. Caleb has emerged as a central figure within the group, showing resilience and leadership.

As well as currently studying for his GCSEs, including Music, Caleb is a drummer in his Indie rock band 'Rokkari', and their first single 'Home' is currently on Spotify.

Caleb's achievements serve as an inspiration to his peers, and a testament to the nurturing environment at Thornhill Academy. As he continues to pursue his passions and make meaningful contributions to the arts community, Caleb exemplifies the spirit of determination and excellence. Also central to this phenomenal journey he is on, have been the opportunities he has been given through the various partnerships we, and he have worked with.

Caleb demonstrates what our students can achieve with the opportunities they are given in a whole host of different ways, through positive engagement in school, and co-curricular activities. These help them to make connections with organisations wider than school, which can lead them in so many fantastic directions.

We look forward to seeing what the future holds for Caleb.

Well done!

Mrs S Hamilton

Headteacher



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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.

Breakfast Club



How do you feel if you miss breakfast?



Eating a healthy breakfast makes a difference

Join us for a free breakfast every morning

GCSE Maths Masterclasses

GCSE Maths Masterclasses will run from Monday 25th March 6-7pm, and students from Year 11 across all Consilium Academies are encouraged to attend. Each session will focus on a key topic or theme and will be delivered by the leaders of our cross-trust maths network, the first session will be led by Mr Hewson, Assistant Headteacher, from Ellesmere Park. Mr Hewson is an experienced teacher and examiner and is an expert in raising attainment in Maths. The sessions will support students in broadening their mathematical knowledge and provide them with hints and tips for their upcoming examinations.

If you have any questions about the sessions, please contact Mrs Onoka. If your child cannot attend, the sessions will be recorded and accessible at a later date, via our student revision site, but we strongly encourage all students to access the live sessions so they can space their revision appropriately.

The link to access the session is here:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 317 706 140 901

Passcode: RpCvxr



MATHS MASTERCLASS



With Mr Hewson

Algebra: Foundation/Higher
crossover (both tiers invited)

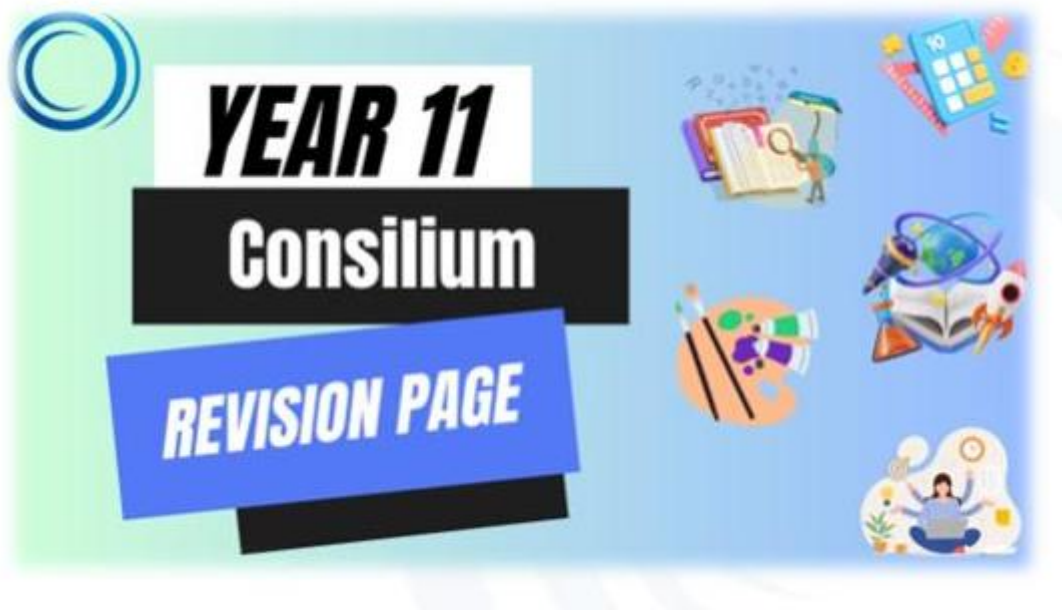
**MONDAY 25TH
MARCH**

**6-7PM
ON TEAMS**

Consilium Academies Revision Page

We're excited to announce the launch of our new Consilium Academies Revision Page! This online resource hub is designed to support our students in Maths, English, Science, Art, and enhancing their study skills. With a wide range of materials tailored to enrich learning and reinforce knowledge, our students can now access invaluable resources at their fingertips. Visit <https://consilium.froglms.net/student-revision> to explore the content and begin your journey towards academic excellence. Together, let's make the most of this opportunity to achieve greater success in your studies.

<https://consilium.froglms.net/app/os#!student-revision/consilium-student-revision-page>





Assemblies

This week, years 7 to 10 received a fun filled assembly on British Science Week. The theme this year is Time. We discussed how important time is in all of our lives, and why it is even more important for scientists.

Pupils were asked to prepare a poster on the theme of time, and we intend to enter 5 posters from the school into a trust wide competition (the winner will receive a £40 Amazon gift voucher) and 5 posters into a national competition.

We look forward to seeing what our amazing pupils will produce.



Personal Development

Guidance Curriculum

Please see below for our Guidance lesson Themes from this week

Year 7- Media Influence and body Image

Year 8- Mental Health

Year 9- Sexual Health

Year 10- Gangs and County Lines

Year 11- Connecting body and emotions

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!

In our personal development sessions this week, we have explored the idea of parroting! We explored with students how it is important to think about the language we use because our words can have an impact on other people - we should think about them as part of our actions, not as less important. It's not easy to 'take something back' if you said something you didn't mean.

Profanities, are widely considered offensive words, intended to show disrespect or negativity. Although that may not be the intended effect of our decision to use profanities, it's important to consider the impact of our language on the relationships with those around us.

Language can be used to include and to exclude people. The choices we make around our language can result in making people feel safe, confident, included, and happy vs. unsafe, hurt, excluded or rejected. Our Thornhill ways, states that 'we look out for each other and report concerns', that 'we greet people politely and with respect' and 'we are role models for each other'

There can be many influences on our language, but we must still take responsibility for the language we choose to use, and its effect on others. We must be cautious about parroting others, and not thinking of the effect of our words, and know that using slurs that are demeaning towards particular groups of people is completely unacceptable.



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

Trips

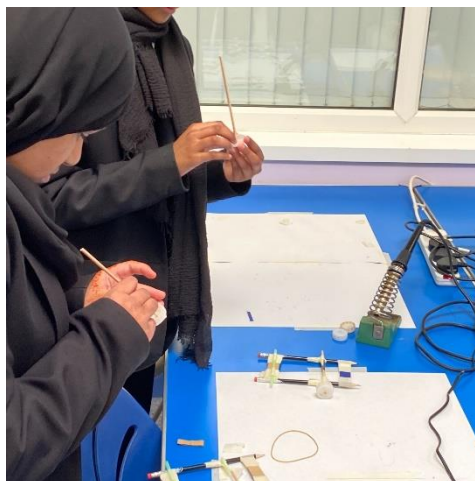
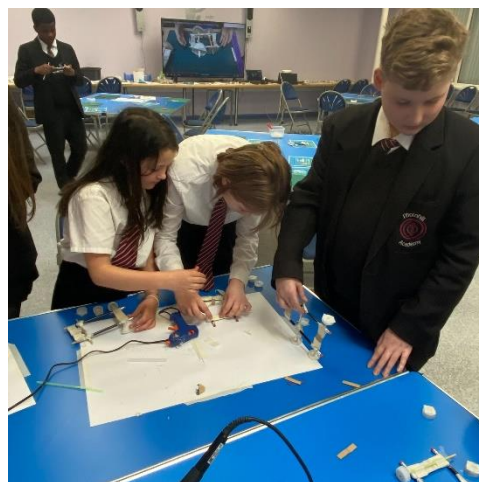
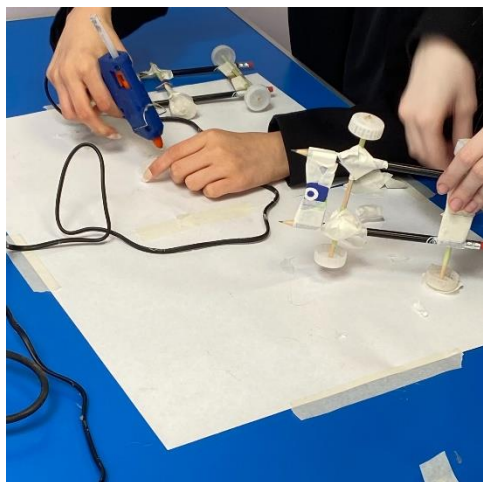
On Wednesday, we had a fantastic visit by 20 of our year 10 GCSE R.S. students to Chester Road Mosque for a talk from Imam Shuheb, and a tour of the mosque. Imam Shuheb was very complimentary of our students' well thought out questions. This was a great follow up to our previous visit to The Church of St Michael and All Angels, and the Ashbrooke Gurdwara in July. Thank you to Mr Rice for providing our students with these cultural and spiritual opportunities to explore our diverse community.



Rewards

We began our rewards events this week, with enrichment activities for our students with top praise points. Well done to Year 7 students selected for the Rubberband Car STEM activity with the Smallpiece Trust. Students took part in an additional STEM session with the DT department to say thank you. Thank you to Mr Miller and Mr Wake too!

Next week year 8 students take part in a Minecraft workshop, and year 9 enjoy a trip to Sunderland College's Bistro!



Careers

To round off an exciting term of careers event for students, we will be holding our 4th Business Breakfast of the year on Tuesday 26th March, with representatives from Newcastle Building Society, Gateshead College and SETA! Parents can encourage students to come along to breakfast club from 8am for a free breakfast, and a chance to talk to employers too! Below shows students at our very first business breakfast last summer! If any parents would like to get involved in joining us to talk to students informally about their career or pathways, please contact Mrs Crooks for more information (cherry.crooks@consilium-at.com)



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.

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/>

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

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](#)
