



**Thornhill
Academy**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Proud to be part of
**Consilium
Academies**

Excellence | Partnership | Opportunity

Thornhill Parent Update 17th May 2024

Last Sunday was the Sunderland City Runs event. As a school, we were asked for volunteers to support this event. Our school community did not let us down and we sent a team of staff, parents, and students to support this event. Our team worked from 8am until the final runner crossed the finish line at 2pm. Our students represented the school fantastically and really got involved in the community spirit, they showed great enthusiasm and encouragement to the runners, supporting them every step of the way. They cheered them over the finish line, asked how they felt, and handed them water to rehydrate after running 10k or half a marathon. It was brilliant to see our students demonstrating our school values of opportunity, partnership, and excellence in our local community.

It has also been lovely to receive emails from people who ran in the event, commenting on how great our students were – “The team must be congratulated for their efforts, all carried out with a real sense of purpose and cheerful disposition. As a participant I heard several fellow runners’ comment most positively regarding the smiles and helpful attitudes of the students”.

Also, last weekend, a group of our year 11 students had the opportunity to stay at Ushaw Historic House for an English and maths revision residential. The staff and students both got so much out of this fantastic opportunity to stay and study in such beautiful surroundings. This really supported them well for this week’s exams. We are so proud of how, as a year group they are responding to this challenging time for them and really putting the effort in. They are now a third of the way through this exam series, and it is lovely to see some very happy faces at the end of each exam. Thank you to parents and carers who are supporting them so well at home in readiness for their exams.

Thank you also for the support with attendance and punctuality, every day counts and is just as important as the last. Our curriculum is planned and taught over 39 weeks and whether it is the first, or last day of term, every second counts.

Mrs S Hamilton

Headteacher



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Academies**

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

Important Information

School will be closed to year 7 – 10 pupils on Friday 24th May for a school INSET day. Year 11 students are expected to attend on this date. School will then be closed from Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May for half term. School will reopen to all students on Monday 3rd June.

We are seeing increasing lunch account debt within school. Whilst we will not see a child without a meal in school all day, we cannot continue to offer the full menu.

From Monday 29th April, if your child's lunch account is overdrawn in excess of £10.00, you should either add funds or send them into school with a packed lunch. If not, we will only be able to offer the following food choices at lunchtime:

- Cheese corner sandwich
- Ham corner sandwich
- Jacket potato and beans.

In addition, there is always fresh drinking water available in the canteen.

If you believe that your child is entitled to free school meals and are not currently receiving the entitlement, please enter your details here [FSM checker](#)

The balance on your child's lunch account can be viewed via ParentPay. Alternatively, should you require help, please contact the main school office on 0191 500 7981.

Year 11 Public Examination Update

Year 11 pupils have been preparing for their forthcoming examination. The next few weeks are extremely important in terms of revision and final opportunities to maximise their examination outcomes.

To support your child in preparing for examination subjects, lessons will be running as normal. Pupils will be able to revise for any afternoon examination in a designated room and we will also be running a series of booster sessions before each examination.

Your child has been given their personal examination timetable. The examination window is Thursday 9th May -Wednesday 26th June 2024, and the full examination timetable can be found on the website, alongside further information about examination preparation.

Please note that examination contingency dates have been scheduled, these are:

- Thursday 6th June 2024
- Thursday 13th June 2024
- Wednesday 26th June 2024

Pupils are required to be available up to, and including 26th June 2024. Please avoid booking holidays or engagements that may overlap these dates. You can find out more details about the arrangements in the Ofqual Student Guide 2024

Pupils have been informed about examination regulations and this information can be found:

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-Written_Examinations_Sep2023_FINAL.pdf



Turn your online shopping into magic

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



Thank you so much!

Breakfast Club



We are proud to offer the National School Breakfast Programme at our school, come and enjoy a healthy breakfast with us.

Where to get **Biscuits?**
Location: Thumbprint
Time: 8:00am

Mental Health Awareness Week

This week is Mental Health Awareness week, and in addition to our assembly our tutor groups explored ways in which they can use movement to release endorphins and enhance their positive mental health.



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Consilium
Academies

MOVE IN MAY!

Could you travel the round trip of the
Consilium Academies which is 305 miles?



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

Are you up for a challenge?

- Could you travel the round trip of the Consilium Academies which is 305 miles?
- This can be any form of physical activity, walking, running, cycling or even rowing!
- You can complete this as part of a team or a solo challenge.
- Send a screenshot of your activity to your schools contact:

Mrs Crooks



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Academies

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- Could you travel the round trip of the Consilium Academies which is 305 miles?
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- Send a screenshot of your activity to your schools contact:

Mrs Crooks

Assemblies

This week's assemblies have been focused on Mental Health Awareness week. This year the main focus is, 'moving for your Mental Health'. All year groups watched a clip of Joe Wicks talking about how exercise can help build positive mental health. We looked at examples of exercise, from yoga to boxing, cycling to just dance, even having a walk. The pupils were set a challenge to help promote their positive mental health by making even a small movement challenge.

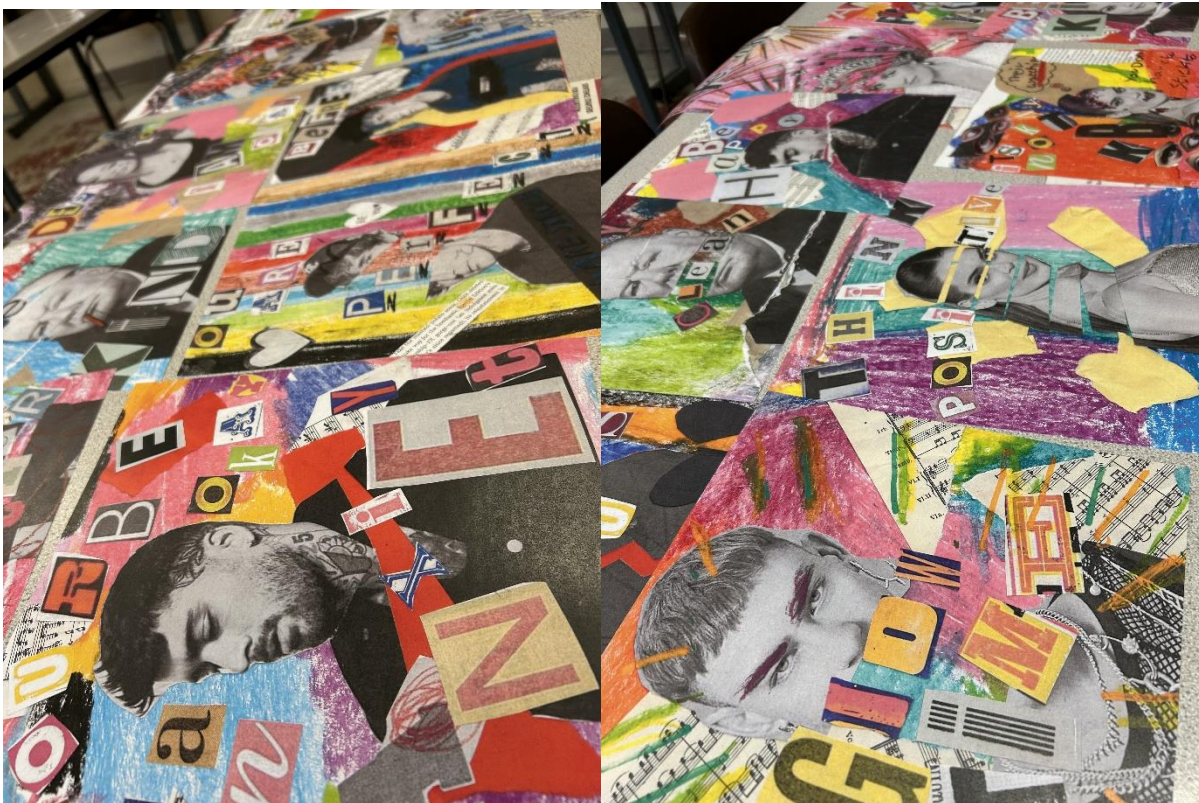
Our PE department offer a range of after school activities too, please contact Mr A Miller for further information.

All students were amazing throughout the assemblies. Just a reminder to encourage talk and movement, if students/families need any further support please reach out to staff in school, GP, Washington Mind, Kooth to name a few.



Art

In art lessons Year 9 students have been exploring this theme and have produced their own personal and creative responses



Mental health was also a focus for our rewards earlier in the term with a visit from The Mercians. The Mercians are an up-and-coming rock band who are touring schools to share their music as well as share the importance of our awareness, and support, for mental health issues. They are now offering students the chance to buy their schools tour t-shirt for just £12. If any students are interested speak to Mrs Crooks



Personal development

Our Boys Network workshops started this week. This is a series of 5 sessions for a group of our amazing boys, to develop their skills, and reflect upon themselves and their futures. Stacey Riley who facilitates the sessions wanted to feedback how well they all engaged with the activity, “especially as it was an uncomfortable one of thinking about self and our positive qualities. It was lovely to hear snippets of their conversations and see little moments of their bravado dropping, just momentarily! Next week is a fully practical session around body language. I look forward to challenging them further and applying today's learning.... They're in for some more uncomfortable moments”.

These workshops are in addition to the Boys Network Mentoring which continued this week, looking at the theme of Empathy and its importance in teamwork. These are great opportunities and rewards for our dedicated students.

Careers

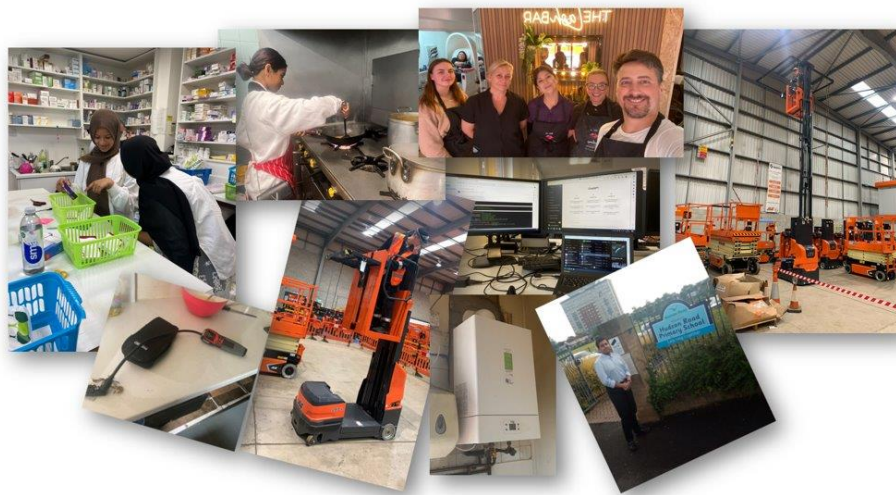
Year 10 are coming close to their deadline to sign up for work experience placements. Next week, students will be issued with their personal QR code and guidance again for accessing the Connected Ed app.

The video link below will guide them on how to upload their placement details for this to be verified by the school and for risk assessments to be gathered.

https://youtu.be/8n7hf_Uslog?si=Cg0-9a1KTzmt4SGD

This experience gives students the chance to find out about themselves, find out about careers and find future opportunities. Work experience for all of year 10 will take place in the week beginning 8th July. Students will either spend 5 days out of school completing a face-to-face workplace experience, which they find for themselves, or spend time in school on a range of virtual and in school workplace experience activities.

Below is a sample of the experiences gained last year!



Business Breakfast



We hosted another successful Business Breakfast this week. Thank you to all our visitors, from Seimans, Newcastle University, Building Society, Gateshead College, East Durham College, Newcastle college, Sunderland Care and Support and the Department for Work and pensions. Our Year 7 students really impressed our visitors with how keen they were to talk and discuss careers and skills. They had a great insight into exciting possible futures!



Co-Curricular



On Thursday's we do Minecraft! It has been great dropping in to see the amazing creations from students at our Thursday Minecraft, with Mr Miller! Come along and get creative every Thursday after school!



Social enterprise

Our amazing social enterprise group have been raising funds for a range of things they would like to see developing to support our community, from gathering aid for conflicts, blankets for refugees, to updating our school's sensory room. Next week, they begin their fundraising in earnest, with a cake sale! The team would welcome your support to donate any cakes or bringing in cash to buy them!



CAKE SALE
Tuesday and Wednesday
BREAKTIME
Bottom Yard Near Thornhill Rewards Desk
50p/£1 a cake- proceeds will go to the
Thornhill Social Enterprise Project

ARMY
BE THE BEST

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ARMY CAREERS?

APPRENTICESHIPS

UNIVERSITY SPONSORSHIP

ARMY FOUNDATION COLLEGE

SPECIALIST TRADES

If you would like to learn more, see some military equipment or take part in some fun activities visit our Open Day

On: 30th May 2024

At: St Georges Bks, Sandyford Rd,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 1DF

From: 1000 - 1600

This event will show case different parts of the Army and some of the equipment we use, giving the public the chance to get their hands on and learn more about it.

There will also be actives at the venue such as Airsoft/paintball shooting gallery, Climbing wall, Reaction Test, and other military style games.

This event is **FREE** for all, who would like to attend.

Look out for the announcement on Class Charts for any student wishing to get involved in a future football academy with East Durham College

**JERMAIN DEFOE
FOOTBALL
ACADEMY**

**OPEN
DAY**

AVAILABLE FOR LEARNERS AGED 16-18

**WED 29TH MAY
1-3PM**

POWERED BY:

**SIGN UP NOW ON THE
EDC WEBSITE
BY CLICKING HERE**

may half term Family WORKSHOPS

Winnibell Family Hub

1- 4 Lombard Street, Hendon, Sunderland SR1 2HS

Culture House Sunderland are working with Cultural Spring to bring creative and crafty activity to families across Sunderland in May Half term.

Tuesday 28th May

Marionette Puppet Making with Rachelle Harrigan (6-11 yrs), 10am - 12pm

Make your own marionette puppet from household and recycled objects. Bring to life your own little character using paper, glue and a loo roll or two! You will be guided step by step, just bring your imagination

Early Years Messy Play with Jenni Mac (0-5 yrs), 1pm - 3pm

Messy Mobile Making - A make-together workshop for 0-5 and their adults. Join us for an artist-led space to play and make together for little ones and grown ups like to make hanging mobiles both to take home and to decorate the new Culture House!

Thursday 30th May

Recycled Face Planters with Suzie Winsor (6-11 yrs), 10am - 12pm

Make your own face planter from household and recycled materials. Turn a recycled tin can into your favourite character or person and bring them to life using buttons, pegs, felt, glue and lolly pop sticks. During the session you will also learn how to plant seeds. Once completed take your face planter home and watch your character's hair grow!

Early Years Music with Chris Clark (0-5 yrs), 1pm - 2.30pm

Come and join us to make music with your family and friends. There'll be songs and nursery rhymes you know, new favourites, new musical skills, games, instruments, props and a chance to relax and enjoy the space. We're looking forward to playing some music together!

Friday 31st May

Spoken Word with Rowan McCade (12-15yrs), 1pm -3pm

Poetry can be proper boring, can't it? Daffodils... clouds... something about potatoes? Spoken word poetry is a bit different. It's all about getting in front of an audience, either online or on a stage, and wowing them with words that are big and bold. It might make you laugh till you cry, or hit you with an idea that's so surprising it completely changes your life. Rowan McCabe is a spoken word poet who has wowed audiences across the UK and Europe. He's performed at Glastonbury Festival, The Royal Albert Hall, and he's written poems for Channel 4, the BBC and the National Trust. Come and join Rowan for a fun and laid back workshop that will introduce you to the basics of writing spoken word, from getting your story down on the page, to hitting the stage. Whether you've never written a poem before, or you're looking to take things further, this is the workshop for you.

All activities are

FREE



For booking onto a session please visit the Cultural Spring website at theculturalspring.org/whatson

Booking essential as spaces are limited.

may half term Family WORKSHOPS

Sunderland City Library

Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR1 1PP
(Located in Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens)

Culture House Sunderland are working with Cultural Spring to bring creative and crafty activity to families across Sunderland in May Half term.

Tuesday 28th May

Fairytale Puppet Making with Georgia Hill (5-11 yrs), 10am - 1pm

Make your own puppets based on your favourite fairytale / story! Georgia will provide an inspiring range of recycled materials for you to create your own puppets from. Finally, create your own backdrop and bring your creations to life in the cardboard puppet theatre!

Cardboard Box Characters with Sally Southern (5-11 yrs), 10am - 1pm

Come and make your own 4-in-1 masks! Make your favourite fairytale characters or storybook animals using cardboard boxes and recycled materials. Be a mouse, a lion, a dragon and a king or queen all in one mask!

Thursday 30th May

Lego coding with Andrea Errington (5-11 yrs), 10am - 1pm

LEGO coding kits teach students how to code through a combination of brick building and software using a digital tablet. Learning to code with LEGO is an excellent way for youngsters to understand robotics and computer science through play.

Illustration with Liz Million (6-11 yrs), 10am - 1pm

Come along and learn how to draw like a pro with fabulous illustrator/author, Liz Million! In this hilarious and fully interactive drawing session, Liz will be showing how to draw futuristic cartoon characters using exciting expressions, super shading, action lines and so much more. We'll be creating our own inventions like robots on roller skates and flying saucer armchairs!

All activities are

FREE



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



may half term Family WORKSHOPS

Grindon Church Community Project

Galway Road, Grindon, SR4 8JZ

Culture House Sunderland are working with Cultural Spring to bring creative and crafty activity to families across Sunderland in May Half term.

Tuesday 28th May

Early Years Music with Chris Clark (0-5 yrs), 10.30am - 12pm

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Saturday 1st June

Early Years Messy Play with Jenni Mac (0-5 yrs), 10am - 12pm

Messy Mobile Making - A make-together workshop for 0-5 and their adults. Join us for an artist-led space to play and make together for little ones and grown ups alike to make hanging mobiles both to take home and to decorate the new Culture House!

All activities are

FREE

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

 **Sunderland Mind** 7-17 YEAR OLDS

YOUTH SPACE

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED

HALF TERM FREE SESSION

THANKS TO QUICK FIT BOROUGH ROAD
WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY 11AM-3PM



**CRAFT ACTIVITIES
FUN GAMES
SPORTS CHALLENGES**



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
To book a space, contact us on **0191 565 7218** or groups@sunderlandmind.co.uk

Sunderland Mind Wellbeing Hub
Church Street East Sunderland SR1 2BB



"In partnership with Energy Savings Trust, Groundwork have a new service that offers help and advice with managing energy costs.

This service now covers residents in all areas under Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council, South Tyneside Council, Durham County Council, Gateshead Council and City of Sunderland Council

If you're looking for advice on reducing energy use, keeping warm at home, making energy efficiency upgrades, installing renewable energy systems, make energy efficient home improvements or just help to pay your energy bills please get in touch.

Our in-home support programme provides free, expert advice on being more energy efficient and on how to lower your bills.

We are completely impartial and there's no hard sell - just clear honest advice from the experts.

We can even help those in 'hard-to-treat' homes like: flats, terrace houses, old properties, single glazed properties and homes in the countryside.

If you would like any of the help listed above or just more information, please get in touch; my email address and mobile number are given below.

I can have a chat and/or make a referral to the programme, then one of the energy experts will be in touch to book a home visit."

Joel Barrow

Community Project Manager, North of Tyne Region

Groundwork NE & Cumbria

Joel.Barrow@groundwork.org.uk>

Mobile: 07977 819 720

Expo Sunderland

In partnership with
University of Sunderland



Come Outside

28-30 May 2024

Keel Edge, Sunderland

Looking for something fun to do in the school holidays? Come along, and you might make it into our Expo Sunderland video!



3 day event programme

Daily activities (11am - 4pm)

Gardening & wildlife

University of Sunderland
Forest school & leaf art
Polytunnel and planting
Rock painting

Sunderland Art Trail
Tree of emotion
Tree sculpture

Sunderland City Council
Plant a pledge

Back on the Map
Mini-bugs, recycled planters
and twig stars

Keel Edge Mainstage Spark FM (live broadcasting)

Health & fitness

University of Sunderland
Bootcamp
Netball & basketball
Kick tennis
Legs, bums & tums
Physiotherapy & massage
Podiatry
Yoga

Everyone Active
Circuit & PT sessions
Strength & balance

TED-style talks & masterclasses
Cooking on a budget
Healthy home hacks
Mental health & fitness

Buildings, vehicles & transport

Sunderland City Council
Electric driving sessions*
Electric bike sessions

Bike doctor
Bring your bike for a health check

City Hall Tours*
Preview of park and new buildings
Free drink for booked visitors upon exit

*book online

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.

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](#)

Derwent Hill

We are excited to announce an opportunity for our current Year 9 and 10 students to attend a residential trip to Derwent Hill in November 2024.

Derwent Hill is an outdoor activity centre in the Lake District who offer a range of outdoor teambuilding and adventure activities. All parents and students will have received a letter, and places are allocated on a first come first served basis. For more information, contact Mrs Crooks.



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](#)