



**Thornhill
Academy**
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



Proud to be part of
**Consilium
Academies**

Excellence | Partnership | Opportunity

Thornhill Parent Update 28th June 2024

Schools certainly work in cycles. Following last week where we said goodbye to Year 11 in their leaver's assembly, this week we have welcomed our new year 7's for September on their transition days. It has been wonderful to see them grow in confidence during these three days and start to make new friends. They have made an excellent first impression on everyone. We are very much looking forward to them joining us in September.

You should have received communication from me on Tuesday with regards to a consultation around changing the length of the school day from September. We are looking to extend the school day by an additional 25 minutes, to meet the Department of Education's new minimum expectation of a 32.5-hour school week. If approved, these changes will come into effect from 1st September 2024.

We believe that these adjustments will bring about benefits to the school community and have a positive impact on your child's education. The additional 25 minutes, to be named PM-PD, will be scheduled before lunch. Students in Years 7 to 10 will utilise this time for whole class reading sessions with their tutor. This additional focus on reading, aligns with our school's commitment to literacy, supporting students in enhancing their skills and fostering a genuine enjoyment for reading, a vital aspect that can sometimes decline during secondary school years. Furthermore, students who require additional assistance with their reading, will receive dedicated support during this allocated time

For Year 11 students, this extra time will be used to provide targeted GCSE intervention, replacing the current period 6 offer at the end of the day. This change aims to ensure that all Year 11 students receive tailored support to enhance their GCSE outcomes.

A copy of this letter can be found on the website, along with the timetable for the school day, and a link for you to provide feedback. Please can I ask you to take some time to read over this. We will notify you on Friday 12th July as to the timings of the school day from September.

Term will start for all students on Monday 8th September at 8.40am. further information in relation to this will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Can I also say a massive thankyou to all those of you who have taken the time to congratulate our team on the recent 'Good' Ofsted report that we received. It is clear that you are as proud as we are in this achievement. Your support of the school is something we really value.

Mrs S Hamilton
Headteacher



**Thornhill
Academy**

Thornhill Academy, Thornholme Road
Sunderland, SR2 7NA
0191 500 7981

"Excellence at the heart of everything"

thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com

Important Information

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.

Breakfast Club



Culture week

This week we celebrated our annual Culture and Diversity week. This is a week of coming together to share our identities, similarities, and differences. During the week, students took part in a wide range of activities, to learn about different aspects of culture. For example, tutor groups created displays linked to various parts of the world for our competition, every day, subjects enriched their curriculum with cultural activities, our restaurant celebrated a range of cultural foods and much more.



The highlight of the week was our cultural dress day on Friday 28th June. On this day we invited students to come to school in clothing that they feel represents their identity and culture. This open celebration of our diversity is always a proud day for our students, many of whom take part in our cultural parade during lunchtime.

In addition to the culture events and activities this week, we also offered students a festival afternoon, as a whole school reward. Students were able to opt into a range of different activities in the afternoon as a thank you for all their ongoing hard work, positive attitude, and dedication, that helped us to achieve our 'Good' rating in our recent Ofsted inspection.

We are so proud of our diverse community of students, and even more proud of their desire and commitment to celebrate this. Our students have been highly involved in the planning and organisation of the week's events, and students are leading this week's assemblies to discuss the importance of diversity, tolerance, and respect for each other.

We look forward to sharing more in our special edition bulletin before the end of term!



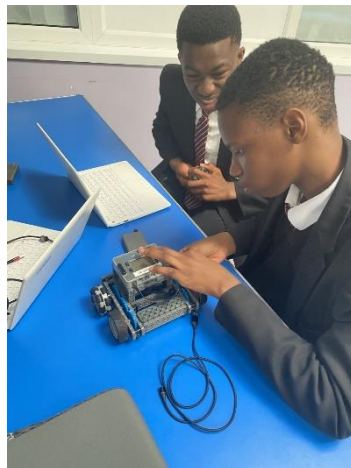
Assemblies

Our students, very proudly, led our assemblies this week, to share with the whole school the purpose of, and inspiration behind our annual Culture Week. They shared what diversity means to them, and how important it is to everyone in our school. They connected this well to our British Values of Mutual Respect and Tolerance, and the importance of educating ourselves, not judging each other, and being there to support and celebrate our differences. We are very proud of Ebby and Angel for their preparation and excellent delivery.



Events

Year 9 students were selected to take part in a Robotics workshop with our DT staff. Students were given a challenge to complete and used new knowledge of electronics and programming to achieve this. Our visitor was very complementary of the students and is keen to come and work more with Thornhill students in the future.



Swimming Club

This week, swimming club has been focusing on IM starts, turns, and the underwater element of each stroke. This term, we have covered all four strokes, and pupils have worked extremely hard at linking these together with their previous knowledge of aquatic skills. Pupils have been perfecting their techniques and experimenting in how to make each section of the stroke quicker, in order to win a race. Great work team Thornhill.



Trips

Newcastle Castle

On Wednesday, some of our year 7 pupils had the opportunity to take part in a trip to Newcastle Castle, as part of the history rewards. This trip allowed pupils to experience life in a medieval castle and learn about the dangers, disease, and prisoners of those in the North East.

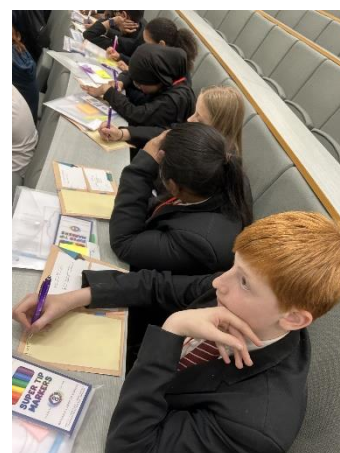


Northumbria University



On Monday, 30 Year 8 students took the metro to Northumbria University for an engaging day of interactive workshops, exploring study skills and presentation techniques.

Students learned strategies for breaking down information, to enable us to remember and recall information easily and quickly. In addition, the students completed a Talk the Talk workshop, exploring how to build confidence in public speaking, which is needed in all



aspects of our life, from answering questions in class, to attending a job interview and much more. Within an hour and a half, students gained confidence and skills to deliver a sharp, slick and professional presentation to the rest of the group!

Edinburgh Trip

Some of our students took part in the history/music trip, to Edinburgh. During the trip students took were able to explore the real Mary King's Close, a 16th century underground street. We then went to the Edinburgh Dungeons, and finally went to see SIX the musical. The students were amazing throughout the day and had a brilliant time.

Miss Harris



Great Consilium Run



We are continuing to raise money for our Consilium Cannon; a collection of books, we want to ensure that all children have the opportunity to read.

Students, and staff have been asked to collect sponsorship for their runs and have been challenged to take on at least 10 runs between now and Monday, 15th July. We continue to support students with clocking up our runs during PE lessons.

Friday, 5th July will be our big community day, where all year groups will be able to come to school in their PE kit, to take part in a year group run to complete as many laps as possible! We will also be offering a reward of a colour run with our feeder primary schools in the afternoon!

Thank you in advance for your sponsorship of our students. Please see our Just Giving page for more information: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Consilium-Canon?utm_term=MPmEBPwmP

National Music Day



Amazing performance by our band at The Firestation to celebrate National Music Day. Scan the QR code to view.



Year 7



Performing at The Bridges



Thornhill Academy



"Excellence at the heart of everything"

SUMMER CONCERT

one last time...

July 18th 7pm

Featuring:

SOPHIA AND THE PITCAPS

THE SAVIOURS

Mad Tshirts

Caleb

and Special Guests

ONLY

£2

ON PARENT PAY


Ofsted
Good School

at 17Nineteen



Thornhill Academy's

Trainer/Shoe donation drive

Thornhill PE Dept. would greatly appreciate any Trainer / Shoe donations (all sizes) to assist our pupils with their lessons!!

Please drop off at main reception



Thornhill
Academy



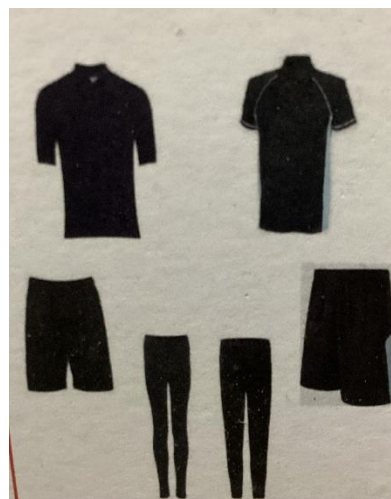
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P.E kit appeal

With year 11 coming to the end of their time with us, our P.E department is appealing for donations of any unwanted kit, students might not need (navy polo top, Thornhill P.E navy hoody, navy shorts, navy tracksuit bottoms) or any pair of unwanted/old trainers.

Any donations would be greatly appreciated, the items will be used as spares for next year, and to support other families who might benefit from the items provided. If you have anything you can provide, you can drop it off at reception, or speak with a member of the P.E staff.

Thanks.





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!

Upcoming Events

5th July- The Great Consilium Run

Coming soon ...

The ultimate fundraising event to raise money for the Consilium Cannon!

Run, Walk or even Cycle your way to the top spot.

Do you think you have what it takes to go the distance?

Do you think your school will go further?

Who will make the most money?

More information coming soon!



MORSIDE ELLESMERE ARMTHORPE HEWORTH WASHINGTON THORNHILL WYVERN EVOLVE
RUN RUN RUN RUN RUN RUN RUN

8th July- World of work week

As well as Year 10 being out of school on work experience placements there will be a number of work-related events for all year groups across this week, such as Young Enterprise workshops, visits to BT, Department of Work and Pensions workshops, Northumbrian Water experiences, Motivational talks and in school enterprise challenges to name a few!



"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

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

Derwent Hill

We still have places for students to sign up to our Trip to Derwent Hill in November. Derwent Hill is an outdoor activity centre, who offer a range of outdoor teambuilding and adventure activities.



All parents and students have received a letter and for more information, contact Mrs Crooks.

Trip details for parents of year 6 children coming into our year 7

For all year 6 parents we have an exciting trip planned, just for our new year 7s to the Ullswater Outward Bound Centre in January. This is aimed to develop teambuilding and resilience, but mainly to have lots of fun!

We want as many students as possible to take advantage of this opportunity, which is why we are giving notice in advance, and requesting an expression of interest, before **1st July 2024** to allow us to secure the booking.

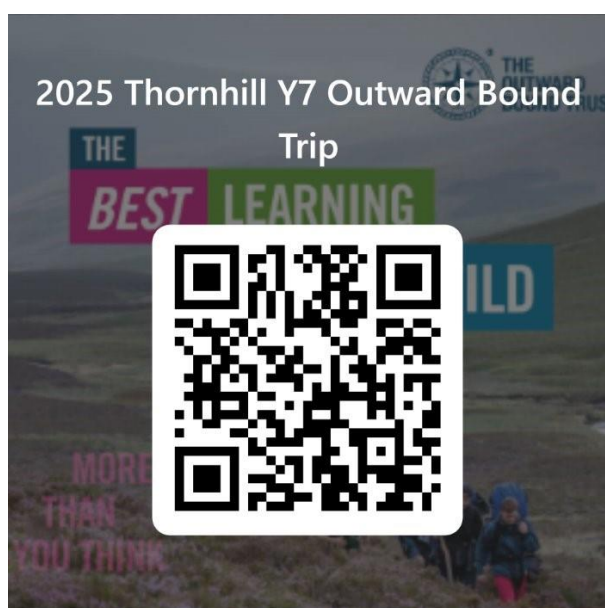
We will arrange for a deposit to be paid via our Parent Pay App in September, and an installment plan will also be available to support families in making this payment.

Please can parents/carers make their expression of interest via the QR code or this

link: <https://forms.office.com/e/n06MiYRmXc>

Once we have this information more communication will be shared. For now, more information about the Outward Bound Trust can be found here:

<https://www.outwardbound.org.uk/>



Details of our existing trips can be found by clicking on the links below:

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**](#)



Active Sunderland BIG Bike Ride

Sunday 14 July, Beacon of Light

Take the family on a 5 mile traffic free led ride, conquer a 12-mile adventure, stretch your legs on the 20-miler or challenge yourself to the 38-mile route.

Our rides are fully supported with clearly signed routes, marshals, first aid cover, bike mechanics and pick-up vehicles.

Entry starts at just £5 for children and £7 for adults.

Find out more at: mysunderland.co.uk/bigbikeride

**Sunderland
City Council**

**Active
Sunderland**

