



Thornden School Newsletter 29th September 2023

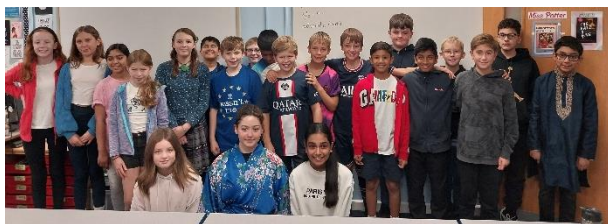
Head of School Welcome



Dear Parents and families,

An action-packed fortnight again for all at Thornden School. This week the school celebrated European Day of Languages by delivering registers in different languages. Year 7 wore their international outfits with pride so that we can celebrate diversity.

We also had a school improvement visit from the central team at HISP. Two experienced Executive Headteachers came into the school for the day to visit lessons, talk to staff and – most importantly – talk to students. The feedback from the visit was really positive. The school is making good progress against its school development plan, and they saw no disruptions to learning in any lessons. In addition, students said that they feel safe and know what to do if they have concerns. We are really pleased that this external review has recognised the hard work that staff and students have put in to making Thornden even better.



I have met with every Head of Department this week to talk through their examination results and to think about how we can best support Year 11 in their final vital year. As you can imagine, there was a lot to celebrate and I have been impressed by the passion and expertise that each leader has shown for their

curriculum area, as well as their drive to get the very best results for each individual student.

I went to a meeting today at Toynbee School with the Headteacher and a number of Heads from our local primary schools. I am really keen to work collaboratively with our local schools so that we can share the most effective practice, improve transition and support each other within the community.

I am pleased to report that the fence around the school is finally operational. As most parents know, this has been a real bugbear with lots of issues in the design and build of the fence. However, we are really pleased that it is fully functional and provides the safety that it was

designed to do. Mr Collar will be popping into assemblies next week to explain to students that the fence's purpose is absolutely to keep them safe and stop any intruders, rather than to keep students locked in school! Having worked with a number of schools – there are very few premises that do not have a fence and certainly, with a site so open, it is essential that we prevent people from coming on site who should not be there. Operationally, we will also explain to students what they do if they are late and how the gates release during evacuations.



Lastly, I wanted to celebrate Isaac Slater's achievement. During London Fashion Week last week, Isaac was selected to walk in a catwalk show for the first time. He performed three times on Saturday, in front of an audience of 600 industry members, designers and agency representatives. What an amazing opportunity! We are very proud of Isaac. Please do keep sharing your child's achievements outside and inside of school – we love to hear about them.

Have a lovely weekend and do get in touch if needed,

Caroline Lowing



HISP Art Competition

David Pike, the interim CEO for HISP, would like students to design a piece of artwork for him to display in his office.

Submissions must be A4 size and either a drawing, painting or graphic. No collages please.

There is a generous prize for the winning entry and the artwork will be displayed in the office.

Please take all entries to reception by Wednesday 18th October. Please make sure that the students name, tutor, and school are on the back.

Nasal Flu Vaccination

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child's Nasal Flu Vaccination is NOW DUE. This is free from the NHS.

Click the link below for the consent form and information about the vaccine.

School Code: SH136715

Session date: Thursday 5th October and Monday 9th October 2023

Link to website: [Winter Flu Vaccination programme : Hampshire Healthy Families](#)

From the School Age Immunisation Service

Please only submit one form per child and ensure you receive a confirmation email by return. If any errors are made when completing the e-consent form please contact the Immunisation team for assistance, rather than submitting another form. Contact details are on the website.

Please be aware that the e-consent link will close Monday 2/10/23 so the nurses have time to triage and collate the consents. The Immunisation Team will not accept any late consent submissions, this includes via email or phone so please ensure that you submit the e-consent form before this time.

It is important to contact the team prior to the session if there are changes in your child's health information from time of consent submission.

Artist of the week

Week 18th September-Scarlett. S Year 7

Produced an excellent drawing of a shoe in her first Art lesson at Thornden.
What a fantastic start!



Week 25th September-Harper D in Year 8

Harpers lynx lino print design was inspired by indigenous North American art.
Well done Harper!

Performing Arts News

Firstly, a warm welcome to all our new students and parents – Thornden Performing Arts has lots to offer, please stay tuned throughout the year to hear about various productions, clubs, ensembles, workshops and opportunities that we have to offer. Students will usually hear about opportunities and events via the student bulletin. Here are just some of the events starting soon:

Lunchbox Theatre (Year 7 Drama Club) – starting Friday 22nd September in D1 at lunchtime. Year 7 students just need to turn up!

Pulse (Boys Dance company) – every Friday 3pm-4pm for any boys in Years 7-11 who enjoy dance.

Senior Dance (Year 9, 10 & 11 students) – every Wednesday 4pm-5pm.

Junior Dance (Year 7 & 8 students) – every Monday lunchtime.

Thornden Singers – (a choir for all students from all years) – every Wednesday 3pm-4pm.

For all other Music ensembles, clubs and groups, please ensure your child has checked their tutor notice board for the schedule; there is something for all instrumentalists!

Bugsy Malone

It seems like ages ago now that Bugsy finished, but I keep finding cans of unused splurge in the Drama office! We also have a few programmes left; if your child would like one as a memento, please send them to the Drama office to see Mrs Smith. The professional photos are also now easily accessible at cwphotos.co.uk using the following log in details:

Username – ThorndenPerform Password – ThorndenShows.

There are some great photos on there of all the cast, which you might wish to purchase as a memento of a show to be proud of.

I look forward to being in touch soon to reveal our next school production....

Hellen Smith

Head of Performing Arts

Careers

College application deadlines-Year 11 Parents/Carers only

Please use the link below for information about college application deadlines.

[Year 11 College Deadline Letter](#)

The Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts, have a free open day on September 30th September, for any students interested in Performing Arts, including Comedy & Drama, Musical Theatre and Film & Television. Please see link for further details.

[PQA open day](#)

Arbor App Medical Information

Please be aware that you can only see a summary of the medical details on the Arbor App. To see full medical details, you need to go into the browser. It is important that you contact the school Nurse via email or phone to amend/update/add any medical details. Please do not update the medical details yourself; this is to ensure that all information is captured, understood and formatted correctly and that details are not overwritten that already exist on Arbor.

Year 10 Information Evening

Please note that we have had to make a change to the scheduled Year 10 Information Evening date. It will now be held on the Tuesday 10th October from 6-7pm in Thornden Hall. This will be an opportunity to hear from Mr Jewell and Ms Lowing regarding GCSEs at Thornden as well as the structure and vision for the year group over this academic year and the next.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact info@thornden.hants.sch.uk

Thornden Hall Events

What's happening at Thornden Hall?

Movies @ the Hall
Licenced bar, free parking



Event Cinema

A Little Life

L'Elisir D'Amore

Jonas Kaufmann



Live Acts



For more information and to book tickets visit thorndenhall.co.uk

Online Safety Message

The Anatomy of a Strong Password

Your First Line of Defence in the Digital World

Introduction

In our previous article, we discussed the importance of online safety in the digital age. One of the most fundamental practices in online security is the use of strong, unique passwords. Today, we will delve into what makes a password strong and how you can create one that is both secure and memorable.

Why Password Strength Matters

Your password is often the first, and sometimes the only, line of defence against unauthorised access to your accounts. A weak password can be easily cracked, leaving your personal information at risk. In contrast, a strong password acts like a robust lock that deters most attempts to breach it.

What Makes a Password Strong

A strong password is a complex combination of characters that is difficult to guess and hard for automated programs to crack. Here are some key components:

Length: At least 12-16 characters.

Complexity: A mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and special characters.

Unpredictability: No use of personal information like birthdays, names, or common words.

Creating a Strong Password

Creating a strong password doesn't have to be a daunting task. The latest [advice from the government](#) is to use three random words in a password. This is because it makes it more difficult for hackers to guess your password, as it is unlikely that the combination of words will be in their list of 'known passwords'. Then add other random combinations of capital letter, symbols, and numbers to make it harder for a computer to guess.

Remembering Your Strong Password

Creating a strong password is one thing; remembering it is another. Here are some tips:

- Password Managers: Use a reputable password manager to keep track of your passwords.
- Mnemonic Devices: Create a mental story or association to remember complex combinations.
- Regular Updates: It's good practice to change your passwords periodically, but not so often that you can't remember them.

Conclusion

While no password is 100% fool proof, a strong password significantly reduces your vulnerability to online threats. It's a small investment of time and effort that offers substantial returns in safeguarding your digital life.

Further Reading and Resources

[Password Manager Tips](#): A guide to using password managers from the National Cyber Security Centre.

[How Secure is My Password](#): A website that checks the strength of your password.

[2-Step Verification](#) - A guide from the National Cyber Security Centre on how you can further protect your accounts.

Mr A Thomas
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr T Baldwin
Head of Computer Science

Sports Update

Recent Results

U12	Boys	Football	vs	Kings'	League	Lost 2 - 3	...
U12	Boys	Football	vs	Swanmore	League	Won 2 - 1	...
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won 4 - 0	Chloe S
U12	Boys	Football	vs	Trafalgar	County Cup	Won 8 - 0	...
U13 (Team 1)	Boys	Rugby	vs	John Hanson	Friendly	Drew 10 - 10	Orion M
U13 (Team 2)	Boys	Rugby	vs	John Hanson	Friendly	Won 15 - 0	Orion M
U13	Girls	Football	vs	Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School	National Cup	Won	Tuula H
U13	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won	Isla H & Georgia R
U13	Boys	Football	vs	Swanmore	League	Won	Jamie
U13	Girls	Rugby	vs	Perins	Friendly	Lost 35 - 60	Sophie C
U14	Boys	Rugby	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Lost 15 - 25	William C
U14 A	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won 16 - 13	Kia H
U14 B	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Lost	Eli H
U14	Boys	Football	vs	Sherfield	County Cup	Won	Callum W
U14	Girls	Netball	vs	Westgate	League	Lost 12 - 22	Bella M & Ava R
U15	Girls	Rugby	vs	Perins	Friendly	Won 50 - 30	Rolly & Ellie
U16	Girls	Football	vs	Henry Beaufort	League	Won 2 - 1	Kirsty C
U16 A	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won	Ruby H, Grace G & Olivia S
U16 B	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won	Ruby H, Grace G & Olivia S
U16	Boys	Football	vs	Winchester College	County Cup	Won 7 - 2	...
U16	Girls	Netball	vs	Westgate	League	Won	Jess C & Olivia S

Extra-Curricular PE Clubs

Extra-curricular PE clubs are all now up and running. Since the start of the term, we have had over 800 attendances. We have played 21 fixtures, where we have won 15, lost 5 and drew 1. All clubs are free to attend, students just need to turn up. See the [link](#) to the timetable for half term 1.

Flag American Football's National Finals

At the start of September, Orion (Year 8 student) travelled up to Manchester with his Solent Red Storm Under 14's team mates to take part in Britbowl. This is the annual Flag American Football National Finals, involving teams from Scotland, Wales & England, which is the culmination of the season.

In a difficult first game that saw Red Storm take an early lead, they sadly couldn't get to grips with a very talented Sheffield Giants team that boasts several of Great Britain players and came out of it with a loss.

The second game was against the Nuneaton Jaguars who are always difficult opponents. This game was full of grit and determination and saw some stand out performances from Orion with some tenacious coverage from his position at Safety on the Defence, as well as some excellent displays at Wide Receiver, helping to drive down the field, which ended with a convincing Red Storm win, setting them up for the 5th / 6th place game.

The last game of the day was against the Hertfordshire Cheetahs for a crunch clash to see who would finish on top of this bracket. Again, a gritty performance from Orion and his teammates meant they came away with a 25-23 victory, which went down to the last seconds.

Solent Red Storm Under 14's is now ranked as the **5th best team in the United Kingdom** which is a huge achievement for this young team and gives an excellent place to build from next season.

Well done to Orion and his teammates!



England Athletics National Championships

A huge well done to Chloe P (Year 10 student) who competed at the England Athletics National Championships in Birmingham at the end of August. Chloe finished in a very impressive 5th in the final of the U15 300m, which was a great achievement given there are so many talented athletes in her age group.

Chloe is now ranked in the top 5 in the country! Well done Chloe!

Student Success

We are always keen to hear about success stories from our students outside of school, so please do get in touch if there is news we can share.

For any sporting successes, please email Mr Hall, Head of PE: b.hall@thornden.hants.sch.uk

Twitter

Follow @PEThornden on Twitter for a few more pictures and regular updates from the PE department.

Half Term Club and Activities

Holiday Clubs:

Ace Sports and Education is running in half term, providing fun sports and activities at Sherborne House School Chandler's Ford. Please see attached poster for further information.

Activities:

Avon Tyrrell Outdoor Activity Centre has a variety of activities for families to do during the half term. This includes Halloween activities, adventure activities, bike hire and new frisbee golf. Please see attached poster for further information.

General Contact

If you need to contact the school, please use either of the email addresses below.
In an emergency, please contact the school during office hours on 023 8026 9722.

info@thornden.hants.sch.uk

reception@thornden.hants.sch.uk