



## Thornden School Newsletter 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Head of School Welcome



We are right into examination season now – Year 11 have had their first whole cohort exams and are right in the thick of it! We are so proud of the way that they have conducted themselves and the way that they are supporting each other during this potentially stressful time. Thank you to all of the parents for their support as well, we really do appreciate it.

Following Bank Holiday Monday we had a wonderful Summer Music Concert on Tuesday 7th May. As ever, I was bowled over by the performances as well as the number of students who took part. There was definitely an ABBA theme and lots of toe tapping and head nodding! Thank you to those of you who came to support and thanks to the Music department and the Thornden Hall team.

Our Senior Leadership Team had a planning day last Friday. With my Headship starting in September we have a unique opportunity to develop a new three year plan. We have been unashamedly ambitious with what we want to achieve. I will hold a special meeting in the Autumn term and invite all parents to hear about our plans for the future.

Thank you to those of you who replied to our Parent Survey. We are just pulling together the final results and will get back to you to share the findings. We would like to hold a series of Parents Forum meetings in the Summer term and into next academic year – more to come on this soon.

This week I had the pleasure of conducting interviews for a new Site Manager. Our current site manager, Terry Harker, has been with the school for 17 years. We will keep you posted on the outcome. We have a few more interviews to go and we will be fully staffed for September. I spoke to a colleague today that has a Physics teacher from Thailand beamed into their Year 13 lessons because of staff shortages! We are so fortunate to be in a strong position as the recruitment and retention crisis rumbles on.

I hope that you have a lovely second May bank holiday and thank you again for all of your support.

Caroline

## Dates for your diary

Event	Date	Information
Year 8 Parents Evening	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Book online
End of Term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed 27 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> May
Spanish Exchange	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday June	Students go to Spain
Year 9 and 10 Dance	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	University of Chichester
Cluster Schools Orchestra Playing	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 7-10
Maths Challenge	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 7 and 8 follow-on round
Pride Colour Run	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Afterschool Event
District Athletics Year 7-10	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Southampton Sports Centre
<b>Inset day</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>School closed</b>
Rising Stars Concert	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm
Year 9 FunFest	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Period 7 and 8
Year 8 Gurdwara Trip	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	
Year 10 Big Summer Picnic	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Period 7 and 8
Welcome to Thornden Day	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition day for new Year 7's
Summer production/musical	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> July	
Year 7 Fantango	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Period 7 till 4pm
Activities day/Enterprise Day	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	
Last day of term	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	

### Meet the team behind the scenes!

At Thornden School Sal works as the Reprographics Technician. She provides resource materials for all subjects taught within the school.



Sal has a degree in Graphic Design & Production. Producing designs for displays and printing as requested, as well as printing exam papers during the busy exam period.

Her job varies from day to day, which makes it very interesting.

Sal loves Photography and of course chocolate!!

**06/05/2024-Lighthouse Team**

Something a little different this week...we just wanted to give you a sneaky peak at the work our Lighthouse Team have done on our mini lighthouse. The finished piece will form part of the Arts Trail raising money for Southampton Children's Hospital. Look out for the finished result on the Arts Trail this summer!

Well done Team!



**Pride Colour Run-Thursday | 3<sup>th</sup> June-Mrs H Weeks (Science teacher)**



To celebrate Pride month this year, the Pride Group are organising a Colour Run, after school on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Students will run a route within the school grounds, running through colour stations where they will have different coloured powders thrown at them. They will finish the event looking like a rainbow, hopefully!

In order to cover costs and raise money for a local LGBTQ+ charity, we will ask for a minimum donation, through Arbor. We will be advertising the event in school over the next few weeks and, if your child wishes to participate, you'll be able to sign them up using the Arbor app.

We hope that this will be a fun event for all!

Any questions, please contact Mrs H Weeks.



## Duke of Edinburgh-Mrs A Quigley (Teacher of Maths and Lead DofE)



The night before the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition, the lightning struck, and thunder rolled. Forty-one students and six teachers lay in their beds thinking that the following night we would be in tents in the New Forest in this dreadful weather. Miraculously the next morning the forecast changed, and the sun appeared. The students were to spend two days walking and exploring, carrying everything they needed to navigate, cook a hot meal and camp. Students had spent many weeks training, planning a 24km route and learning how to set a compass. Despite a few wrong turns they all arrived safely at Roundhill Campsite. After setting up tents (a big thank you to FOTS for their generous support), one team started to unpack chopped onion, celery, olive oil and tins of tomatoes! The Jamie Oliver of Thornden School made a delicious tomato sauce and pasta for the rest of his team. After football, s'mores and socialising, it was time for bed.



The second day proved more challenging as blisters and sore feet started to impact morale. With no alternative but to walk out of the forest, some students showed incredible resilience to make it to the finish, often surprising themselves. Other members of the team learnt valuable lessons about the importance of supporting each other when things got tough.

Congratulations to all the students for successfully passing their expedition this year. Once they have also completed their volunteering, skills and physical sections, they will achieve their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. This opportunity is offered to all Thornden students at the start of Year 10.

### School Parking

Please can you avoid coming on to the school site to drop off your child. There are numerous other roads where it is far safer and less congested to make the drop off. We really appreciate your support with this.

Please do not park over any of the zebra crossings. These are used by students to safely enter and leave the school.



## Student achievements



### Barton Peveril Art Competition

Out of 130 entries into Barton Peveril's School Art Competition, Isobel. J in Year 8 won the competition. The competition was for Year 7 and 8 students from local schools. All entries will be displayed by Barton Peveril sometime in June, we will share the link once available.

## Careers-Miss Stickland (Head of Business and Enterprise) and Miss Quinn (Work Related Learning Coordinator)



Click [here](#) for all the latest careers news, events and opportunities.

### Year 10 College Open Events

It is really important that students visit any college they are considering applying for. They need to get a feel for the place, speak to the teachers and find out about the courses they are interested in. It is necessary to book tickets, so please visit the individual college websites, or visit the Career Events and Opportunities page on the Thornden School Careers Website on the link below to see all the upcoming events:



### [Upcoming events](#)

The standard programme of study is 3 qualifications/subjects. This can be made up of A Levels, BTECs, T Levels or other equivalents:

**A Levels** = 1 qualification/subject

**BTEC/CTEC Extended Certificate** = 1 qualification/subject

**BTEC/CTEC Diploma** = 2 qualifications/subjects

**BTEC/CTEC Extended Diploma** = 3 qualifications/subjects

**T Level** = 3 qualifications/subjects

In some cases studying 4 qualifications/subjects is possible, but predicted grades would need to be high and it is worth noting that UCAS will only look at 3 subjects when reviewing university applications

For more information on qualifications, subjects and questions to ask, please visit the College Information page on the Thornden School Careers Website:

### [Qualifications, subjects, and questions to ask](#)

If your student would prefer to start a more work related option, they may wish to consider an apprenticeship where they will be working for 80% of the time in real employment and 20% of the time at college learning a relevant qualification. Information about these is available on the Apprenticeships page on the Thornden School Careers Website:

### [Apprenticeships](#)

### Vacancy Opportunity

We currently have a number of Clerk vacancies across our schools. Please see [advert](#) for more details. We would love to welcome you to be part of the HISP Community.



## Summer Concert-Mr Jones (Head of Extra-Curricular Music)



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May we had our Thornden Summer Concert, involving over 150 students, performing in the Music departments ensembles that rehearse weekly.

This was the last main concert of the school year and the time of year where we have to say goodbye to Year 11, and many have been heavily involved in the Music Department's extra-curricular programme during their five years at Thornden. There were GCSE exams starting the next day, but some still came along and played in the concert; I would like to thank them for all their playing, commitment, and dedication to extra-curricular Music throughout their time at Thornden.

<p><b>Percussion Ensemble (Mr. M. Streater)</b> Brazil – by A. Barroso, arr. D. Downs and R. Mattingly</p>
<p><b>String Orchestra (Mrs. M. Gale)</b> The Best of ABBA – by B. Andersson &amp; B. Ulvaeus, Arr. T. Ricketts</p>
<p><b>Brass Ensemble (Mr. A. Needham)</b> Enjoy Yourself (It's later than you think) – by Sigman &amp; Magidson, arr. J. McKenzie</p>
<p><b>Flute Choir (Mrs. S. Dodd)</b> The Wellerman – trad.</p>
<p><b>Recorder Consort (Mrs. N. Smith)</b> Branle Double – by Praetorius Summertime – by G. Gershwin</p>
<p><b>Sax Mad &amp; Friends (Mrs. A. Bartlett)</b> Lazybones – arr. R. Ramskill Strawberry Velvet – by K. Street</p>
<p><b>Junior Vocal Ensemble (Mrs. H. Bekker)</b> Super Trouper – by B. &amp; S. Anderson &amp; B. Ulvaeus</p>
<p><b>Jazz Combo (Mr. R. Jones)</b> Blue Bossa – by K. Dorham, arr. M. Sweeney</p>
<p><b>Thornden Singers (Mrs. H. Bekker)</b> A Million Dreams – by B. Patek &amp; J. Paul Price Tag – by J. Jay, arr. H. Bekker-van der Merwe</p>
<p><b>Advanced String Group (Mrs. M. Gale)</b> Serenade – by A. Hewitt-Jones</p>
<p><b>Wind Band (Mr. R. Jones)</b> Highlights from GREASE – by W. Casey &amp; J. Jacobs, arr. P. Murtha There's No Business Like Show Business – by I. Berlin, arr. J. Moss Music From 'Les Miserables' – by C. M. Schonberg, arr. M. Sweeney Try Anything (from Zootopia) – by Sia, Hermansen &amp; Erksen, arr. M. Conaway</p>



## Department Spotlight

New feature! Each newsletter we will shine a spotlight on the work of one of our fantastic departments.



### BTEC Enterprise- Miss A Stickland (Head of Business and Enterprise)

BTEC Enterprise is a subject students will come across once they start their options process in Year 9. It is equivalent to one GCSE and is an alternative to GCSE Business. It is 60% coursework and 40% exam and is made up of 3 components:

- Exploring Enterprises (coursework)
- Planning and pitching a micro enterprise (coursework)
- Marketing and finance for Enterprise (exam)



Since January, the Year 10 students have been working really hard on component 1 and have just completed it. After learning all about enterprises, they were then applying this knowledge to the real world and were researching a local, small business (from the 3 above) and writing up about their aims, activities, entrepreneurs, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT model) as well as the external impacts on the businesses such as politics, the economy, social trends and technology influences (PEST model). This has been very informative for the students who often for the first time have had to think about what entrepreneurial skills are needed to make a business successful, what interest rates are and how they impact both businesses and individuals. Also, the political landscape and the decisions that are made in central government and how that impacts on businesses. As well as this they have had to analyse the ways in which businesses can use their strengths to take advantage of potential opportunities and minimise weaknesses and threats.

When we returned in the Summer, the Year 11s tackled component 2. They had to come up with an appropriate and realistic business idea that they could run for a year, with a starting budget of £50. They did not have to actually run the business, but other than that it was exactly what you would have to do in the real world. They had to debate 2 ideas and carry out both primary and secondary market research, before choosing their final idea. Once they had that, they had to complete a comprehensive business plan, including their stockists, logistics, costings, breakeven calculations, profit and loss account and a risk assessment. In November the students presented their business plans to me, just like you see in Dragons Den. They were nervous but every single one of them practiced, created fantastic visual aids and were incredibly professional. Their only remaining task then was to review their performance. I was so proud of all of them.



Component 3 is an examined unit, often the first of the exam period, where students apply their knowledge to a short, unseen case study. The focus is marketing and finance, much of which has been covered in their own business plan, making it more realistic and memorable for the students.

Overall, BTEC Enterprise is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about the world around them and think more in depth about the businesses, products and services they engage with every day. Each week we

have a 'Biz Quiz' with business in the news. Students are in teams and get promoted or demoted in a league, depending on their score each week. This was a story from April; the answer surprised us all!

1. Sainsbury's says shoppers are returning to its stores as the surge in online shopping seen during the Covid pandemic continues to unwind. The UK's second largest supermarket said online sales had increased due to the pandemic, but are now back to what percentage?



- A. 45%
- B. 36%
- C. 22%
- D. 13%

**Sainsbury's**

Answer: D

### Extra-Curricular Timetable

Don't forget to check out our current Extra-Curricular Timetables on the [website](#). Clubs are available for all years and include sports, music, art, games and much more!



## Wellbeing Den-Develop, Encourage and Nurture-Mrs Kingsley-Smith



### The Breakfast Club (Bereavement Support Group)

Father's Day balloon launch will be on Friday 14th June 2024 during period 7&8, meeting in the Wellbeing Den. If your son or daughter would like to attend please do let us know.

Our last breakfast club meeting gave us the opportunity to wish our Year 11s a fond farewell. It has been a pleasure for Mrs Limbrick and I to work with them all. They have been great at supporting and encouraging younger students to join our breakfast club. We will be sorry to see our Year 11s leave.

Due to its popularity and growing numbers we are planning to revamp how this service will be provided next year, current students have given their ideas too. Watch this space!

### Young carers

Young carers continue to meet each week with Mrs Leigh and Mrs Willson. We have advertised this in our student newsletter too and are delighted to see that more students are getting involved. There will also be an assembly soon to help our students identify if they are a young carer or know someone that is.

We have also heard from Sidekick who are able to offer confidential support to young carers, please see poster attached to the newsletter.

### Wellbeing Den visits

We continue to welcome students into our Wellbeing Den. Please do be assured that we always offer drop-in support if a child is upset. Our intention is to encourage students back to lessons when they are ready, to avoid too much disruption to their learning, as this can also add to their worries. We can also arrange pre-booked check-in sessions.

If you wish to know more about our services, please contact [s.kingsley-smith@thornden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:s.kingsley-smith@thornden.hants.sch.uk).



## Wellbeing Hub

As part of the Wellbeing Hub package, you have access to book one-to-one time with a specialist. The wellbeing hub understands that sometimes you might need a little more help tailored to your specific family situation so they set aside a number of appointments per week at a reduced rate for members. Bookings are offered in 30 minute blocks.

For more information please follow this [link](#).

Remember as a parent/carers at Thornden, you currently have free access to the Wellbeing Hub.



## Sports Update-Mr B Hall (Head of PE Department)



Team	Gender	Sport	VS	Opposition	Fixture Type	Result
UI2	Girls	Netball	vs	Various	County Final	3rd Place
UI3	Boys	Cricket	vs	Mountbatten	County Cup	Won
UI2	Mixed	Rounders	vs	Kings'	League	Lost
UI3	Girls	Rounders	vs	Kings'	League	Lost
UI3	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track and Field Cup	2nd Place
UI4	Mixed	Rounders	vs	Kings'	League	Lost 9.5 - 11.5
UI4	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO Rd 1	Won (1st Place)
UI4	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO Rd 2	Won (1st Place)
UI5	Girls	Rounders	vs	Kings'	League	Lost
UI5	Boys	Tennis	vs	Perins	League	Won 8 - 4
UI5	Girls	Tennis	vs	Westgate	League	Lost 2 - 10
UI5	Boys	Tennis	vs	Ringwood	League	
UI5	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track and Field Cup	4th Place
UI6	Girls	Football	vs	Calthorpe Park	County Cup Final	Won 4 - 0

### Track and Field Cup

A huge well done to the Thornden students who represented the school in the Hampshire Schools Track and Field Cup. The Year 7/8 Girls Team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and the Year 9/10 Girls Team finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall. The girls were the top state school in their competitions, something they should feel very proud of.



### Hampshire Athletics Success

Congratulations to the Thornden Students who took part in the Hampshire Athletics County Championships at the weekend. Special well done to, Holly P who ran the 100m and 200m, making it to the semifinals in both, Chloe P who took the silver medal in the 200m and the bronze in the 300m and Casper took the silver medal in the U17 3K.



### Walk the Wight

Well done to Nathan who successfully completed the second half of Walk the Wight at the weekend, walking 14.5 miles from Carisbrooke Castle out to The Needles. Nathan has been raising money for the loW hospice too!

### Football Success

Well done to Adam and the Stoneham Spitfires U12s, who have won the treble! They came top of the Southampton Tyro League U12 division 1, Won the Hampshire FA Youth Cup U12 on Sunday and later in the week won the Tyro Challenge Cup.

They have been invited to play in an invite only tournament in Nottingham in June to compete against other top league winning teams from around the country. Amazing achievement from all the boys!



### 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](mailto:b.hall@thornden.hants.sch.uk)

## Useful Information

- Barracudas Activity Day Camps- See poster for more information and a discount code for Thornden Families.
- BrendonCare Otterbourne are holding a Summer Fayre in June, poster attached.

To book the following events, click on the picture.



 Tue 25 June 24

**Rising Stars**

Thornden School presents



July 17 - 20, 7pm

 Wed 17 July 24, Thu 18 July 24, Fri 19 July 24, Sat 20 July 24

**Annie**

## 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](mailto:info@thornden.hants.sch.uk)/[reception@thornden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:reception@thornden.hants.sch.uk)

Inspiring Future Teachers (IFT) is a national School Centred Provider of Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) working through regional partners to offer one-year postgraduate routes to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) with the option to study for a master's level Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE). Inspiring Future Teachers – HISP Teacher Training is your local hub and aims to provide the opportunity to train to teach in Hampshire.



Part of the HISP Multi Academy Trust