



Thornden School Newsletter 7th June 2024

Head of School Welcome



Dear Families,

I hope that you had a lovely half term break. Highlights for me was going to see *Wicked* at the Mayflower with my daughter and a 'lowlight' was getting stuck in traffic on the way back from seeing my brother in Sheffield. It took SEVEN hours to get home.

Before half term I had the privilege of presenting at the ASCL Curriculum Conference in London. Everyone else who was presenting was a Doctor or Professor of education or an education "celebrity" so I had huge imposter syndrome but the feedback was very positive. I also shadowed an OFSTED inspection as a participant of their Ethnic Diversity programme. It was hugely interesting to see the inspection 'from the other side' but not being able to fully contribute was very challenging for me!

Thank you to parents who completed our Parent Survey before half term. We read through the feedback carefully and have made a poster to summarise some of the changes that we hope to make as a result. Please see page 2 for poster.

We will roll out all of these things over the next few months and will share the details with you. However, an important date for your diaries is Tuesday 2nd July at 7pm at Thornden Hall - we will hold our first Parent Forum on the topic of Reports. Please do come along if you would like to have an input into the discussion. If you cannot make this date, then please do email us your thoughts and ideas. Please complete [this form](#) if you are attending.

The first week of Summer term 2 has been eventful with exams rolling on and a Maths paper on the very first day back! Year 11 have clearly used their May break well and generally seemed happy with the paper.

As a result of our staff survey, we are starting to hold SLT surgeries every half term so that staff can share their ideas, comments and concerns with one of the senior team.

On Friday we are holding internal interviews for a Deputy Headteacher, which we hope to appoint from our existing team. Two of my wonderful governors are joining the interview panel and I will keep you updated on any appointment.

We are happy to welcome two new teachers; Mr Tully joins us in Modern Foreign Languages as 2nd in Department. He previously worked at Crestwood and has a wealth of experience. Mr Woods is the Head of

ICT and Computer Science. He has worked previously in Andover and in Dorset. We are so pleased to welcome them both! I am so pleased to report that we are fully staffed for September (I breathed a huge sigh of relief on 31st May as this is last day that teachers can hand in their notice for a September start). As you know, this is unusual in education at the moment, so I feel incredibly grateful.

Thornden School 

YOU SAID...

SOMETIMES COMMUNICATION IS NOT CLEAR OR TIMELY



WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT OUR CHILD IS STUDYING



UNIFORM IS AN ISSUE IN SCHOOL



WE DO NOT KNOW THE SCHOOL'S APPROACH TO BULLYING



WE DO NOT KNOW THE RANGE OF CLUBS THAT ARE AVAILABLE



I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON HOW MY CHILD IS DOING IN SCHOOL



WE DID...

HALF TERMLY UPDATES ON WHAT EACH YEAR GROUP ARE STUDYING IN EACH SUBJECT AREA



PARENT FORUMS HELD EVERY HALF TERM TO ADDRESS ISSUES AND CONCERNS



A NEW STEPPED APPROACH TO BULLYING SHARED WITH STUDENTS AND PARENTS



PARENT CONSULTATION ON REPORTS



UPDATES ON EACH PARENT NEWSLETTER ON CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



WE WILL BE ADDRESSING THIS WITH A FULL SYSTEM FROM SEPTEMBER



Thank you so much for your feedback

Dates for your diary

Event	Date	Information
Cluster Schools Orchestra Playing	Monday 10 th June	Year 7-10
Maths Challenge	Tuesday 11 th June	Year 7 and 8 follow-on round
Pride Colour Run	Thursday 13 th June	Afterschool Event
District Athletics Year 7-10	Friday 21 st June	Southampton Sports Centre
Inset day	Monday 24th June	School closed
Rising Stars Concert	Tuesday 25 th June	7pm
Year 9 FunFest	Tuesday 25 th June	Period 7 and 8
Year 8 Gurdwara Trip	Thursday 27 th June	
Year 10 Big Summer Picnic	Friday 28 th June	Period 7 and 8
Welcome to Thornden Day	Thursday 4 th July	Transition day for new Year 7's
Summer production/musical	Monday 8 th - 19 th July	
Year 7 Fantango	Tuesday 9 th July	Period 7 till 4pm
Activities day/Enterprise Day	Monday 22 nd July	
Last day of term	Tuesday 23 rd July	

Event	Date	Information
Inset Day	Monday 2 nd September	School Closed
Year 7's only	Tuesday 3 rd September	New Year 7's only
Year 8-11 return to school	Wednesday 4 th September	All students to return to school

Catchment changes Consultation

There is currently a consultation with Hampshire County Council regarding school catchment changes due to a successful appeal some months ago, please [click here](#) to read the full letter.

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.



20/05/2024

Our Artist of the Week is Samuel S from Year 8 for his lovely 2 colour lino print of a frog. We loved the character he has brought into his piece whilst learning about reduction lino printing. Well done Samuel!



04/06/2024

This week's Artist of the Week is Mae M from Year 8 for her lovely lino print! We love the way it's been cut and printed with real precision! Well done Mae!



Meet the team behind the scenes!

Lorraine has worked at Thornden School for 8 years, supporting the Heads of Departments. She provides administrative support in a variety of ways including organising local and international field trips.



Lorraine is also our Duke of Edinburgh Award Verifier.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family and running with her dog.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Please follow this [link](#) for the current timetables for extra-curricular clubs.

Below are our current timetables which are updated regularly on the website. Please see PE section for Sports.

We are pleased to announce a new club starting next week, Game Maker Club! Mr Woods will run this on Tuesday and Thursday each week. Students attending must be committed to attending each session, to be able to complete the course.

Extra-Curricular Music Department Timetable



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime					
MU2	Flute Cocktail Mrs Dodd	Advanced String Group Mrs Gale	Vocal Ensemble Mrs Bekker	Recorder Ensemble Mrs Smith	
MU3	Sax Mad Mrs Bartlett	Brass Ensemble Mr Needham	Percussion Ensemble Mr Streather	Annie Singing Rehearsals Mr Jones	
Drama 2			String Orchestra Mrs Gale		
Vocal Room				Vocal Ensemble Mrs Bekker	
After School (3:00pm – 4:00pm)					
Hall			Thornden Singers Mrs Bekker	Annie Show Band Mr Jones	
MU3			Grade 5 Theory Mrs Smith		

Extra-Curricular Other Activities Timetable



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime					
C3			Junior Ensemble Year-all Ms Bekker	Senior Ensemble Year-11 Ms Bekker	
L6				Duolingo Club Year 7, 8 Mrs Stillman	
M4	Funday Monday Year 7, 8 Mrs A Ryder				
D1					Lunchbox Theatre Year 7 only Mrs Smith & Miss Ashworth (SCITT)
A3					Awesome Art Year 7 Miss Willis
After School (3:00pm – 4:00pm)					
Science Lab S8		STEM Club Year 7, 8, 9 Mr Buckley, Mrs Weeks and Miss Greatorex			
C1		Game Maker Club Years 7-9 Mr Woods		Game Maker Club Years 7-9 Mr Woods	
E5		Chess Club Year-all Dr Duffy			
A3				Year 10 GCSE Art Club Year 10 Miss Willis	
R2		Wargames Year-All Mr Bridgeman	Dungeons and Dragons Year-all Mr Bridgeman		
Library E6 during exams		Book Club Year 7, 8, 9 Mrs C Oliver			

Spanish Exchange Trip-Mrs Bevan (Head of MFL)



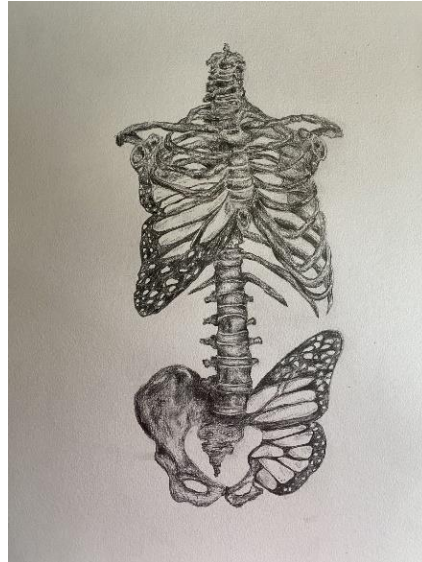
Students in Year 10 have just returned from the second leg of the Spanish exchange. We had a fabulous time visiting local attractions such as Igeldo, the Guggenheim, Wow Park and more. Students spent the evenings and weekend with their host families trying local food and practising the language a long with time at the beach, paddle boarding and more. As ever, it was a delight to spend time with our students and watch them develop their linguistic skills and cultural awareness.



Student achievements

Barton Peveril Art Competition

Isobel. J in Year 8 won the competition recently with the below entry, amazing achievement!



Online Safety

Spending time online and on devices can be a positive thing. But high levels of screen time can put your child more at risk. Please see attached information about screen time.



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.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON: LIFELAB SUMMER SCHOOL

Have you ever thought about becoming a doctor?

LifeLab would like to invite pupils currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 who are interested in finding out more about becoming a doctor to attend their Medicine Summer School. Participants will spend two days gaining experience of what it is like to train and work as a doctor. During your time with LifeLab participants will have the chance to:

- learn how to perform clinical skills such as suturing and practice these on a model
- experience anatomy and pathology teaching in the Centre for Learning Anatomical Sciences
- visit clinical areas to see health professionals at work
- talk to medical students about training as a doctor and find out how the application process works
- listen to a keynote speaker talking about life in medicine

Dates: 25 and 26 July 2024

Cost: £150 (Bursaries available)

[More Info](#)



Part of the HISP Multi
Academy Trust

Lost Property

We have lots of unclaimed items in lost property, most of which are not labelled. Please remember to label all parts of the school uniform so that we can return it to you. We have a mixture of PE kits, coats, shoes, trainers and uniform to claim.

If your child is missing any items, please ask them to check lost property. Any unclaimed items will be donated to FOTS on 20th June 2024.

Safeguarding- Mr Thomas (Assistant Headteacher)



Hi everyone,

I hope you are well.

Following on from my previous updates, we are now fortunate to be working with the CAMHS Mental Health Support Team who are actively working to support our students and parents. As part of this I have a link below to share with you with some tips and support on how to support your young person around low mood. We know that this is a topic that is relevant to our Thornden community and many parents have asked for further support around this.

Date: Monday June 10th, 2024
Time: 11am until 12.30pm
Duration: 1.5 hours
Location: Zoom Webinar, details below:

MHST South-East is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Understanding and Supporting your Child with Low Mood Parent/Carer Workshop

Time: Jun 10, 2024 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://spft-nhs-uk.zoom.us/j/93204638969?pwd=NUdDbjZ2RURUMGtBYnMwNDBjUmhPUT09>

Meeting ID: 932 0463 8969
 Passcode: 553786

We are also booking Lorraine Lee to come and speak to our parents and carers in the new academic year to do further work around this. I will update you all with the information when it is confirmed.

Please see attached poster for free health and wellbeing events run by Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

As always, if you need anything please do not hesitate to contact us.



Department Spotlight

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



Mrs Smith (Head of Performing Arts)

The Drama department at Thornden School is currently buzzing with excitement as we prepare for our upcoming production of the musical, "Annie." This classic tale of hope and resilience has captivated audiences for decades, and the students and teachers are determined to deliver another excitingly creative production. Tickets are available on the Thornden Hall [website](#) and runs from 17th – 20th July.

GCSE Drama

A visit to the Drama studios this week would demonstrate just how hard our Year 10 students are working on their Devising pieces, where acting and technical students collaborate to create original performances which will form part of their final GCSE grade. Acting students have been studying exciting practitioners such as Steven Berkoff and Frantic Assembly, while the technicians have been introduced to Brechtian techniques and immersive, interactive theatrical styles. We have been so impressed with the quality of work from this cohort and can't wait to see the results during performance week.

KS3 Drama

This term, Year 7 have been introduced to the study of ancient Egypt and the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb through the concept of Physical Theatre. Students have loved experimenting with the telling of a story through non-verbal communication and expression, using their bodies as props to become pyramids and booby-traps within a Pharaoh's tomb. We have loved watching students create their own timeline of a cursed object as it travels through time!

Students in Years 8 and 9 have been challenged to work with universal props – an item that can represent multiple objects or concepts within a play. Year 9 have been particularly inventive with their staging ideas for 'Mobile Phone', a play by Paul King. Some groups of students have even been creative enough to break with traditional staging and have invited their audience to sit in a different configuration (such as Traverse, where the audience sits in two lines facing the actors).



Thank you

A big thank you to the Arts Society Southampton for again supporting our wonderful Art students. Year 11 Art students were given the opportunity to submit a piece of work for judging by members of the society.

The winners of this year's awards are Phoebe T (Fine Art), Hannah B (Graphics) and Marge V (3D) - they will all receive a £50 voucher to spend on art materials. Well done to everyone who entered!

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 let us know.

Young carers

Mrs Willson and Mrs Ash are busy planning their summer picnic extravaganza for our young carers. On Friday 12th July they will be venturing out to Itchen Valley Country Park so let's hope for good weather!

Wellbeing Den visits

We are proud of our space and the way it is being used to support our students. We are aiming to increase the support we can offer by developing some student wellbeing ambassadors. From this week we will be introducing our Lunch Bunch Club for year 7 students each Thursday lunchtime until the end of summer term. Our focus will be on self-esteem and wellbeing, for those students that may need a little support in this area. We are also looking forward to visitors from current year 6's, looking to join us in September, to help with their transition.



Within the Wellbeing Den we have a display of student's pets from home. If your child would like to add a picture, please send them in with a photo.

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

Team	Gender	Sport	VS	Opposition	Fixture Type	Result	Player of The Match
U12	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO	Won - 1st Place	
U12	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO	Won - 1st Place	
U12	Mixed	Rounders	vs	Swanmore	League	Drew 12.5	Aksana N
U13	Girls	Tennis	vs	Ryde	League	Won 10 - 2	
U13	Boys	Tennis	vs	Ryde	League	Lost 6 - 7	
U13	Boys	Tennis	vs	Ryde	League	Won 8 - 4	
U13	Boys	Cricket	vs	Petersfield	County T20	Lost by 6 runs	
U13	Girls	Rounders	vs	Swanmore	League	Won 15-4	Immy P
U13	Boys	Tennis	vs	KES	League	Lost 0 - 12	
U13	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track KO (Semi-Final)	Won (1st Place)	
U13	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track KO (Semi-Final)	Won (1st Place)	
U13	Boys	Tennis	vs	PGS	League	Won 10 - 2	
U15	Boys	Tennis	vs	KES	League	Lost 4 - 8	
U15	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track KO (Semi-Final)	Won (1st Place)	
U15	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	Hampshire Track KO (Semi-Final)	2nd Place	



Romsey Relay Marathon

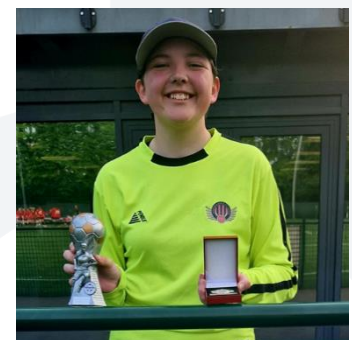
Well done to Chris B Year 10, Oliver C Year 9 & Mrs Wilmore who took part in the Romsey Charity Relay Marathon at Broadlands on Sunday. Each team member of ten ran 2.6 miles with the team finishing a creditable 85th out of the 148 teams taking part, with Ollie the third fastest in our team & Chris fourth. Well done team for raising over £1,000 for Hursley Park Cricket Club.

Also a big shout out for the two Thornden School teacher teams who also took part on Sunday.

Football Success

Well done to Kirsty C, 10FMG, who is the goalkeeper for the Winchester Flyers Flamingos U16 Girls Team, holding her Player of the Match award and medal for winning the U16's Hampshire League Cup for a 4th year in a row.

The Flamingos are also the Hampshire League Division 1 Champions for the 2nd year running. Well done all involved.



Swimming Success

Well done to Megan who raced at the recent South East Regional swimming competition a few weeks ago.

She finished:

- 800m - 1st Place
- 400m - 2nd Place
- 200m - 2nd Place

Megan has now qualified for 3 races at the Aquatics GB Summer Nationals in July. Good luck Megan.

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.

Extra-Curricular PE Timetable Half Term 6

(*Each half term there will be a new timetable that may have slight changes)



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School					
Field	Touch Rugby All Years Mr Hall (Starting Monday 17 th June)			Athletics All Years Mr Hall, Miss Jones, Mr Lax, Mr Osben, Miss Hall	
Astro	Rounders Year 7/8 Miss Hall	Cricket Boys All Years Mr Hall, Mr Osben	Cricket Girls All Years Miss Jones & Mr Hall	Rounders Year 9/10 Miss Jones	
Courts	Tennis Year 9 / 10 Mr Lax	Tennis Year 7 / 8 Mr Lax			
Sports Hall		Netball National Training Miss Hall U16 3:00 - 3:45 U14 3:45 - 4:30 When the sports hall goes, this will move to tennis courts.			

Inspiring Future teachers

Some of our students and staff are featured in an advert for Inspiring Future Teachers. IFT is a national training provider that the school is fully involved with. The advert will be shown on Sky TV and on social media. We are so proud of them all!

[Watch the film here!](#)



Useful Information

- Eastleigh College Junior Chef programme-please see attached information for an exciting opportunity for Thornden students.
- Otterbourne Summer Festival-please see attached poster for more information about this community event.
- Barracudas Activity Day Camps-Please follow [link](#) to see all about their Day Camps. Use code SCHOOL20 for £20 off bookings of more than 2 days.
- Ace Sports Holiday Club-Please follow this [link](#) to see about their local holiday club.

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

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.

