



## Thornden School Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024



Dear Families,

Happy New (academic) Year! There has been a real buzz in school and we have enjoyed welcoming students back and meeting our lovely Year 7s.

I have decided to make videos for the newsletter this year (below). Unfortunately, the short clip of Year 11 students celebrating did not work so I include it [here](#).



Thank you for your support with our uniform policy. We are starting to see much smarter students. There are a number of girls who have grown over the Summer (making us feel very short!) and they need to purchase new skirts – either from Skoolkit or from FOTS. Your help with this would be appreciated.

Just a reminder that parents should not bring their cars onto the school site for drop off and pick up (unless their child has a disability or an injury and cannot walk). It gets incredibly busy and increases the risk of an accident.

Please do get in touch with any questions or comments,

Caroline

### Meet the team behind the scenes!

Jane is a Technician in our Technology department, working within Textiles and Food. Her role is to provide support to the classroom teachers, ensuring that they have all of the resources they need for their practical lessons. For example, providing ingredients for demonstrations of recipes in Food or providing fabric and other resources for teachers and students in Textiles.



Outside of work she has very varied interests. She loves to cook and always refers to her large collection of recipe books, as well as making handmade celebration cards with her Cricut paper cutting machine. She also enjoys completing I.T. projects on her raspberry pi computers and working out in the gym.

### 20/05/2024

Our final Artist of the Week for 23/24 academic year was Sophia J from Year 8. Sophia has used tissue paper, string, and poster paints to create this lovely, low-relief collage. Well done Sophia!



### 2024-2025 Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Information
Whole group photos	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 and 11
Iceland Parents Meeting	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	
Year 7 Meet the Tutor	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 Parent and Carer event
Year 10 Art trip	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Kew Gardens
Year 7 Dress up MFL	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Dress up MFL
Year 10 Parent/Carer Information Evening	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Held in Thornden Hall
Year 7 Parent/Carer Coffee Morning	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Invite from Pastoral team
Year 11 Mudeford trip	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October - Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Day trips each day

#### Inset Days 2024-2025

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June



Part of the HISP Multi  
Academy Trust



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

- Please see attached leaflets on upcoming SETA Apprenticeship events for students.
- Please see attached poster regarding Steve Wills Apprenticeship open days.

### Careers at Thornden School

Welcome to Careers at Thornden School. The school offers a well-established careers programme, starting in Year 7 and running all the way through to Year 11. We want students to start thinking about their careers as early as possible, so they have time to fully research their options, prepare appropriately and therefore make the best decisions for their future.

As part of that we have the Thornden School Careers Website, found via the main school website or [click here](#). Up to date information regarding upcoming events, college information, apprenticeship details, post 18 options along with a page specifically for parents is all provided, and it will be updated regularly with open events, careers talks at school and careers opportunities in the local area.

### College Information and Updates

#### Open Events:

As we start the new academic year it is particularly important for Year 10 and Year 11 students to be thinking about what comes next after Thornden. The local colleges are all holding open events to enable students to visit and get a feel for their organisations. We are very lucky in this area to have so many excellent colleges, so often the decision comes down to the feel of the place. Attending the open events and future taster days is the best way to help students with this decision. Since Covid, most colleges are asking students and parents to book a place, so it is worth checking the dates below and reserving your spot early so you get the times most convenient for you.

All of these dates and the links required for booking are available on our Thornden School Careers website: [click here](#). That might help save some time trying to find the necessary page for each college!

College	Date	Time
Richard Taunton	19 <sup>th</sup> September	18.00-20.00
Barton Peveril	25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> September	16.30-20.30
Peter Symonds	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	17.30-20.30
Sparsholt College	5 <sup>th</sup> October	09.30-14.00
Southampton City College	10 <sup>th</sup> October	17.00-19.00
Fareham College	15 <sup>th</sup> October	17.00-19.00
Totton College	15 <sup>th</sup> October	17.30-19.30
Itchen College	17 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> October	17 <sup>th</sup> : 17.00-20.00 19 <sup>th</sup> : 10.00-12.00
Eastleigh College	23 <sup>rd</sup> October	17.00-19.00

#### Assemblies:

Barton Peveril, Peter Symonds, Eastleigh College and Sparsholt College will all be coming into school over the next few weeks to present an assembly to our Year 11 students, again to try and help them make their decision for their next steps. Dates are available on the career's website.

### Personal Statements:

Students will be provided with assistance writing their personal statements but if you would like to get involved from home, there is guidance, some sentence starters and exemplar personal statements available on the Careers website, on the college information page.

### College News:

Eastleigh College, Southampton City College and Fareham College have all merged into the South Hampshire College Group. If you cannot find the information you require on their individual websites, it is worth checking their combined website at <https://shcg.ac.uk/>

## Thornden Hall



# SEPTEMBER AT A GLANCE

Sunday 1, Andre Rieu - The Power of Love: 15:00  
Tuesday 10, RB&O - The Marriage of Figaro: 18:30  
Thursday 12, Aled Jones - Full Circle: 19:30  
Friday 13, NTLive - Prima Facie ENCORE: 19:00  
Sunday 15, So You Want to Dance: All day  
Monday 16, Big Big Train: 19:30  
Friday 20, Movies @ the Hall - Swede Caroline: 19:30  
Wednesday 25, Kerry Ellis - Queen of West End: 19:30  
Friday 27, The Band of HM Royal Marines Collingwood: 19:30  
Saturday 28, Otterbourne Brass and the Cory Band: 19:00  
Sunday 29, Shaun Ryder, Happy Mondays, and Fridays, and Saturdays and Sundays: 19:30



For more information and tickets call the Box Office 023 8024 6555 or visit [thorndenhall.co.uk](http://thorndenhall.co.uk)

@kerryellis79

## Enterprise Day-Miss Stickland (BTEC Enterprise and Work-Related Learning Lead)



### Enterprise Day 2024

On the 22nd of July 2024 we welcomed Marwell Zoo to Thornden School for Year 10 Enterprise Day. Enterprise Day is an opportunity for students to learn new entrepreneurial skills such as creativity, organisation, time keeping, teamwork and many more. This year, students were tasked with 'designing a new experience or attraction that promoted Marwell Zoo as a conservation charity'.



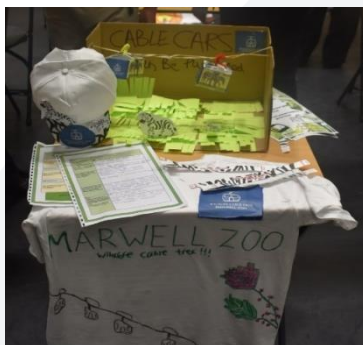
In teams of up to 15, students were given 24 tasks to complete across the day and across the school. Along with coming up with the new attraction/experience, tasks also included designing a logo, uniform pieces, online adverts and jingles, as well as taste testing ice cream and creating a final visual presentation of their ideas. There was also a burger van and an ice cream van at lunchtime to help with the creative process!

Lindsey Wyld, PR Manager of Marwell Zoo came into school and visited each team listening to their ideas, looking at their materials and judging the final presentations. She was blown away by the student's enthusiasm and creativity. She said "it was lovely to hear all of your students fantastically creative, well thought through and beautifully presented ideas. They all conducted themselves perfectly and it was great to witness such enthusiasm, great work ethic and some lovely manners along the way to".

Ideas from the teams included aquariums, virtual treasure hunts, educational schemes, treetop walkways and a cable car. In the end the top three teams were Coral Keepers, Find your Future and Cable Trek. Lindsey said a massive congratulations to these teams "three fantastic, original ideas and teams that really pulled out all of the stops to work together and ensure their end product met the brief". The Winning team was awarded a Thornden School Enterprise Day Winner water bottle, a £10 Nando's voucher and a ticket to Marwell Zoo, not bad for a day's work!



We are really proud of the year 10 students for fully engaging with the day, the entrepreneurial skills they demonstrated and the way they worked together in their teams. We hope they enjoyed the day, pushed themselves out of their comfort zone, learnt some new skills and enjoyed working in a team.



### Immunisation Service

Please see attached leaflet from the NHS School Immunisation Team. We will be in contact with relevant parents/carers to request consent a few weeks prior to any immunisation session. The first session will be Flu.

## Safeguarding-Mr Thomas (Deputy Headteacher and DSL)



Hi everyone,

It has been great to see our students back over the past week or so and the enthusiasm and positivity they are showing around the school. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those of you who have been using our Report a Concern link on our webpage and just highlight it again, should there be anything you are worried about. This was created following feedback from our students and they also receive the same link weekly via Satchel. It has shown to be a really positive way to identify our students who would like some support.

During our recent Inset, all staff have received up to date training around Safeguarding and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024, and we have worked together to identify and create further training of all staff this year around safeguarding to ensure that our students have access to the highest levels of support and understanding.

Our assemblies, Personal Development Programme and celebration of diversity and equality are closely linked, enabling us to be pre-emptive around our safeguarding practices by supporting and informing our students to make positive and safe choices. Each term the focus of these link to our Thornden Values of Belong, Care, Aspire and Succeed, with Term 1 assemblies focusing on how we can create a sense of belonging for our Thornden students. Ms Lowing has already met with all year groups and our Heads of Year have focused this week on the amazing standards our students have set so far around their attitude, positivity and identity as members of the Thornden community. Each assembly is led either by the relevant Head of Year or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, with myself, Mrs Kehoe and Mr Collar looking forward to speaking to students about the importance of being kind, keeping ourselves safe and making positive choices.

We are also really fortunate to have the charity [Kooth](#) speaking to our students next week in assemblies about their mental health and ways to support themselves, this will then link into World Mental Health Day on 10<sup>th</sup> October and moving forward Anti-Bullying Week in November.

Adam Thomas

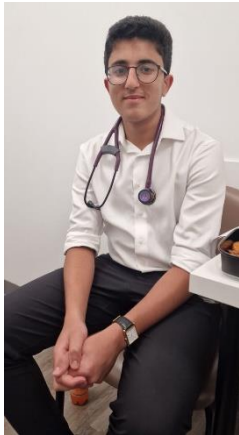
## Work Experience 2024-Miss Stickland (Head of Business/Enterprise)

From 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> of September the vast majority of our Year 11 students were out in the world of work. We once again had an amazing array of placements, from airports to vets, doctors' surgeries to Southampton Football Club and everything in between! This year we even had students placed with the Royal Academy of Dance and the Welsh National Opera.



The students have come back to school with a real buzz and a new awareness of what it is like to work in the real world. For some it has really confirmed what they would like to do in their careers, for others it has made them realise what they would *not* like to do and therefore helped them to redirect their focus to other fields and industries. Both of these are really valuable outcomes and will help our students to make the right decisions about their futures.

The feedback from the employers has been fantastic, it would appear our students have done us proud and represented the school superbly. Over 91% of our students have been rated as excellent or very good whilst on their placements. Some have been offered further experience in the future, some have been offered apprenticeships and some have even been offered jobs.



In October we will start the process again by launching work experience with our Year 10 students. If you feel you would be able to host a Thornden Student in September 2025, please email [k.quinn@thornden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:k.quinn@thornden.hants.sch.uk).



## Extracurricular Timetables

Please follow this [link](#) to our current timetables.

All timetables for Autumn 1 are now available to see on the website using the link above. Please take note of the start dates of each group.



### Help Needed!

We would love to hold a Diwali celebration at school, potentially on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October (because Diwali falls over half term this year). If you are able to support this in any way - either as an individual or as part of a community group - or you have any contacts who may be able to support us then please do email Ms Lowing at the school ([c.lowing@thornden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:c.lowing@thornden.hants.sch.uk)).





## Department Spotlight

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

The past academic year has been incredibly successful for our PE Department, marked by extensive participation, numerous competitive achievements, and enriching extracurricular experiences. The department's dedication to fostering athletic excellence and student engagement has resulted in remarkable accomplishments both on and off the field. We wanted to take this moment to recognise some of our favourite moments and recognise the hard work and success our students have accomplished.

### Participation and Fixtures

- Last year, the PE Department organized and facilitated **15 different sports** for our students.
- We entered a total of **59 different squads** across various sports.
- Our teams participated in an impressive **302 competitive fixtures** throughout the year, demonstrating the commitment and enthusiasm of our student-athletes.

### Competitive Achievements

- **District Level Success:** Our teams were crowned champions in **9 district competitions** and we finished as runners-up in **5** (across football, netball, hockey, cricket and rounders).
- **County Level Success:** We achieved victory in **7 county-level competitions** and we finished as runners-up in **4** (across football, netball and athletics).



**National Level Achievement:** Our U13 girls' football team reached the **last 16 in the National Cup.**

### Extracurricular Activities

#### Ski Trip to Italy:

*A message from one of the students who went on the trip:*

During the February half term we went on an amazing ski trip to La Thuile, Italy. We spent 4 1/2 days on the slopes, even the beginners who had never skied were on the slopes by the end of the second day, thanks to the amazing instructors for all levels who pushed everyone to their best.



There were daily awards for king/queen of the slopes and plank of the piste that were carefully chosen out. This also included lots of honourable mentions throughout the day e.g. hitting stop signs, falling off lifts, getting locked out rooms, and of course for just being kind and making the trip enjoyable.

The year 11 rugby boys never failed to make us all laugh at dinner, with a different speech every day following whoever got their own plank of the piste of the day.

We went out for a pizza night at a lovely restaurant nearby to where we were staying and went ice skating on another day.

A massive thank you to all the staff who made the ski trip possible and making it as amazing as it was.



**Netball PGL Trip to Liddington:** A netball-focused trip to PGL Liddington offered our students an intensive training experience, filled with competitive matches, coupled with team-building activities. Kirsty Harris, Team Bath player, made an appearance on the Sunday to take photos with the students and award the year 7s with a bronze medal.

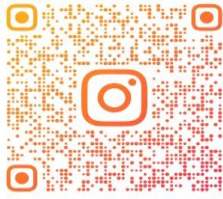


## Recognition and Awards

**Sports Mark Gold Award:** We are proud to announce that our school has been awarded the Sports Mark Gold Award for the third consecutive year. This award recognizes our commitment to delivering high-quality physical education and providing diverse sports opportunities for all students. This is an award we will strive for again this year.

As the new academic year begins, the PE Department is eager to get started. The extracurricular timetable has been finalised, and we are pleased to announce that clubs will begin the week of **9th September**. Please see the link in the extracurricular section of the newsletter.





@THORNDEN\_SPORT

Following the great success of last year's trips, we are already in planning stages for this year's ski trip to Andorra and another PGL netball trip to Liddington, with an increase from last year's numbers. These events have become highlights of our extracurricular calendar, providing students with unique experiences that combine physical activity with personal development and team building.

**New Instagram Page:** In our efforts to enhance communication and celebrate our students' achievements, we have expanded our social media presence. We are excited to launch a new **Instagram page** dedicated to showcasing the hard work, success, and spirit of our students. This platform will allow us to recognise their accomplishments and keep the school community updated on all the exciting events and activities happening within the PE Department.

We would love parents to give us a [follow!](#)

### Cover Supervisor Role

Are you or someone you know looking to get into teaching? Becoming a Cover Supervisor is a great way to gain experience within a school environment, supporting the teaching of various subjects, whilst gaining valuable experience. For more information, and to apply, [click here!](#)

## 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.

