



Thornden School Newsletter

11th October 2024



Dear Parents/Carers

Please click on the image to watch the latest video update for Thornden School.

Caroline Lowing



Meet the team behind the scenes!

Harpreet is a pastoral support officer and can be found in the Wellbeing Den. Harpreet has enjoyed building up a rapport with the students since she started with us last year. This helps the students to open up about any worries they have and share happy moments/memories with each other. When a student leaves the Wellbeing Den with a smile, Harpreet knows she has made a difference and has supported that student to be able to go back to lesson, ready to learn.

In her spare time, Harpreet loves to spend time with her daughters, going out on fun days together. This includes time with her wider family and friends. She really enjoys going shopping, listening to music and going to concerts.



2024-2025 Dates for your Diary

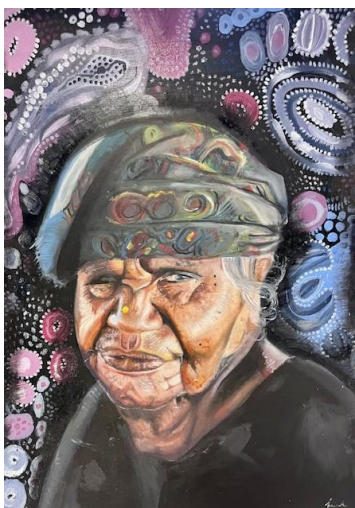
Event	Date	Information
Open Morning	Tuesday 15 th October	New families to visit the school
Year 9 visit to see author	Tuesday 15 th October	
GCSE Certificate Evening	Wednesday 16 th October	Ex Year 11 students and families
Flu Vaccinations	Friday 18 th October-Monday 21 st October	
Open Morning	Tuesday 22 nd October	New families to visit the school
Year 7 Disco	Wednesday 23 rd October	Year 7 only
Diwali Celebration	Thursday 24 th October	More information to follow
Iceland Trip	Friday 25 th -29 th October	
Paris Trip	Friday 25 th -28 th October	
Year 7 Reports to parents	Wednesday 6 th November	
Year 7 Parent and Carer Evening	Thursday 7 th November	
Year 10 RS Mosque visit	Tuesday 12 th November	Lesson 2-4

Inset Days 2024-2025
Wednesday 15 th January
Monday 10 th February
Monday 23 rd June

Half term
Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November

Showcase-GCSE Artwork

These lovely oil paintings were painted by Isabelle M. Isabelle completed these stunning paintings during her GCSE exam and worked on the theme of Celebration (celebrating the natural world). Well done Isabelle!



This beautiful portrait was painted in oils by Hannah L as part of her GCSE exam. A huge well done to Hannah and the rest of the Fine Art class on some stunning work!

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.



Careers- Miss Stickland (BTEC Enterprise and Careers Lead) & Miss Quinn (Careers Coordinator)



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

At Thornden we are always being told about and offered amazing careers events and opportunities in the local area. So much so that we added an extra page to the careers website to advertise everything coming up. At the moment we have all of the local college open events, along with a taster day at SETA (Southampton Engineering Training Association), virtual work experience in the beauty industry and many more. It is worth checking this regularly to see if there is anything of interest/relevance to your student.

We have also added a page for work experience that we are currently updating to help students (and parents!) get the best from their placements.

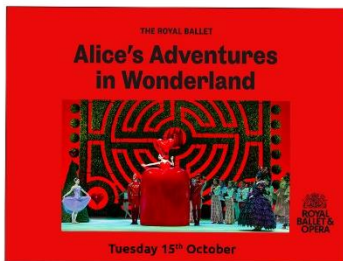
If you think you, or your employer, are able to offer a Thornden student a placement, please do get in touch with Careers Coordinator, Miss Quinn on k.quinn@thornden.hants.sch.uk. Thank you to those of you who have already been in touch, it is much appreciated!



Thornden Hall



There is an extensive programme of events taking place in the Hall every month: live shows, satellite broadcasts, films, dance groups, orchestras, choirs, lectures - here's a little peek at the schedule. More information on the website www.thorndenhall.co.uk



Tumble down the rabbit hole in this ballet adaptation of Lewis Carroll's famous family story.

Broadcast live on Tuesday 15th October at 7.15pm
Tickets £15/£13

One of the last surviving classic Louisiana down-home bluesmen, Lil' Jimmy's stinging guitar work, gritty vocals and haunting harmonica have won him many awards and induction into the Blues Hall of Fame.

Live on stage 17th October at 7.30pm
Tickets £18



The inspirational story of Mercedes Gleitze, the first British woman to swim the English Channel.

Movies @ the Hall October 18th
Tickets £5

Commissioned through the Metropolitan Opera / Lincoln Center Theater New Works Program, *Grounded* depicts one woman's journey from a successful F-16 combat pilot in the United States Air Force to a Reaper drone operator in the Nevada desert.

Broadcast live 19th October at 5pm
Tickets £17/£15



Box Office 023 8024 6555
www.thorndenhall.co.uk



Part of the HISP Multi
Academy Trust

European Week of Languages Mr Tully (2nd in Department MFL)



During the week of 23rd September, Thornden celebrated our annual European Week of Languages.

Year 7 took part in an inter-tutor quiz to see how much they knew about other languages. The scores were very close, but ultimately the win was narrowly clinched by 7SDTU. Year 7 also had the opportunity to take part in a languages-themed dress-up day, with prizes being awarded for the best outfits and costumes. We were very proud of the effort and care that Year 7 put into deciding what they would wear on this day and it was lovely to see how creative they were.

Year 8 learnt more about famous artists and landmarks from France, Spain and Germany, again with prizes for our quiz winners in each class.

Year 9 took part in a languages-themed 'bake off' event, the standard for which was incredibly high. Trophies for the bake off were awarded in Year 9 assembly, but the judging was incredibly tough – on a different day, any of our amazing entrants might easily have won.

Did you know that here at Thornden we are lucky to have speakers of more than 30 different languages across students and staff? We will be celebrating this amazing diversity throughout the year and we started with our many Mandarin and Cantonese speakers having a meet-up (with cake!) It was lovely to see students from different year groups chatting in a mixture of English and Chinese about their experiences both in and out of school and teaching our languages staff a few words too. The students were very excited when Miss Lowing popped in and mentioned that there are plans afoot to have Chinese New Year celebrations at Thornden next term! If your child is a fluent speaker of a language other than English, we would really appreciate if this information were shared on Arbor so that we can ensure students don't miss out on get-togethers and celebrations we organise.

We are very grateful to the HC3S staff in the canteen for supporting European Week of Languages with a delicious limited-edition international menu. Over the course of the week, students had the opportunity to enjoy food inspired by France, Greece, Germany, Spain and Italy. ¡Qué delicioso!

We are already excitedly looking forward to next year's event and hope to see as many students as possible getting involved.



Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor to sit on our Academy Committee. We meet once a half term, in the evenings at the school. The Committee is a small and friendly group of people who care about young people and act as a critical friend to the school. If you are interested and want to know more than please do get in touch via info@thornden.hants.sch.uk - if we have a number of people who want to stand we will have to hold a vote.

In addition, we have a number of vacancies for co-opted governors - these are people who are **not** parents but want to do something community-minded. If you have any friends or colleagues that might be interested then please ask them to get in touch.

Thank you,
Caroline



GET INTO TEACHING

in Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth,
Gosport, Fareham, the New Forest or the IOW

Would you like a career with excellent progression opportunities where no two days are the same? Train to teach in your local school and inspire the innovators, leaders and craftspeople of the future.



Wednesday 6th November, 16:00-17:30



Thornden School, Winchester Road,
Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh SO53 2DW

inspiringfutureteachers.org/hisp

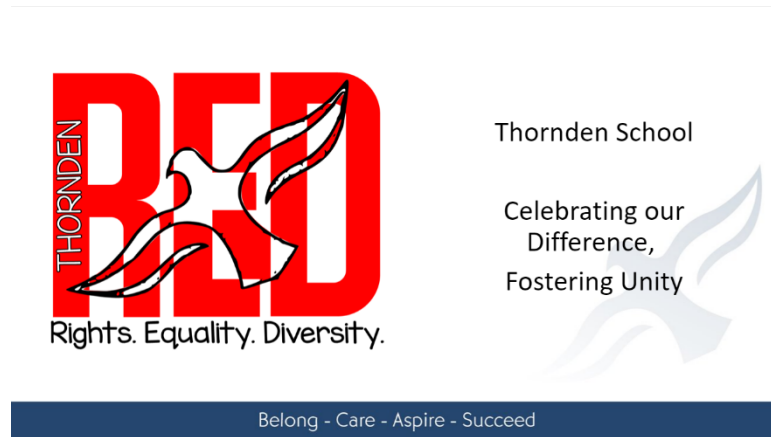


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Safeguarding-Mr Thomas (Deputy Headteacher and DSL)



This week I have been fortunate enough to stand in front of each year group and launch our new Student Leadership Group 'Red'.



Red - our Rights, Equality and Diversity is a student led leadership group who are dedicated to promoting rights, equality, diversity and inclusion within our school community. It aims to provide a safe and inclusive space for people from all backgrounds to share their experiences, perspectives, and ideas, as well as opportunities to celebrate the diversity of our community and raise awareness about issues related to protected characteristics. The current group of students are clear in their goals:

- Encourage and support an inclusive and welcoming environment for all students, regardless of their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or any other protected characteristics.
- We aim to organise events and campaigns that celebrate diversity, promote understanding and show respect for Thornden Students.
- Work with school staff to identify and address issues related to discrimination, bias, and inequity.
- Inspire and empower all members in the Thornden community (staff and students!) to be advocates for positive change, diversity, equity, and inclusion for all.
- Make Thornden a place where everyone wants to be and feel valued.

And they also have lots of great ideas planned:

- Welcome events
- Cultural festivals and celebrations
- Guest speakers and panel discussions
- Diversity and inclusion awareness campaigns for students and staff
- Workshops and training sessions for students and staff
- Community service projects
- Anything else that inspires you people!

We will be sharing more information with students, in the hope that lots of them will be interested in being part of this group to promote RED at Thornden and help to shape our school community.

Wellbeing Den-Mrs Kingsley-Smith (Pastoral Manager)



It has been a busy few weeks as our students settle back into the full swing of things at school! A particular highlight was our Year 7 coffee morning. It was a great opportunity to meet parents and carers of children who had recently joined Thornden. Our Wellbeing team Mrs Byrne, Miss Malhi and Mrs Willson were all on hand to meet parents and answer queries. There was a lovely atmosphere as parents got to know each other. I received some wonderful feedback as well as ideas from the morning, thank you to those who were able to join us.



Year 7 Wellbeing Group

This week has seen the introduction of our Wellbeing group sessions for year 7 students. These lessons are run by Mrs Byrne and each student over the course of the year will attend 3 sessions. We hope that this will give the opportunity for common worries to be shared and friendships to be made.

Counselling and ELSA referrals

We have received many referrals for our ELSA and counselling programs which run for 6 weeks at a time and are proving successful. Support has been provided for a variety of reasons including loss and bereavement, anxiety, managing anger and social skills. If you feel your child would benefit from some extra support to manage their emotions please get in touch with us.

Year 9 Empowering Young Minds Workshop

We are also lucky to have a workshop being delivered on Empowering Young Minds. The research will be carried out by a Trainee Educational Psychologist and is aiming to find out what young people think affects their mental health and wellbeing at school and what changes they think schools could make to better support this. The session will be on Friday 18th October from 10.00-11.30, we are looking for 6 Year 9 students to take part. If you do have a child who you know would particularly like to take part please do contact me, otherwise we will be selecting randomly.

Mathswatch Guides

Please find attached two guides containing instructions on how to make the most of the Mathswatch website:

1. How to change your Mathswatch password (to keep your account safe)
2. How to use Mathswatch to further support your learning (using the My Progress section of the website)



Department Spotlight

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



GCSE Business-Miss Reid (Head of Department)

Firstly, I would like to congratulate last year's Year 11s for an amazing set of results. We had a shock the previous year when the exam board really hiked the grade boundaries, but the 2024 cohort rose to the challenge and absolutely smashed it. 12% achieved the highest grade, three times the national average. It was lovely to see them so delighted on Results Day.

The current Year 11 students are coming to the end of the Human Resources module. This has included topics such as communication, training and motivation. We have drawn heavily on what was seen and experienced during the week-long work experience placement at the beginning of September.

Our final module will be Business Operations. For this we look outwards and follow global events closely. Occurrences, natural or man-made, can affect Santa's ability to get the presents from factory to Christmas stocking.

The Year 10 students are just a few weeks in. Unlike most other subjects they are not building on lessons in lower years, so it is all new. We start gently, looking at entrepreneurs and the risks and rewards of starting your own business. Then we look at how the biggest risk, losing everything, can be reduced by becoming a limited company. A quick look on Companies House and the students quickly realise that the trade-off for this protection is a lack of privacy. Don't worry parents, this year there was no-one's business that has been struck off!

As part of their lessons, Year 10 students have signed up to a share trading simulation. They start with an imaginary £100,000 to buy shares in up to 5 publicly traded companies with the aim of maximizing the value of their portfolio. At the time of writing the leader is Rhys, closely followed by Jaiyan. I am sure though that by the time you are reading this, this will have changed.

I look forward to speaking to Year 9 students in the coming months as they start to think about their option choices. Business is a brilliant subject for all abilities. The only entry requirement is that potential students must enjoy the news.



Sports Update-Mr Hall (Head of PE)



Social Media

We are gradually familiarising ourselves with our new Instagram page, which serves as a platform to enhance communication and celebrate achievements. This page highlights the dedication, success, and spirit of our students. We warmly invite parents to follow us: [Thornden Sport Instagram](#)



Team	Gender	Sport	VS	Opposition	Fixture Type	Result	Player of The Match
U12	Boys	Football	vs	Testbourne	County Cup	Won 3-2	
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won	Kitty G
U12	Girls	Hockey	vs	Kings	Friendly	Won 2-1	Jess
U13	Boys	Hockey	vs	Perins	Friendly	Won	
U13	Boys	Football	vs	Romsey	League	Won	
U13	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won	Chloe S
U14	Boys	Football	vs	Ryde School	County Cup	Won	Thomas S
U14	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won 17-5	Isla H
U14	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won 17-9	Georgia R
U14	Boys	Rugby	vs	Lord Wandsworth College	County Cup	Lost 14 - 57	Will H
U15	Girls	Football	vs	Wildern	National Cup	Lost 1-3	
U16	Girls	Netball	vs	St Swithuns B	Friendly	Won 11-6	Leah M
U16	Girls	Netball	vs	St Swithuns C	Friendly	Won 12-6	Leah M
U16A	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won 36-22	Jess A & Ruby H
U16B	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Won 30-13	Alice T
U16	Girls	Netball	vs	Swanmore	League	Won 37-18	Jess C & Charlotte J

Golf Success

A massive well done to Georgia who has been selected for the U18 south of England golf squad! What a fantastic achievement, and we look forward to hearing her success throughout the year.





Hockey Success

A huge well done to Jess (sister of Georgia above) who has been selected for the U13 Hampshire hockey squad. Well done Jess and good luck in your first Hampshire fixture.

Taekwondo News

Well done to Diana (Radu's sister whose Taekwondo achievements we have mentioned previously).

Diana joined Thornden School in September in Year 7, and like her brother, she is an A-class fighter with an impressive collection of medals from national and international competitions. This past weekend, Diana competed in the prestigious British Taekwondo Kyorugi National Championships in Sheffield. This major event attracts nearly 1,000 athletes annually, showcasing the highest level of talent in the country. Diana delivered a phenomenal performance through the day and narrowly missed the finals by just two points!

Diana came away with an impressive Bronze medal, well done!



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

Eastleigh Football Club – Schools / Family Day



SCHOOLS DAY AT THE SILVERLAKE



JOIN US FOR EASTLEIGH FC VS BOSTON UNITED ON SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER AS WE CELEBRATE THE YOUTH OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

ALL TICKETS 50% OFF!

FOR SCHOOL CHILD AND ALL ACCOMPANYING FRIENDS AND FAMILY

THE SCHOOL WHO SELLS THE MOST TICKETS RECEIVES A SIGNED SHIRT FROM THE FIRST TEAM!



BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW AT [BIT.LY/SCHOOLS50](https://bit.ly/schools50)
USING CODE: "SCHOOLS50"

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL: [JNACE@EASTLEIGHFC.COM](mailto:jnace@eastleighfc.com)

SCAN HERE

Student Christmas Lunches-Mrs Kehoe (Assistant Head)



We are introducing Christmas lunches this year, for all year groups. We hope this will become a lovely Thornden tradition! Please see details below.

Monday 9 th December	Year 7
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 8
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 9
Thursday 12 th December	Year 10
Friday 13 th December	Year 11



Venue: School canteen (x5 classes at a time)

Ticket only: £4.20 unless FSM (must be purchased by **Friday 29th November**). To purchase the ticket, please log into the Arbor shop and click on the Christmas dinner link.

Timings: Due to the capacity of our canteen, each year group will be split into two halves. Students will be notified which group they are in.

Christmas Lunch 1 – 12.30am – 1.10pm

Christmas Lunch 2 – 1.20pm – 2pm

Christmas Jumper: Students may wear a Christmas Jumper on the day they are having their Christmas dinner. All other uniform must remain as usual.

Additional details: The canteen will be open as normal at break times during this week (no hot meals will be available, but they will still provide hot and cold snacks).

Best wishes

Laura Kehoe

Dear Parents,

As a school we do not tolerate racist language and we have clear sanctions in place to address this when it occurs. However, we are finding that some students are using racial terms without truly understanding what the term means, the history of the words and how deeply upsetting they can be.

As educators we want to change behaviours so we would like to ask for your help. Please could we hear from you about any examples that you have had of racist language being used against you? You do not have to use the specific words - it is more about the effect that it had on you. You can either email us about your experiences or send a short video clip to c.lowing@thornden.hants.sch.uk. If you want to remain anonymous then please let us know.

We will then pull this together to use in assemblies/ PSHE lessons. I am sure that this will provide us with a powerful resource.

Thank you so much, in advance, for your support with this. I will definitely be sharing my experiences but it is so important for our young people to hear a broad range of voices.

Caroline

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.

