



Thornden School Newsletter 13th December 2024



Dear Parents/Carers

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

Caroline Lowing



Chinese New Year Celebration Event

We are holding a Chinese New Year celebration at school on Thursday 30th January from 6pm - 8pm, in the canteen. **This is for students and their families.**

Please fill in this [form](#) if you wish to attend. Please include how many will be attending and any dietary requirements.

Please complete by Wednesday 18th December.

We look forward to seeing you there!



2024-2025 Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Information
Thornden Winter Concert	Tuesday 17 th December	Book tickets here
Year 11 Belong Event	Wednesday 18 th December	
Last day of term-please note the earlier finish time	Friday 20 th December	8.35 a.m. Registration 9 a.m. Period 1 (P1/2) 9.50 a.m. Period 2 (P3/4) 10.40-11.10 a.m. BREAK 11.10 a.m. Period 3 (P5/6) 11.50 a.m. Dismiss Years 7, 8 and 9 11.55 a.m. Dismiss Years 10 and 11
Return to school	Monday 6 th January	
Year 11 GCSE trial results	Wednesday 8 th January	These will be shared with students and parents
Options evening	Tuesday 14 th January	
Inset Day	Wednesday 15 th January	School closed to all students
Year 11 Bournemouth Pavilion Trip	Monday 20 th January	
Year 11 Parent and Carer Evening	Wednesday 22 nd January	Online

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

Half term
Monday 23 rd December to Friday 3 rd January 2024

Non-uniform days 2024-2025
Friday 14 th February
Friday 4 th April
Tuesday 22 nd July

Please make sure you pay for these via Arbor!

Meet the team behind the scenes!

Gill is our Art technician. She helps to organise the resources used in all the Art lessons, but her main role is to prepare the clay and fire the kiln. You will often find her recycling clay, using the large pugging machine at the back of A3. She also supports clay lessons in the classroom and with the 3-D GCSE course.



Gill used to be a primary school teacher and has always had an interest in Art. She loves watching the Pottery Throwdown. She has her own kiln at home, but she uses it to create fused glass rather than ceramics. This involves cutting and assembling coloured glass and firing in the kiln to 800°C. This hobby takes up most of her spare time, but she also likes sewing and painting.

Showcase-GCSE Artwork



To end the showcasing of our GCSE Art subjects, our Artist of the Week this week is Leonie M with her artist study, created in clay and painted with acrylic. Leonie created this lovely piece as part of her 3D Design course.

This lovely Lino print was completed by Dulcie C-W in Year 8, who is our Artist of the Week. Dulcie used the reduction method to produce her 3 colour Lino print based on the theme of the Animal Kingdom. Well done Dulcie!



Extracurricular Timetables

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

Please see below for the current timetables. If you have any questions, please get in touch!



Please send a note rather than an email if student unable to participate in PE/Dance.

If your child is unable to participate in PE/Dance for any reason, please send them in with a dated note (preferably on their Tracker) rather than emailing, particularly if it is short notice. It is difficult for staff to access their emails during the day whilst teaching and on occasions there may be a cover teacher. If the medical reason is ongoing, please contact the Medical Team to discuss further.

Thank you for your support.

Medical Team and PE/Dance Department



Thornden Hall

LIVE WRESTLING - January 4th, 7pm

The superstars of the wrestling world are back for their 2025 tour. Witness jaw dropping moves and high-flying manoeuvres in this amazing 2-hour show.

Featuring a special All Nations title match between champion The Baron of the Banquet Alexander Murdock and former TNA and Ring of Honour legend The Wonderkid Jonny Storm.

The star-studded show also features tag team action plus a women's title showdown.

Book early. It's the perfect Christmas gift.

£15 Ringside

£12 adults

£10 kids

£40 family.

<https://www.thorndenhall.co.uk/whats-on/live-wrestling-25>





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

SHCG (South Hampshire College Group) T Level Parents Information Evenings

CEMAST & CETC – Wednesday 5 February 17:30 – 18:30

Fareham College – Thursday 6 February 17:30 – 19:00

Eastleigh College – Wednesday 12 February 17:30 – 19:00

Southampton College – Thursday 13 February 17:30 – 19:00

Offer from BAE Systems

We will be hosting a webinar in National Apprenticeships Week, where students/teachers/parents can join to find out what apprenticeships are available and how they might go about applying to apprenticeships within BAE Systems Submarines.

Monday 10th February 5:30pm – 6:30pm

BAE Systems Higher/Degree Apprenticeship Insights Webinar

[Click to book FREE ticket](#)

It is specific to our southern offices – Frimley, Portsmouth, Bristol, and Weymouth.

The contents of the 1-hour long webinar are as follows:

- Short Presentation on "What Higher/Degree Apprenticeships are available at BAE Systems & How to Apply"
- Interactive Q&A Session to ask any & all of your questions to Early Careers Colleagues & Apprentices
- Break Out Rooms where attendees can choose to listen to a talk about how an apprentice got into their role, you can choose from the following:
 - Project Management
 - Data Analysis
 - Engineering

This will be running whilst our apprenticeship application window is **LIVE**, so will be the perfect opportunity to gain some more insights prior to applying.

It is open to all age groups and is completely FREE to attend

Koolskools Mid-Winter Discount!

For the first time ever, we are running a mid-winter 10% discount window, from 10th to 20th January 2025.



How to order

Go to the buying page on the Koolskools website on the following [link](#) and place your order. There will be a flat delivery charge of £4.99.

Orders take up to 10 days to turn around (up to 15 days during the busy June to September period) from the date of order placement.

For Southampton/Hampshire Schools: There is also a "click and collect" option online, where customers can order and collect from our shop at 387 Shirley Rd, SO15 3TS.

Young Carers Name the Teddy Competition-Mrs Ash and Mrs Wilkson



The Young Carers group are launching a Name the Teddy Bear Competition.

What do you think the Teddy's name is? You can make 3 guesses for £1. Any name, any gender!

Payment will be an option on Arbor, or you can bring £1 to Reception.

The Teddy Bear is on display at Reception, come along and have a look.

If more than one person guesses the right name, the names of those who have correctly guessed will be put in a hat and the winner drawn by a Young Carer.

Name guess forms are attached to the newsletter and we have spares at Reception. Simply fill it in, pay on Arbor and bring your form to Reception.

The winner who correctly chooses the right name will win the Teddy Bear.

The competition winner will be notified on Thursday 19th December.

Good luck Mrs Ash and Mrs Willson

Safeguarding-Mr Thomas (Deputy Headteacher)



With the winter break fast approaching, we appreciate there will be some young people who may struggle during the holidays without the access to the daily pastoral support, trusted adults and friends that the Thornden School community provides. Equally, seasonal illness and the closure of many services at this time of year can lead to extended wait times across both adult and young people's NHS and community services.

For this reason, I thought it may be worth highlighting to you all some services that are there to support Thornden's young people, which will remain open for them to access at any time over the winter period.

The infographic is a grid of service cards. At the top center is a box for 'THORNDEN SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH SIGNPOSTING SUPPORT'. Below it is a box for 'NHS Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service'. The other services are arranged in three rows around the central boxes.

- SAMARITANS**: Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support. Call: 116 123 or email: jo@samaritans.org
- childline**: ONLINE OR THE PHONE ANYTIME. Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem. Call: 0800 1111 anytime or online chat with a counsellor
- Crisis Tools**: Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources. Sign up for free resources here
- kooth**: Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine
- shout 85258**: Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required. Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or visit Shout Crisis Text Line
- PAPYRUS**: Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person. Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)
- THE MIX**: The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25. Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or Email
- Beat**: Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder. Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

At the bottom of the infographic is a dark blue bar with the text: **Belong - Care - Aspire - Succeed**

Below are the links to these services for you to use as and when you require it:

- [Home - Kooth](#)
- [E.Winter CYP & Parent/Carer letter. Kooth. December 2024](#)
- Kooth have also put together a short (2:47) 'we are still here' video. [HERE](#).
- [Shout: the UK's free, confidential and 24/7 mental health text service for crisis support | Shout 85258](#)
- [Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide](#)
- [Contact Us | Samaritans](#)
- [The Mix - Essential support for under 25s](#)
- [Guide to CAMHS | Mental Health Services | YoungMinds](#)
- [Solent Mind | For better mental health in Hampshire](#)
- [Young People – CAMHS](#)
- [Home - Crisis Tools](#)

For those of you who have joined the WellBeing Hub, from Teen Talks, there is also a wealth of resources, guidance and advice on how best to support your young person and coming up on Wednesday 18th December at 6.30pm there is a Webinar: Understanding the current landscape for boys and young men with Amy Forbes-Robertson, Author and Founding Director of It Happens Education and Ben Hurst, Director of Facilitation at Beyond Equality.

A reminder that all Thornden parents, students and staff get free access to this fantastic resource: [Schools - Teen Tips](#)



Department Spotlight

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



Mr Woods-Head of Computing

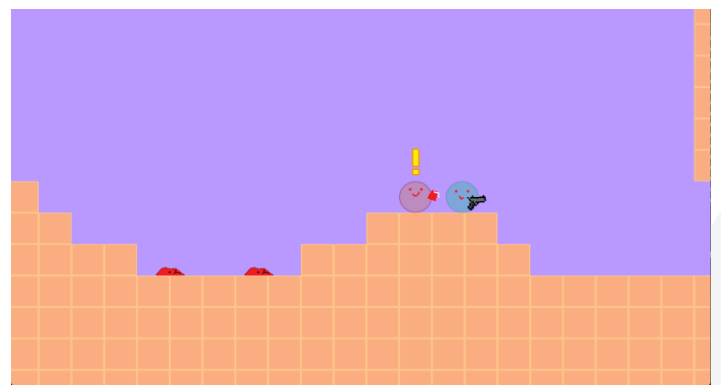
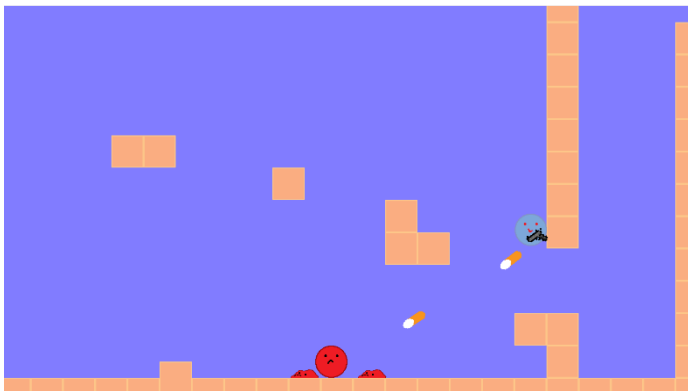
Young Game Designers Shine at School

Our school is buzzing with creativity, thanks to the efforts of some talented young game designers.

Year 9 students Oliver H and Michael F have been hard at work since September, designing and building their own video games from the ground up. Impressively, they are nearing completion of their game engines – the sophisticated systems that power how their games function. Now, they are diving into the exciting stage of adding levels, characters, and events to make their games truly stand out.

Not to be outdone, Year 8 student James B has been making waves in a different aspect of game design. While he's chosen not to build a full game, James has been focusing his efforts on crafting stunning sprite designs and animations. His work has brought characters to life with vibrant visuals and fluid motion, showcasing another side of what makes video games so captivating.

Whether designing intricate systems or creating eye-catching animations, these young designers are proving that the future of gaming innovation is bright right here at our school. Keep an eye out for updates as their projects come to life!



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](#)



Recent Results

Team	Gender	Sport	VS	Opposition	Fixture Type	Result	Player of The Match
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Kings	County Qualifier	Won 7-0	Bethany D
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Perins	County Qualifier	Won 5-0	Bethany D
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Toynbee	County Qualifier	Won 6-0	Kitty G
U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Perins	Friendly	Won 7-1	Rose D
U12	Boys	Football	vs	Westgate	District Cup	Lost 0-5	
U13	Boys	Football	vs	Salesian College	County Cup	Won 3-1	
U13	Girls	Netball	vs	Kings		Won 4-1	Mia, Lacie, Izzy, Chloe
U13	Girls	Netball	vs	Perins		Won 2-0	Mia, Lacie, Izzy, Chloe
U13	Girls	Netball	vs	Mountbatten		Won 6-2	Mia, Lacie, Izzy, Chloe
U13	Boys	Hockey	vs	Romsey	Friendly	Won 2-1	
U14	Girls	Football	vs	Deer Park	County Cup	Won 5-0	Ami
U14	Girls	Netball	vs	Perins	Friendly	Lost 5-6	Izzy T & Joanna T
U14	Boys	Football	vs	Westgate	District Cup	Won 5-1	Spencer
U14	Boys	Football	vs	Swanmore	County Cup	Won 5-4	Charlie
U14	Girls	Netball	vs	Mountbatten	League	Lost 8-12	Madi and Ella
U14	Boys	Hockey	vs	Romsey	Friendly	Lost 3-5	
U15	Boys	Football	vs	Bay House	County Cup	Lost 1-2	Dom and Alfie
U15	Boys	Football	vs	Swanmore	District Cup	Won 2-1	Joe and Tommy
U16	Girls	Netball	vs	Mountbatten	League	Won 15-6	Elle
U16	Boys	Hockey	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Lost 0-4	Daniel

Cycling Success



A big well done to Isla who has had a great season in the Wessex League so far, having moved up from U16 to Junior (born the 'wrong' side of Christmas!) so races in the all age-group women's race. In a very wet and windy race at Dalton Barracks during Storm Bert a few weeks ago, she won the Regional Championships race. Well done Isla.





Thornden Sports Sponsorship Opportunities

Dear Thornden Community,

I hope this message finds you and your families well. I'm reaching out to share an exciting opportunity to support Thornden School and its students in a meaningful way.

As many of you know, Thornden is committed to offering a variety of sporting experiences to our students, participating in local, regional, and even national events, often with impressive success! However, you may not be aware that our sports team kits are frequently outdated, sometimes damaged, and are shared across multiple teams. For instance, our current rugby kit is shared among eight teams, including both boys' and girls' squads.

Outfitting our teams with new, high-quality kits is essential, but the costs can add up quickly. To enhance our students' experience and pride, we are seeking sponsorships to help us update our team uniforms, staff attire, and protective covers for equipment like rugby and netball posts. These enhancements would foster unity among students and make a positive impression of our dedicated staff as well.

We are inviting members of our valued school community to help us connect with businesses or companies that might be interested in sponsoring our teams. Sponsors would gain visibility within the Thornden community and the satisfaction of knowing they are making a real difference in our students' educational and sporting experiences.

If you or someone you know would like to discuss potential sponsorship opportunities, please feel free to reach out to me at b.hall@thornden.hants.sch.uk. I would be happy to explore how a sponsorship could benefit both Thornden and our generous supporters.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the success of our school and students.

Kind regards,
Mr. Ben Hall
Head of Physical Education

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

Wellbeing Den-Mrs Kingsley Smith (Pastoral Manager)



Bereavement Support Group (BSG)

A reminder for any students that have suffered a bereavement, we meet weekly each Friday, during first break in H1. An opportunity to chat and share some refreshments together. If you would like to arrange support for any child effected by bereavement, please do contact the pastoral team.

Young carers

On Friday 6th December we took a group of our Young Carers to Rock Up in Whiteley. Everyone had a good time, although many of them were complaining of sore arms on the way home.



The Young Carers group are launching a Name the Teddy Bear Competition. What do you think the Teddy's name is? You can make 3 guesses for £1. Any name, any gender! Payment will be an option on Arbor, or you can bring £1 to Reception. The Teddy Bear is on display at Reception, come along and have a look.

Wellbeing Den

The Wellbeing Den is being used by so many of our young people. It is delightful to see and get to know more of the students. A reminder that we are open from 8.15 am on Wednesday and Friday mornings should any student want a quieter start to the day.



GCHQ National Language Competition

GCHQ, one of the three UK intelligence and security agencies alongside MI5 and MI6, run an annual problem-solving competition for Year 9 MFL students across the country. Students compete against teams from other schools to solve as many complex language puzzles as possible over the course of 5 days using logic and reasoning.

This was the first year that Thornden had entered the competition and three teams signed up to compete. All of the work on the challenge took place in students' own time and we are really proud of the commitment and effort that they showed during competition week. Whilst all three teams did very well, our top-placing team came in the top 20% nationally, which is a fantastic achievement in our first year taking part. Even scoring as well as they did, this team only completed just over 40% of the questions available, highlighting just how difficult and multi-layered the puzzles were.



Congratulations to:

Angus W
Archibold C
Ella R
Harriet E
Siri P

Samuel S
Rylan T
Eloise M
Holly S

Student Achievement



Congratulations to Isla W, 7SND, for achieving her black stripe belt status in Karate and achieving full marks in the grading. Isla has been working hard on achieving this for 6 years with AGMA martial arts in Eastleigh.

Attached is a copy of the NHS Wellbeing for Parents December newsletter. This newsletter provides lots of different information to support children of all ages.

Included in this month's newsletter:

- Why is it important to name feelings?
- What are the early signs of an eating disorder?
- Understand your child with additional needs

And much more!

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.



Part of the HISP Multi
Academy Trust