



Thornden School Newsletter

4th July 2025



Hello families,

Last week was packed with so much fun, laughing and learning! I don't think that I got home before 9pm on any evening but that is just the way it is sometimes. On Tuesday we had a HUGE Rising Stars Music concert - the programme was packed full on talented students from Years 7, 8 and 9. Against the national backdrop of the decline of young people taking up an instrument, our students and the Music department are showing just how dedicated and talented they are! Thank you to all of the students involved, the parents who attended and the department and peripatetic teachers.

We met our new families on Transition Evening on Wednesday. Moving up to Secondary school is a big step for our young people but we hope that we allayed many fears and gave some top tips to parents to support their children. Thanks again for those of you who attended and for all of the positive comments that you shared. One parent said to me that they feel that a "weight has been lifted" from their shoulders after liaising with the school about transition.

On Thursday we had around 270 parents from all of the Cluster schools - secondary and primary - sign up for our Smart Phones? Smart Choices conference. We heard from Smartphone Free Childhood as well as Adele Zeynep Walton, a member of generation Z who tragically lost her sister to suicide after she became involved in online forums that promote self-harm and suicide. Adele was so reflective, and it was refreshing to hear from a young person who has lived through growing up online. Thank you to those of you who attended.

I joined over 80 students and members of staff in our Phone Free Detox last week. I was really apprehensive about not having my phone for a week, but I found it really liberating. I definitely read more and spent more time with my family - I would urge anyone to give it a try! Our students also reported spending more time studying and doing their hobbies. Well done to all who took part.

We have recently had some Belong events for Year 9 and Year 8. Year 9 had a fabulous event on the field - there were stalls, and ice cream van and a bouncy castle slide. It was such fun and lovely to see our young people have good wholesome fun with their peers.

Year 8 did a Taskmaster event - my absolute highlight was walking into an Art room that was plastered in large photos of me, with students trying to recreate the portraits, drawing WITH THEIR FEET. The whole event was a huge amount of fun, something that our students will remember forever. Thank you to the Heads of Year and their teams for organising these.

This week we had Welcome to Thornden Day on Tuesday where we met our 290 new Year 7s. There were nerves at the gate (and that was mostly the parents!) but they had a brilliant day - getting to know their new friends, tutors, teachers and the school. A big thank you to Ms Parker and her team for their hard work on this.

I am at the Festival of Education on Thursday and Friday. I have never had the chance to attend but it is the pinnacle in the Education development calendar, and I am hoping to steal some more gems to enable our school to become the Best School in the South!

Take care and I hope to see you soon,

Caroline

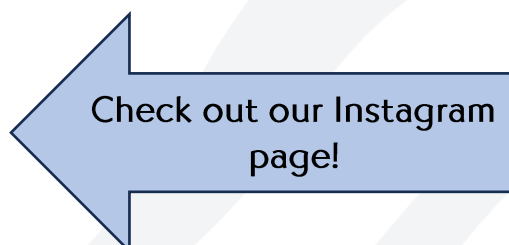
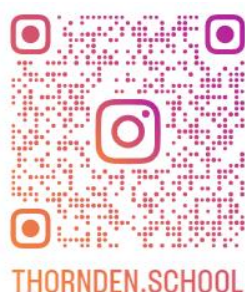


2024-2025 Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Information
Barton Peveril Taster Day	Wednesday 9 th July	Year 10
Year 8 Sikh Gurdwara trip	Thursday 10 th July	Year 8
Eastleigh College Taster Day	Thursday 10 th July	Year 10
Year 7 Belong Event	Thursday 10 th July	Year 7
Year 10 Dance Trip	Thursday 17 th July	Mottisfont/Hinton Ampner
Year 10 Reports to Parents	Friday 18 th July	Received via email
Activities Day Year 7-9	Monday 21 st July	Please see individual communication on each trip for timings
Enterprise Day Year 10	Monday 21 st July	
Last Day	Tuesday 22 nd July	Lower school finish 11.50am Upper school finish 11.55am
Inset day	Wednesday 3 rd September	School open to staff only
New Year 7 1 st Day	Thursday 4 th September	Year 7 only
Return for Years 8-11	Friday 5 th September	All years

Summer Holidays
23 rd July-4 th September (Year 7 only) 5 th September (Year 8,9,10,11 return)

Non-Uniform
Tuesday 22 nd July



Wellbeing Den-Mrs Kingsley-Smith (Pastoral Manager)



Bereavement Support Group-BSG

What a great year we have had, with thanks to FOTS for all their support. We recently held a pizza event, students were able to help us cook them then join together to eat them. These events are really important in developing relationships within the group. Our emphasis has been on creating an environment where the students can get to know each other but also know they are not alone in their grief. We are sad to see our Year 11 students move on and thank them for all their support mentoring younger students in the group. We are forming an alumni group so these students can return to join us next year, if any former BSG students would like to join please email me.



Wellbeing Den

A huge thank you to Mrs Byrne and Miss Malhi who along with me run the Wellbeing Den. Since opening we have seen an incredible amount of students and enjoy helping them to manage their own wellbeing.

We continue to run activities, offer a quiet space and are open for all students during break and lunchtime. It was lovely to welcome so many new students into our WBD on Thornden Welcome Day, we look forward to seeing them again in September.

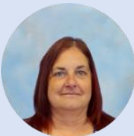
Today we are looking forward to our picnic lunch on the fields with students, we are pleased the sun is shining for us.

Young Carers

Young Carers continues to run each Tuesday breaktime next to the ELSA room. We are fortunate that so many of our wonderful young carers are able to join Mrs Willson and Mrs Ash each week for a friendly catch up and enjoy a drink and biscuits at the same time. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students next year and wish our Year 11 students all the very best for the future.

Meet the team behind the scenes!

My role within Thornden school, as a senior finance business partner, is to support the finance team, provide guidance and reporting of the school financial picture, through management reports, KPI's and Budget setting, with the Headteacher, SLT and Heads of Department.



I provide similar support to other schools in the trust, one being Highcliffe and the other moving forward will be Danebury

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, often on adventures, travelling somewhere, or even just having fun at home. I love music, enjoy a good musical, appreciate a good classical orchestra, but over and above all I love the rock and metal music scene and can be found camping each year at Download Festival with my daughter, friends and this year my grandson.

Extracurricular Timetables

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



Timetables for the 25/26 will be established early September 2025 and shared with parents/carers.

Lost Property

Over the next week, students will be asked to come and check the lost property area. If your child has lost something, please encourage them to come and see if their item has been handed in. Any unclaimed items will be disposed of or donated to charity on Friday 18th July.

Help shape the future of health visiting and school nursing services

The Hampshire Public Health Team need your help to shape the future of Hampshire's health visiting and school nursing services.

These vital services support all pregnant women, babies, children, young people, and families across the county. To ensure they continue to meet families' needs, we're asking parents and carers to share their experiences – and we would especially appreciate hearing the views of fathers and partners.

- The survey takes under 10 minutes
- Open until 8th July
- Share your views:
<https://hampshirecc.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/PHNfeedback> Thank you for helping us make a difference

Year 9 Belong Event-Miss Jones (Head of Year 9)



On the 24th June Year 9 had their belong event. Each tutor group ran a stall - there was apple bobbing, a photo booth, "top bins" football shooting, nerf gun shooting, and a tombola to name a few. These stalls raised money for two chosen charities - the Mountbatten Hospice and St Frances Animal Welfare (charities suggested by our students). We had a big bouncy castle slide and an ice cream van - so there was plenty for the students (and staff!) to get involved with.



Congratulations to Fin who won the top bins competition!

Each student bought a donation for Eastleigh Basics Bank, a cause that this year group have always shown great support for. Hundreds of food items and toiletry essentials were delivered to the bank, and they were extremely grateful, particularly as we are approaching the summer break, which can be a real crunch time for some families reliant on the bank's services.

It was a lovely atmosphere and a great way to celebrate with our Year 9 Cohort.



Friends of Thornden (FOTS)

FOTS at the Year 6 Intake evening

Last week, FOTS presented many accomplishments to Year 6 parents during the intake evening, emphasising student perspectives through direct quotations!



We have supplied new sports kits for several teams. Max remarked, *"It's exciting to play hockey now that we all match—especially in the newer blue kit."* Logan further noted, *"Wearing it makes me feel like part of the team and more professional; it feels real, not just school."*

Many students have recently engaged in 'Belong' events, which were sponsored by FOTS. Immi observed, *"These events encourage outdoor activity, provide a break from academic work, and offer valuable opportunities to socialise. As a newcomer to the school, I appreciate that staff members demonstrate a sense of humour through such initiatives."*



One of our most popular contributions is supporting the live ducks project for Year 7 science lessons. This initiative has become a well-established annual event, highly valued by pupils. Isla commented, *"It is good that we have the ducks in school because we learn about things like reproduction and they're cute and it was a fun experience!"*



Uniforms, uniforms, uniforms....

email: uniform@thornden.hants.sch.uk

The second-hand uniform has been in high demand, especially at the intake evening, resulting in a significant reduction in our available stock. Donating good quality used uniforms is always an effective way to support the school, particularly items featuring the new logo and blue PE kit pieces. Please drop any donations into school reception.



The very best way to support the school is a small monthly donation!

Just the price of a coffee each month makes a huge difference to how we can support the children. Sign up in just minutes [HERE!](#)

Our next meeting is on July 8th, and includes a social. If you can attend, please email us for details. Email: fots@thornden.hants.sch.uk

Year 11 Prom-Mr Jewell-(Head of Year 11)



Year 11 Prom 2025 – A Night to Remember!

The Year 11 Prom took place on **Friday 27th June 2025** at St Mary's Stadium in the Mick Channon Suite. It was a truly memorable evening celebrating the achievements and hard work of our Year 11 students as they conclude their GCSE journey.

They arrived in style- horse and carriage, supercars, motorbikes, limos and even a tuk tuk. The event was filled with laughter, dancing, and joyful moments as students enjoyed a delicious dinner followed by an evening of music and entertainment. The atmosphere was brilliant with students staying until the very end, I am sure they would have stayed longer if they could.

Staff and parents alike were proud to see the students come together in such high spirits, marking the end of an important chapter in their school lives. The students showed great maturity and respect throughout the evening, making it a safe and enjoyable event for all.

We would like to extend our thanks to the staff involved in the organising of the evening and to the venue team for their hospitality. Most importantly, congratulations to all Year 11 students for their positive attitude and enthusiasm, and all their hard work this year, we look forward to seeing them on results day!



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

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

Barton Peveril Open Events

Join us on Wednesday 24th or Thursday 25th September, 16:30 - 20:30 at Barton Peveril Sixth Form College for an exciting opportunity to:



- Explore our facilities
- Research all courses on offer and QXTRAs!
- Speak to our current students and teachers
- Enjoy the College's vibrant and energetic atmosphere

To Secure Your Ticket: www.ticketsource.co.uk/barton-peveril-college-events.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you and your student to explore an outstanding sixth form college.

- *One ticket per family. We encourage you to arrive at the start time on your ticket. Your time slot is limited to 45 minutes.*
- *Parking will be provided on the field. Please be wary of the type and size of vehicle you bring. Accessible vehicles must display their blue badge at all times. Please email marketing@barton.ac.uk if you need support with accessible parking.*

This event is targeted at students joining Year 10 and Year 11 in the next academic year.

Voting for shortlisted Train competition entries

A number of our students recently submitted artwork showing what they think trains will look like in the year 2225 and I am pleased to let you know that both Elisabeth and Nancy's pictures have been shortlisted.

The winning picture will be displayed at Waterloo Station from July and will remain there permanently.

The shortlisted entries will now be voted on by the public, you will find the pictures submitted and the link to the public vote here <https://railway200.co.uk/your-future-train>

Please vote for your favourite picture.

Voting will close on the 7th July.

PE Kit Reminder-Change Effective from September 2025-Mr Hall (Head of PE)



We would like to remind you that from **September 2025**, the previous **red PE kit** will no longer be part of our school uniform.

This change was first shared when we introduced the new **blue PE kit** in **September 2022**, and we've provided a generous transition period to allow families time to prepare.

From September 2025 onwards, **all students will be expected to wear the full blue PE kit** as outlined below.

Items that will no longer be permitted:

- Red polo shirts
- Black shorts
- Black skorts
- Black rugby/hockey/football socks

Approved PE kit from September 2025 (which can be purchased from Skoolkit, www.skoolkit.co.uk):

- Royal blue and black panelled polo shirt with school logo
- Black and royal blue panelled shorts (with or without school logo)
- Plain black jogging bottoms (no visible logos)
- Black leggings with school logo (if worn instead of shorts) – **no other branded leggings allowed.**
- Royal blue and black rugby/hockey/football socks



We kindly ask that all future purchases reflect these updated uniform requirements. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards and a smart, consistent appearance for all students during PE lessons.

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](#)



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

Sports Results

U14	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	Track Ko Semi	Finished 1st
U14	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	Track Ko Semi	Finished 1st
U15	Boys	Tennis	vs	LWC	League	Lost
U12	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	Track Ko Semi	Finished 3rd
U14	Girls	Rounders	vs	Mountbatten	League	Won
U14	Girls	Rounders	vs	Kings	League	Lost
U15	Girls	Rounders	vs	Mountbatten	League	Drew
U15	Girls	Rounders	vs	Kings	League	Lost
U15	Boys	Tennis	vs	Kings	League	Lost
U13	Boys	Tennis	vs	Kings	League	Lost
U13	Girls	Tennis	vs	Kings	League	Won 10-2
U13	Girls	Tennis B	vs	Kings	League	Won
U13	Girls	Cricket	vs	Farnham	Tournament	Won
U13	Girls	Cricket	vs	Westgate	Tournament	Lost
U13	Boys	Tennis C	vs	Perins	Friendly	
U15	Boys	Cricket	vs	Swanmore	County Cup	Won
U14	Girls	Cricket	vs	Various	County Softball Comp	2 wins, 2 losses
U13	Boys	Cricket	vs	John Hanson	County Cup	Won
U13	Boys	Cricket	vs	Various	County Softball Comp	2nd place
U13	Girls	Tennis B	vs	Bedales	County Div2 Quarter Final	Lost
U13	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO Finals	3rd place
U15	Boys	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO Finals	4th Place
U15	Girls	Athletics	vs	Various	County Track KO Finals	Winners
U13	Boys	Cricket	vs	Priestlands	County Cup Semi-final	Won
U15	Boys	Cricket	vs	John Hanson	County Cup Semi-final	Won

Thornden Cricket Success

Well done to the U13 boys cricket team, who beat Priestlands in the semi-final of the State Schools County Cup. They now progress to the finals next week. We wish them the best of luck and look forward to hearing how they get on.

Similarly, congratulations to the U15 boys cricket team, who beat John Hanson in their semi-final and will also compete in the finals next week. Best of luck to them too – we look forward to sharing their results.

Year 9 Mixed Touch Rugby National Finals

A huge well done to the Year 9 mixed touch rugby side who represented Thornden at the National Finals in Worcester! The team travelled to Sixways stadium and played a large number of schools in a round robin style competition. After a very hot day, and some fantastic rugby, the team can be proud of finishing 6th in the country! Well done to all involved.



Thornden Athletics Success

Last week, Thornden took three teams to the Hampshire Schools Track KO competition. Reaching the final was an achievement in itself, as all three teams had already won both the first round and the semi-finals to get there. The day brought a high level of competition, with our U15 Boys finishing 5th, the U13 Girls coming 3rd and the U15 Girls being crowned Hampshire champions. Well done to everyone involved!



Swimming Success (Stuttgart International Swim Gala)

Last weekend Amelia, Amelie, Erin and Arthur all travelled to Germany to represent Winchester City Swimming Club in the 49th Stuttgart International Swimming Competition.

Over two action-packed days of racing they faced off against swimmers from all across Europe and the world including Nigeria, France, UAE, Austria and beyond. The team did incredibly well racing in the outdoor 50m pool (a new experience for all of them) with the Winchester team eventually winning the best visiting team trophy, all in 34°C heat! Well done to them all.



Cheerleading World Championships

Sage in Year 7 is part of team 'Hail', which is an Under 16 Large 1 team with Storm Athletics (based in Gosport). This season they travelled all the way to Orlando in Florida (USA) to compete at 2 of the toughest competitions in the world (Apr - May 2025). First up was the 'Allstar Cheerleading World Championships'. After competing at the 2 days event, Hail were crowned Gold Medallists winning the World Totals for their division.

Following a further 2 weeks of intensive training in Florida, they attended their second and more prestigious event - 'The Summit'. Hail worked hard from Day 1 to Day 2 to improve their scores in the hope of making a top 3 placement. However, they exceeded all expectations and actually won the event to become Summit Champions. Hail surpassed teams from USA, Canada and Europe amongst others. This is equivalent to being a World Champion in Cheerleading.

Well done to Sage and the team!



Department Spotlight

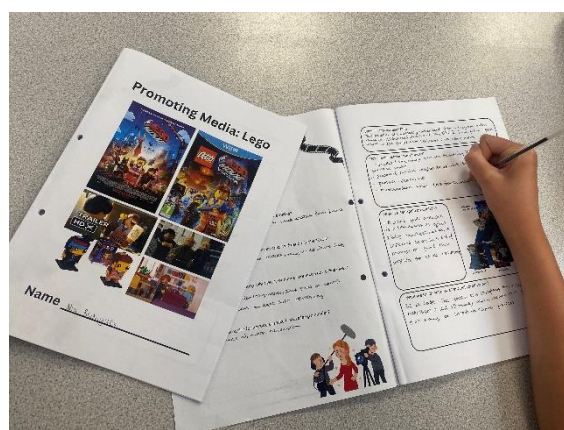
New feature! Each newsletter we will shine a spotlight on the work of one of our fantastic departments.



Miss Jeffris-Head of Media

With our hardworking Year 11s off enjoying their well-earned summer break, our Year 10s have been diving into the world of The Lego Movie, as part of their Promoting Media module. We've been exploring how films are marketed, analysing everything from the media language of adverts and trailers to how social groups are represented in film posters.

Students have also investigated audience engagement through tie-ins like The Lego Movie video game, gaining insight into how the film industry connects with audiences across different platforms. Even in the quieter season, Media Studies continues to build big ideas 'brick by brick'!



Vacancies

Teacher of IT/Computer Science

We are seeking an outstanding individual to join our successful Computer Science department as a Teacher of IT/Computer Science. Thornden School offers outstanding induction, training, and development opportunities through the HISP Multi Academy Trust. For informal enquiries, please contact hr@thornden.hants.sch.uk. Please click on [HISP Multi Academy Trust - Vacancies](#) for further details.

Closing date: 08/07/2025

Exam Invigilators

We are seeking reliable and detail-oriented Exam Invigilators to support the smooth running of our internal and external exams for the new academic year 2025-2026. This is a fantastic opportunity for individuals who are committed to helping young people achieve their best in a calm and supportive environment. Are you looking for a flexible role where you can make a real impact? Please click on [HISP Multi Academy Trust - Vacancies](#) for further details.

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.



The banner features a dark blue background with a white QR code in the upper right. On the left, there is a logo for 'INSPIRING FUTURE TEACHERS' with 'HIGH TEACHER TRAINING' underneath. Below the logo, the text 'TRAIN TO TEACH IN HAMPSHIRE' is written in white, followed by a white arrow pointing upwards and to the right. On the right side of the banner, there is a photograph of a smiling Black woman (teacher) and a young boy (student) looking at a tablet together. In the bottom right corner of the banner, there are small white icons for X and Instagram.