



# Thornden School Newsletter

17<sup>th</sup> April 2026



## Welcome - Ms Lowing (Headteacher)



Dear Parents and Families,

A really positive start to the term! Year 11 have used the Easter break well to revise as well as relax before their exams. We wish them the very best in all of their examinations. They have worked so hard and are a credit to the school.

We kicked off the term with a bang - firstly we had our D&T showcase where Year 11 displayed their work for their peers and their parents. The quality was truly impressive. Secondly, we had our Night at the Musicals event in Thornden Hall. It was a wonderful event with a huge variety of performances; bands, solo singing, dancing and acting. A big thank you to all of the students and staff involved and a special well done to Matthew T in Year 11 who organised it.

This week we have also had our annual safeguarding review from the Trust. We were so pleased with the initial feedback. The Trust has found that "the safeguarding culture permeates all that you do" and one of the team said that Thornden is a really special place. Students said that they feel safe and they really feel a sense of belonging.

I hope that you have a brilliant fortnight - as ever, please get in touch if you have any feedback, concerns or questions.

Regards,

Caroline



## Dates for you Diary

Event	Date	Information
Japan Parents Meeting	20/04/2026	
Year 8 Parent Carer evening	23/04/2026	Online
PGL Netball trip	24/04/2026-26/04/2026	
HPV Vaccination	29/04/2026-30/04/2026	
Sports Awards Evening	29/04/2026	
House-O-Vision	30/04/2026	Book tickets <a href="#">here</a>
Bank Holiday	04/05/2026	School Closed

### Inset Days 2025-2026

30/06/2026

08/07/2026

### Non-uniform days 2025-2026

Friday 17th July



## Extracurricular Timetables and Updates

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

Extra-Curricular PE Timetable Half Term 5 & 6  
 (\*Each half term there will be a new timetable that may have slight changes)



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>After School</b>					
Field				Athletics All Years Mr Hall, Mr Osben, Miss Jones, Mr Lax, Miss Hall <i>Meet in the gym first</i>	
Astro	Rounders All Years Miss Hall & Miss Jones <i>Meet in the gym first</i>	Cricket Girls All Years Mr Hall, Miss Jones & Miss Hall <i>Meet in the gym first</i>	Cricket Boys All Year Mr Osben, Mr Hall & Mr Lax		
Courts		Tennis All Years Mr Lax & Mr Osben <i>Meet in the gym first</i>			
Sports Hall					

## Artist of the week

This week's artist of the week is Betty, Year 8, for her amazing collage piece. She has successfully used a range of materials to create different textures and inventively cut out the letters to spell the word 'Chomp' in her background. Excellent work Betty!



This week's Artist of the Week is Charlotte, Year 8, for her lovely mixed media collage.

Charlotte has chosen a range of different materials and added imaginative details such as the foil, patterned paper and bow - Well done Charlotte!

## FOTS-Second Hand Uniform Sale

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 10:30-11:30 at the Shed (To the left of reception as you face the school)

Everyone is welcome to come and have a look through our stock.

Donations of good quality new logo items gratefully received - please label 'FOTS' and drop off at reception for us.

We are now looking for someone to take on the role of second-hand uniform distribution as the current person will be leaving her role at the end of this academic year. It is very a rewarding job helping people save money while helping to save the planet by reducing waste of perfectly good clothing. Requests are usually sent in by e-mail; you go to the shed whenever suits you to put orders by at reception for collection. The role is also well suited to two or more friends working together.

If you are interested, please come along on Saturday to chat to us, or e-mail us at [uniform@thornden.hants.sch.uk](mailto:uniform@thornden.hants.sch.uk).

## Celebrating Student Achievements

### William Year 11-Rowing Achievement

Recently William was invited by his club, Coalporters ARC, based in Southampton to take part in the annual Head of the River Race (HORR) in London on the Tideway, rowing with the senior men's squad in an 8 on the Boat Race course. The race takes place each year, with nearly 400 boats taking part, racing in the opposite direction to the Boat Race. The team finished 209th, overtaking several boats along the 4.25-mile course in the 100th edition of the race, streamed live on YouTube.

William will also be representing Wessex in his age group at the Junior Inter regionals in Nottingham at the National Water Sports Centre at the end of April against rowers from the rest of the country, also racing in an 8.

Congratulations to William and we hope the next race goes well!



### Alexander Year 7-Music Achievement

Alexander took part in the Southampton Festival of Music and Drama recently and won first place in Grade 8 recital class, receiving the Fairclough Cup. The festival is one of the oldest competitive festivals in the country. It was a wonderful experience for Alex—especially as it celebrates 100 years in 2026!

Earlier this year, Alex also participated in another competition, The 2<sup>nd</sup> Hampshire Young Pianist Award, held at Peter Symonds College, in January. He performed alongside 9 excellent pianists from across the county and won first place with a gold medal and winner's cup. Here's the post from [Peter Symonds Facebook page](#).

What an achievement, well done Alexander!



## Alba Year 7- Dance Achievement

Alba had a fantastic result at her dance festival and came away with 7 cups for highest mark and most outstanding results. She was also awarded the most promising all round dancer.

Well done on your Dance achievement!!



## THINKING ABOUT TEACHING? A NEW PATH FOR FORCES LEAVERS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

We are holding an information event  
at Danebury School on 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
1-4pm

Please sign up  
here to attend



[inspiringfutureteachers.org/hisp](https://www.inspiringfutureteachers.org/hisp)

**Train to Teach with HISP Teacher Training Hub**  
Locally Rooted. Nationally Connected.

**Leaving the forces or supporting someone who serves?**  
Teaching could be your next mission.

Our school-centred training programme places you in the classroom from day one, working alongside experienced educators in schools across Hampshire, Dorset, and the Isle of Wight.

Whether you're transitioning from military life or juggling family responsibilities, your skills - leadership, resilience, adaptability, empathy - are a perfect fit for teaching.

### Entry requirements:

UK bachelor's degree (2:2 or above)  
GCSEs grade C/4+ in English and Maths (and Science for Primary)  
A passion for working with young people

### Curious About Teaching?

Join us at Danebury School, Stockbridge for a free, relaxed event.

### What's On:

- Q&A with teachers and programme leads
- Chat with current trainees
- Learn about QTS, PGCE, and how to apply
- Application support

### Special Guest Speaker:

A former Army professional who trained in science with HISP, now an Assistant Headteacher and former Head of Science, will share his journey and answer your questions.

### Make a Difference. Train with HISP.

Learn more and apply:

<https://www.inspiringfutureteachers.org/hisp>



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

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

### **Hampshire Constabulary - Discover a careers in policing**

Hampshire Constabulary webinars Tuesday 24th March & Wednesday 22nd April <https://hampshirepolicejobs.co.uk/>

### **PETA Apprenticeship Open Evening - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 4.30pm - 7.00pm**

We are excited to invite you to our PETA Apprenticeship Open Evening on Thursday 23rd April 2026, at our Cosham Training Centre. This event offers a unique opportunity to explore our training facilities and learn more about our diverse apprenticeship programmes, all while having your questions answered by our friendly and knowledgeable team.

Whether you're considering a career change, taking your first step into the world of work or interested to find out more for your young person, this event is designed to support you on your journey.

Here's what you can expect at our Open Evening:

- **Discover our apprenticeships:** Explore opportunities in business, finance, engineering, management and IT.
- **Meet the people behind the programme:** Chat with our tutors to learn more about how we deliver our training.
- **Get practical advice:** Receive support with CV writing, applications, and interview techniques.
- **Understand your potential:** Learn how your skills can be applied in the workplace.
- **Ask questions in a relaxed setting:** Our team will be on hand to provide guidance in a friendly and informal environment.

If you're unsure about how apprenticeships work or curious about their benefits, this event is the perfect opportunity to get the clarity you need [PETA Apprenticeship Open Evening 2026 | PETA Ltd](#)

### **Richard Taunton College Open Event - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May - Years 7 - 11**

If you are interested in attending Richard Taunton College, please register to attend their upcoming open event [Open Events - Richard Taunton Sixth Form College](#)

### **Peter Symonds College Open Evenings 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Year 10**

If you are interested in attending Peter Symonds College, please register to attend their upcoming open evening [Open Evening: Peter Symonds College](#)

### **How to become an Electrician Guide**

Elec Training have provided a complete guide on how to become an Electrician [How to Become an Electrician \(2026\): Complete UK Guide | 4 Routes Explained](#)

### **Year 11 Ocean & Earth Science Residential Taster at University of Southampton - Year 11**

This engaging residential course offers students the chance to explore the processes that drive the global Earth system. Combining elements of geology, geography, and oceanography, the programme also helps students develop a wide range of practical and transferable skills.

### Students will:

- Investigate coastal and marine environments, including physical processes such as tides and the ecosystems they support
- Develop an understanding of environmental geoscience, including human impacts on marine and coastal systems and the effects of climate change
- Spend time aboard the teaching and research vessel Callista in Southampton Water and the Solent

**\*The course will take place at the National Oceanography Centre Southampton (NOCS), one of the world's leading centres for ocean and earth science research.** Meals are provided on-site, and accommodation is within walking distance.

### Who is the course for?

- Year 11 and Year 12 students
- Students with a strong interest in Ocean and Earth Sciences
- Students studying (or planning to study) at least two of the following A levels (or equivalent): Maths, Biology, Physics, Geography, Chemistry, Environmental Science, or Geology

### Course details:

- Dates: Monday 20th July – Tuesday 21st July (1-night residential)
- Capacity: 30 students
- Cost: £270 (bursaries are available)

Full courses details and the link to the application form are on the attached flyer.

**There are 30 places available so if interested apply ASAP.**

Further information, including bursary criteria, can be found via the links below:

- Find out more and apply [here](#)



The flyer features a background image of three students walking on a grassy area in front of a brick building. The text is overlaid on the image. In the top left corner, the Richard Taunton Sixth Form College logo is displayed with the tagline 'Proud to be part of LLT'. The main text reads 'OPEN EVENTS 25/26' in large yellow letters, with 'THURSDAY 14 MAY 6-8PM' in white text on a red banner below it. In the top right corner, there is a QR code and a red banner that says 'BOOK NOW'. At the bottom, the college's contact information is provided: 'Richard Taunton Sixth Form College, Hill Lane, Southampton, SO15 5RL, www.richardtaunton.ac.uk'. Social media handles for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter are also listed.

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College  
Proud to be part of LLT

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College

**OPEN EVENTS**  
**25/26**

**THURSDAY 14 MAY 6-8PM**

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College  
Hill Lane, Southampton, SO15 5RL  
www.richardtaunton.ac.uk

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College  
@richardtauntoncollege

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## House flags-Funded by FOTS

Thank you to FOTS for our new House flags. We will be flying these at all our House events.





## Thornden Sport- Miss Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> in PE)

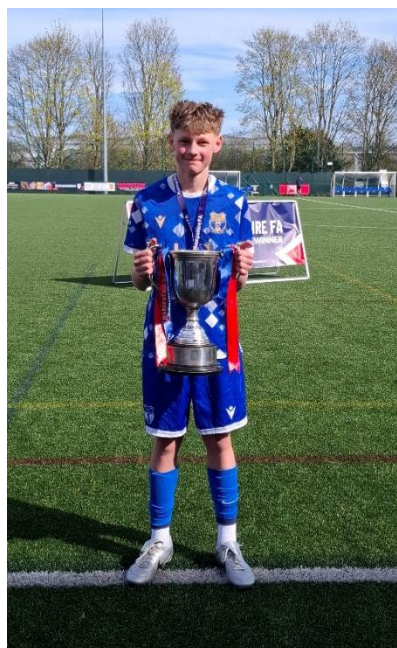
### Sports Results

Date	Team	Gender	Sport		Opposition	Fixture Type	Result	Player(s) of the match
17/03/2026	U16	Girls	Netball	vs	Priestlands	Friendly	Lost	
18/03/2026	U12	Boys	Football	vs	Mountbatten	League	Won	
18/03/2026	U16b	Girls	Netball	vs	Various	Tournament	Won 2, drew 1 ( <b>2nd overall</b> )	
19/03/2026	YR9	Boys	Football	vs	Toynbee	District Cup Final	Won	
19/03/2026	U14b	Girls	Netball	vs	Toynbee	League	Won	Frankie & Aksana
19/03/2026	Y10	Boys	Football	vs	Swanmore	District Cup Final	Won 5-2	
20/03/2026	U16	Girls	Football	vs	Westgate	District Cup Final	Lost 0-1	
23/03/2026	U15	Boys	Football	vs	Calthorpe Park	County Cup Semi Final	Won 2 - 2 (4 - 2 on pens)	
24/03/2026	U16b	Boys	Football	vs	Toynbee	League	Won 4 - 0	
25/03/2026	U12	Boys	Football	vs	Wyvern	League	Won 1-0	
25/03/2026	U12	Girls	Netball	vs	Thornden	Inter House	1st place - Athena & Ares	
28/03/2026	U16	Boys	Badminton	vs	Various	Nationals	Silver medallists	

### SAVE THE DATE – Sports Awards Evening Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Parents and students from current Years 9, 10 and 11 who have represented Thornden Sport are invited to our Annual Sports Awards Evening. Please save the date for now, with full details to follow in the next few weeks. The evening will include BBQ style food, followed by the awards presentation.

### Achievements



#### Football

George, Year 8, and his team (the Jags U13s) delivered a fantastic performance to win the Hampshire Cup Final, beating Derby Green 4-1 at Winklebury in March.

A result that reflects all the hard work and teamwork behind the scenes! Well done George!



Well done to Freddie, Year 7, who was crowned Potters Cup champions along with his U13s Saints team!

They put together an incredible run, beating Stoke in the final after knocking out Spurs in the semi-finals—while Manchester United could only manage third place.

A fantastic achievement and a brilliant effort from the whole team!



### **Sporting 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](mailto:b.hall@thornden.hants.sch.uk)

### **Social Media**

We are now up and running with our 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](https://www.instagram.com/thornden_sport).



# Thornden Hall



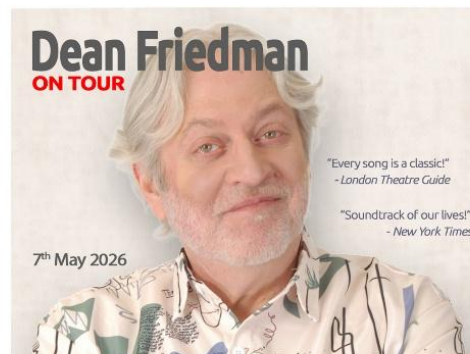
Mozart's fantastical opera glitters in David McVicar's enchanting production



Ocean Colour Scene guitarist Steve Cradock in his Debut Tour on 23rd April



The search is on to find out which house is the House with Talent



Join Friedman for an evening of poignant and hilarious songs about the lives we share.



The MET's evocative production of Tchaikovsky's lyrical romance



One month before the Tate Exhibiton opens, experience this award-winning film



Thornden Hall is a high quality performing arts centre, located at the back of Thornden Hall Serving both the school and the wider community hosting a variety of events including:

Live theatre performances

Concerts

Cinema screenings

Community and professional productions

The venue is well-equipped and designed to support a wide range of artistic and cultural activities.

More information can be found at [www.thorndenhall.co.uk](http://www.thorndenhall.co.uk)

Star for a night presents...

# HOUSE-O-VISION

Song and  
Talent  
Contest

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April  
7PM

Tickets are £5 and available from  
Thornden Hall Box office and online

Get yours now!



## CAMHS Events for Parents/Carers

### Information & Advice Sessions – Winchester

Free drop-in opportunities for parents/carers, young people, and professionals to speak directly with CAMHS clinicians, ask questions, and access resources.

- 6 May 2026
- 3 June 2026
- 1 July 2026

### P.A.C.E. (Parent and Carer Events)

Free events aimed at helping families understand the needs and challenges young people may face and how best to support them.

- 8 May 2026 – Lyndhurst
- 25 June 2026 – Andover

### Parent & Carer Training Day – Chandler’s Ford

A full day of learning focusing on understanding parental emotional needs while supporting a young person’s mental health (topics include guilt, responsibility, and acceptance).

- 15 May 2026

### Trauma Training – Basingstoke

Understanding the impact of trauma on the young person’s brain, body, and behaviour, and how to guide them from “surviving to thriving.”

- 4 June 2026

### Suicide Prevention Training (SASI) – Waterlooville 1

A one-day training event for anyone working with young people, hosted at St Peter’s Catholic Primary School, Waterlooville.

- 1 June 2026

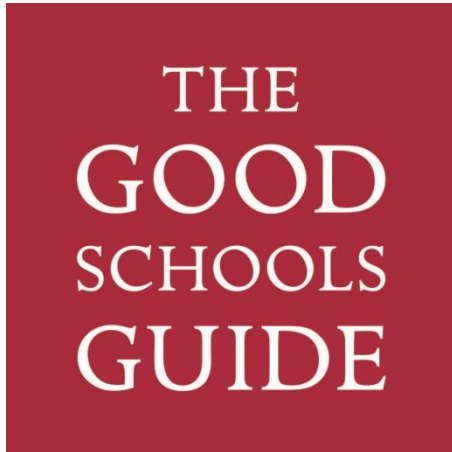
**How Parents Can Book** Full details and booking links are available on the CAMHS events page: 🖱️ <https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events>



## 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)



**"A big school with a big heart, exceptional leadership and a culture where it's cool to want to do well. Delivers academic excellence without compromising on wellbeing or personal development. Families feel very lucky to have this school on their doorstep." [Good Schools Guide 2025](#)**