'Together we will make the difference'



Jayne and Richard Hornby live in Thornhill with Ella 14 and Jules 8.

Thornhill Junior and Infant School has provided a **happy** and **stable environment** for both of Jayne's daughters

Exciting plans

The decision to choose Thornhill Junior and Infant School for Jayne's daughters was secured when she heard of the school's future plans.

"We moved here 14 years ago and after visiting other schools and looking on the Internet we soon decided that Thornhill was the best," recalls Jayne. "I was impressed by the Headteacher's exciting plans, which have all come to fruition. Thornhill has been an excellent school for my daughters."



A helping hand

Staff do their best to help parents understand the work their children are doing.

"Both girls have done well and love literacy, but struggled a bit with maths," says Jayne. "I'm 46 and like many people learned to do maths the old-fashioned way. It was very helpful when the school put on a maths workshop for parents. The staff showed us their teaching methods, which meant I could help the girls if needed."

Smart and polite

Children are encouraged to respect other people's feelings.

"The children are very polite," says Jane. "For example, they hold doors open for adults in the corridors. They wear a uniform and are expected to look smart. Being polite, having good manners and looking smart may be little things, but to me they are important."

Inclusive approach

Students can become involved with the school's decision-making processes.

"Jules is on the School Council and also enjoys Breakfast Club," says Jane. "The Headteacher took a group of children on a shopping trip to buy some board games for Breakfast Club, and it was nice that the children were involved. I think facilities at the school are improving all the time."

Active PTA

Thornhill's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) hosts many fun events.

"I'm a member of the PTA and we put on things like Halloween discos, Christmas events and even a beach party. There are many opportunities for parents to get involved and Mr. Rowland is always asking parents for feedback, which is good."

Extra curricular activities

A range of extra-curricular activities is available.

"The community choir is great," says Jayne. "Jules enjoys afterschool clubs and there is a good cross-section to choose from. For example there's a Groovy Shoes dancing club, Gymnastics, Italian, ICT, Tag ruby, and a Board games club as well a homework club."

Smooth transition

The staff work hard to help children enjoy school life and prepare for secondary school.

"The teachers are all very friendly and approachable," says Jayne. "Both my girls love Thornhill and I'm really pleased with everything they have achieved.

"Before Ella left she went on a residential trip with her year to Newcastle, which helped everyone to bond and develop friendships that would help them when they moved to secondary school. The school did a lot to ease the transition to secondary school, and I'm very pleased with how this was approached."

Stable environment

Jayne doesn't hesitate to recommend Thornhill.

She says: "Thornhill provides a very happy and stable environment and the staff are all very committed to pupils and parents.

"In my job I work with a lot of people from different areas and hear a lot about problems at schools but there is never anything like that at Thornhill. It's a great school and I highly recommend it."

Jules says: I love my school and have some good friends. My favourite subjects are literacy and singing. I like being part of the School Council as we help to make decisions to improve the school."

Ella says: "I enjoyed my time at Thornhill and made some true friends there who I am still in touch with even though some are at different schools".



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