

**The Southport School  
Thorold House  
Parent Feedback and Input to Housemaster: January 2009**

**PART A: FEEDBACK ON YOUR SON:**

Name of Son: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in 2009: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What are the THREE most important things you want me as Thorold Housemaster to know about the needs of your son?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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(b) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the main concern your son expresses about life in the boarding environment?

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\_\_\_\_\_

3. What aspect of boarding life is your son most excited about?

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**PART B: INPUT ON YOUR IDEAS:**

1. What is the main concern you have about boarding your son at Thorold House?

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2. What is the most important thing you want me to know about how I can best meet your needs as a boarding parent?

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3. Describe the skills or capacities you are personally willing to bring to the success of Thorold House.


4. I believe that the key principles for a happy and healthy boarding environment, drawn from the letters of THOROLD, are Trust, Helping, Ownership, Routine, Openness, Learning, and Decency. Are there any of these words you would prefer replaced with another that you think better underlines for the boys the principles they ought to adopt in boarding? Please present your argument below.

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5. The table below some ideas for improving Thorold House immediately. From this list, please share your thoughts on the priority of expenditure of monies raised by donation to improve boarding life at Thorold. Rank up to 10 ideas in order, where 1 = main priority, and 10 = least important, ignoring those you think are not viable or necessary. (Please note these are only a few initial thoughts and students and parents will be encouraged to contribute their ideas.)

Rank	Possible Projects
	Setting up of 'Assignment Central' with colour laser printer and stationery for use by students to raise standard of assignments
	Landscaping of Thorold basketball area with terraced seating and improved drainage
	Landscaping of area between Thorold and canal with pathways, decking and BBQ area (quoted at over \$30,000)
	Acrylic signage throughout Thorold, including inspirational quotes, School Song, School Prayer, Weekly Routine, names and contact numbers of key personnel, and procedures in positive language
	New noticeboards and boards with students' names for Leave and Alert purposes
	Baby grand piano in Junior Common Room area
	New couches for Junior and Senior Common Rooms
	Large lockers for all students to store possessions throughout term and over holiday periods
	Thorold vehicle (up to 12 seater) to transport groups of Thorold boarders by all resident staff without need for special bus licence
	Improved outings through paid admission into varied recreational destinations
	Redesign of courtyard area with addition of fixed metal tables and chairs, and sail cloth
	Addition of Crim Mesh screens to all windows on the ground floor
	Purchase of new billiard table for Senior Common Room
	Establishment of fenced vegetable gardens and orchard between Thorold and canal
	Redesign of shower blocks to provide increased privacy by adding a change area in front of each shower.
	Increase in gaming equipment eg Wii or Playstation areas in Common Rooms
	Purchase of additional trophy cabinet and framing of new photos to increase visibility of current students on the walls of Thorold
	Provision of curtaining for each cubicle in Junior dorms for increased privacy
	Stockpile of spare school uniforms, blazers and shoes for emergency use by students
	Design and production of new singlets and t-shirts
	Purchase of a mounted 12-point stag's head as a symbol of the House (one available at Scotland Yard Antiques, Marburg for \$1200), plus other statues or paintings featuring stags
	Payment to Resident Master who accepts the role of Recreational Officer on a term by term basis (responsible for organising good outings and recreational experiences for boarders)

6. Outline up to THREE suggestions you have for improving life for the boys in Thorold House.

(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

7. Anything else you want to say to me before school starts for the year?

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\_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR INPUT**

*Please return this survey form along with your contribution made out to Thorold House – The Southport School' at the commencement of Term One, 2009.*

*Your generosity and co-operation are greatly appreciated.*