Individually Focused, Globally Engaged
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T-D is Westchester’s only “Little Red Schoolhouse.” Founded in 1901, T-D celebrated its centennial in the 2000-2001 school year. The school has on average 170 academically talented students who come from homes both around the corner and around the world.

The international program is enhanced through language study in French, Spanish, Italian, Latin, Greek, German, and Russian. Many students go to the highest levels of proficiency in their languages of choice. Level V customarily prepares T-D’s polyglots for the AP exam.

Each and every year Thornton-Donovan has a new travel-study theme. With each and every yearly theme, new courses are introduced to broaden our thinking about it. Students from grades 6-12 are invited to select a few. All of T-D’s thematic courses serve as supplements to our core curriculum and recurring electives. They are integrated within T-D’s regular curriculum, which can best be described as classical and Western. T-D’s regular, high school curriculum offers four years of English, history, math, and science as well as seven foreign languages. Recurring electives include, but are not limited to, economics, entrepreneurship, fashion design, digital music design, architectural design, infectious diseases, renewable energy sources, and architectural history. Most T-D classes in the high school are honors classes. AP exams can quite easily be scheduled.

For 2015-2016, the school will be saluting Frank Sinatra. Throughout the year T-D will depart on mini-excursions that will take us to such places as Hoboken, Chicago, New York City, Las Vegas and Los Angeles to begin “Hoboken to Hollywood.” After our travels through the United States, a group of roughly 80 or so will continue on to Cuba in April ’16. To enhance the theme, the T-D faculty will be teaching nearly 20 different courses with Cuban and American subject matter.

Should you decide to go global, check out the thematic education section of this booklet. Thornton-Donovan is your portal to a world class education. T-D is for young people who want to go places.

Cordially,

Douglas E. Fleming, Jr.
Headmaster
The Thornton-Donovan School was founded in 1901 as The New Rochelle School and Kindergarten by Judge Martin Jerome Keogh. Judge Keogh’s wife brought to his attention that a kindergarten was desperately needed to serve their neighborhood of New Rochelle. Judge Keogh offered his office space at 247 Main Street, New Rochelle, New York, as the school’s first home.

A teacher was of course needed, and Emily Scott Thornton, a graduate of the University of Nottingham, UK, answered the Keogh’s call. Off to a wonderful start and growing in popularity, Cleophe Donovan joined the school in 1904 to teach the incoming youngsters, while Ms. Thornton moved up with the older children. In recognition of their commitment to their vision and years of dedicated service, the school was renamed Thornton-Donovan School in their honor.
Ms. Thornton retired in 1945, and the reins were handed over to Genevieve F. Burns (for whom the school’s library is named). Over the years, as the school grew significantly, a larger space was necessary. In 1967, the school’s current site, the red brick mansion at 100 Overlook Circle was selected. Thornton-Donovan had found its new home in the Beechmont community that has been so important to its history.

In 1968, Douglas E. Fleming, Jr., a graduate of Iona College and Columbia University, was chosen to take the helm. Ms. Thornton’s philosophies and the essential spirit of the school have been faithfully carried out by Mr. Fleming for more than 40 years. During this time, Mr. Fleming has been responsible for the education and guidance of thousands of students, from down the road to across the globe. He continues to serve the school in Ms. Thornton’s same “free and generous…kindly, humorous spirit” that she said “has been the very life of all our work.”
A Thornton-Donovan education places a huge emphasis on developing students who are not only proud world citizens but also those that are accomplished problem solvers. The curriculum design and teaching strategies at Thornton-Donovan concentrate on developing a worldly view coupled with a continuous focus on critical thinking and problem solving across all grade levels. While STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) is a relatively new and exciting discipline in the educational world, it has been a part of Thornton-Donovan’s DNA for well over 25 years. STEM is seen in individual courses throughout the middle school and high school as well as in the lower school where it is intertwined in the curriculum.

Interdisciplinary and task-based learning assignments challenge students to use their acquired knowledge in a particular subject to complete ranging projects, demonstrations, theses, or performances. True knowledge and mastery is achieved by our students through tiered introduction of content followed by continuous and multi-dimensional application.

Thornton-Donovan has been selected to become the first Independent School in the country to be STEM certified in grades K-12 through AdvancED and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
Here at Thornton-Donovan, we believe education is organic and will develop in various directions for a student throughout his or her academic careers. For most of our students, that journey begins in our lower school. Lower school class sizes range between 8-12 students typically with an even number of boys and girls.

In grades K-5, students follow a core curriculum that includes mathematics, social studies, science, language arts, technology, music, art, French, and Spanish. Exposed to content and theories by their teacher, students are tasked with using this material to solve problems and create their own demonstrations of understanding. This process is furthered by having our students use content from multiple subject areas to solve teacher-generated problems or demonstration assignments. Due to the thematic nature of our school, students are given a weekly lesson on the country or region of study for the school year. These lessons include studying the area’s environment, cooking its local cuisine, exploring the history of the region, and participating in pen pal/Skype programs with schools from that region.

Our curriculum and small class sizes afford teachers the flexibility to focus on the individual strengths and weaknesses of each student. Learners working at an accelerated pace have the opportunity to use all that the school can offer. This includes students taking higher level courses without missing necessary grade-appropriate courses. However, every student is encouraged to move at his or her own pace in each subject area, no matter if they are accelerated or not. Understanding, not age or grade level, determines the pace of the child’s learning.
Beginning in middle school, students are introduced to our diverse catalog of recurring and thematic electives. Middle school students are required to take mathematics, English, social studies, and science five times per week. Students are also required to take art and music twice per week for both subjects. Students are always encouraged to explore our six foreign languages. Blocks of time not covered by core courses can be used by middle school students to take elective courses.

Middle school students, as with lower school students, can easily be transitioned into higher level courses based on their aptitude in a particular discipline without having to miss necessary grade-appropriate courses. As in the high school, middle school students can begin traveling with the school not only on the yearly thematic trip but also through Thornton-Donovan’s student exchange program with nearly 25 sister schools across the globe.

Class sizes in the middle school typically range between 12-14 students. As with the high school, electives and advanced language courses can see student to teacher ratios as low as 3:1. These small class sizes and the dedication of our teachers to differentiate learning experiences based on each student’s learning style truly supports Thornton-Donovan’s concept of being individually focused.
While all three of the schools under the Thornton-Donovan School umbrella are impressive in their own right, the Upper School has developed into a national powerhouse for academic talent and recognition. For the past five years, more than 5% of the high school population ranked within the top 2,000 high school mathematicians in the country. In those same five years, 10% of the seniors have been recognized as National Merit Scholars. Of our 2015 graduating seniors, 25% will move on to either an Ivy League school or a nationally recognized math and science school such as Stanford, MIT, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Case Western University, and Amherst College. All of our seniors will move on to four year colleges, both locally and across the nation. Within the last five years, the schools that numerous Thornton-Donovan students have enrolled in include Notre Dame University, Fordham University, New York University, Pennsylvania State University, SUNY Stony Brook, Howard University, University of Virginia, and Boston College.

Throughout their high school careers, students have the ability to tailor their educational resumes with elective courses that match both their educational interests and professional aspirations. Over the course of four years, students can develop a resume that will reflect a strong background in a particular subject area and, moreover, a true passion for that specific discipline.

During a typical school day, students have access to teachers via study hall, before and after school meetings, and email. Ninety-five percent of Thornton-Donovan’s teachers hold masters degrees with twenty percent currently holding their doctoral degrees. Fifty percent of our teachers are bilingual and several are trilingual.
Math at Thornton-Donovan is tiered throughout grades K-12 to promote constant mathematical growth during a student’s years at Thornton-Donovan. Starting in the lower school, students are introduced to the Pearson math program. This program is enhanced by our teachers through mini-lessons that center on real world application and multiple usage strategies. Mathematical manipulatives are strongly used throughout the lower school so that students can learn math in a hands-on way. Moving into the middle school, the mathematical approach of hands-on application is continued with students applying the theories and concepts that they learn in class to various task-based and real world assignments. Students must not only be able to remember all the proofs, theories, and rules within mathematics but they must also be able to identify when to use them and how to combine them with other related strategies. Throughout high school, students continue their mathematical journey, which is enriched by elective math courses and extra-curricular math clubs. Thornton-Donovan is proud to have a Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society Chapter and regularly sends students to compete in the I.M.O. (International Mathematical Olympiad) and A.M.C. (American Mathematics Competition). Thornton-Donovan’s mathematical course load for most seniors caps out at calculus, but students are more than welcome to continue on all the way up to calculus III.

English Language Arts are integral to the success of all our students throughout grades K-12. The goal of the ELA program is to develop students into successful written and oral communicators. Grades K-2 are the years where students focus on learning to read and transferring their ideas into written form. In grades 3-5, students transition into reading to learn through multiple information sources, and they create literary works including expository, narrative, and informational pieces. In middle school, students discuss and examine various literary pieces in both historical and current contexts. Students begin developing essays and various styled reports as well as continuing to develop their expository, comparative, and persuasive writing techniques. The middle school is also where students will begin to see their oratory skills develop and then pushed further in high school. High school students are continuously challenged with more and more complex literary pieces as well as written assignments. ELA electives allow students to explore nuances of language and literature that would normally not be covered in a typical high school setting. All students in grades K-12 are routinely instructed in both vocabulary and grammar, exposing them to a tremendous catalog of expression. Students are encouraged to join the independent school newspaper The Overlook Journal, Soundings literary magazine, and debate team. Many of Thornton-Donovan’s aspiring journalists and writers have moved on to such schools as Emory University, Sarah Lawrence College, Oberlin College, New York University, and Columbia University.
Science plays a massive part in developing our student body’s curious nature and strengthening their problem-solving skills. Beginning in lower school, students are encouraged to explore the world around them and to ask why. Grades K-5 are introduced to the scientific method approach of asking a question, researching, constructing a hypothesis, experimenting, analyzing, and finally drawing a conclusion. Lower school students partake in bi-weekly experiments to put their classroom knowledge into effect. They also have access to our high school laboratory and staff which allows for them to use a multitude of scientific devices and information resources.

With the middle school and high school, the scientific approach is reinforced with increasingly complex and varied theories, experiments, and problems. In eighth grade students are introduced to their first physics course. While many schools like to wait to introduce physics until the later years of high school, Thornton-Donovan has found that introducing physics at an earlier stage enhances a student’s scientific growth. At the end of middle school, students will take their first physics course which will be more theory and practice rather than mathematical-based. The goal behind this is to use the crux of physics, which is the general analysis of nature, to help mold our students’ minds and prepare them to be stronger investigators in their biology, chemistry, and elective courses across all subject matters. At the end of high school students will still take physics, but by that time they will have acquired the proper mathematical skills to delve deep into the mathematical nature of the high school physics course. Students may move on after their two physics courses and voluntarily take our advanced physics course. As with all our subject areas, students may strengthen their scientific knowledge and understanding through our catalog of elective science courses. Students are encouraged to participate in the yearly science fair, which is open to all students grades K-12.

History is known to most as the study of the past, and, while that is correct, we here at Thornton-Donovan believe it can be much more than that. History also focuses on sequencing, gathering research, interpreting information, identifying correlations, and understanding perspective. These concepts are introduced at the earliest stages of kindergarten and practiced all the way through high school. Students examine the accomplishments of and the issues faced by ancient and modern civilizations alike. Moreover, in making connections between the past and the present, students then go beyond to explore how it will affect the future. The history department, under the entire educational umbrella, connects with mathematics, literature, science, business, technology, and art. Students can add to their core courses and electives by joining our Model UN team and exploring the Strategy Battle Club. In this club, students are tasked with winning historically significant battles through 3-D strategy game boards. Some students have even rewritten history with their decisive wins. Students graduating Thornton-Donovan in the past with a strong interest in history accompanied by multiple history electives, have joined such schools as Georgetown University, University of Virginia, College of William and Mary, and Rutgers University.
Thematic Education

As a whole, progressive education emphasizes “learning through discovery,” and Thornton-Donovan does this like no other school.

Thornton-Donovan students learn about a part of the world during the school year; then, at the midway point of the year, they are able to use their knowledge about that region as they travel around it on a two week excursion. The entire middle and high school literally takes education on the road. This is not an isolated, stand-alone experience; the courses of study and the themes selected each year are designed to pick up important threads of the prior years’ study experiences. For example, the interconnectedness of Brazil, Portugal, and South Africa (studied in 2008-2010) was celebrated through careful course planning. This weaving of themes offers our young minds a sophisticated way to see and think about the world.

For the 2015-2016 school year, Thornton-Donovan will travel to Hoboken, Chicago, New York City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, and finally Cuba, chronicling the impact of Frank Sinatra. The music and art, history and politics, architecture and literature of America and Cuba are woven together in engaging electives.

Thematic and elective courses are selected based on interest and ability, not grade level. This mixing of the grades within our thematic and elective courses allows for dynamic class discussion, mentoring opportunities, and a feeling of academic freedom and empowerment for our youngsters. Students are encouraged to try the new theme-based yearly courses, to go deeper into an area of interest. Perhaps, this year will include classes about the Cuban Missile Crisis and Cold War, the urbanization of the United States, or current environmental issues facing the United States in regards to fracking and the growing use of corn ethanol.

For the 2016-2017 school year, Thornton-Donovan will travel to Ecuador and specifically target the Galapágos Islands during its time there. The Galapágos Islands are home to some of the most exotic plants and animals in the world. It is also where Charles Darwin was inspired to develop his theory of evolution. Students will also briefly explore Peru and visit Machu Picchu.
Thematic Travels

2019 – Mongolia
2018 – Albania
2017 – Ecuador
2016 – Hoboken, Brooklyn, Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, and Cuba
2015 – Iceland and Denmark
2014 – Alaska
2013 – Argentina
2012 – Venice
2011 – Ireland
2010 – South Africa
2009 – Brazil
2008 – Portugal
2007 – Japan
2006 – England
2005 – Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington D.C.
2004 – New Orleans and Belgium
2003 – Key West
2002 – New York and Montreal
2001 – Spain
2000 – Greece
1999 – Austria
1998 – New Mexico
1997 – Italy
1996 – Jerusalem
1995 – France
1994 – England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales
Throughout the year, students are invited to participate in an international student exchange program. The exchange program is offered several times throughout the year with each trip focusing on a different part of the world. Exchanges are voluntary, as is the school’s thematic trip, allowing students to partake in as many as they want if their academic standing permits. Students are welcome to travel with the program beginning in seventh grade. At the beginning of the exchange students and their families will host an incoming international student for roughly ten days. Our students act as ambassadors showing students to their classes and around their local neighborhood. Host families will provide the exchange student’s food and housing, as well as their transportation to and from school. Thornton-Donovan will coordinate weekday and weekend sightseeing trips for the exchange students. At the end of the 10 days, Thornton-Donovan students will travel back with the international students to receive the same hospitality that was granted to them. All that parents are required to pay for is their child’s airfare and spending money for souvenirs. At Thornton-Donovan, we affectionately call the schools that we exchange with our “Sister Schools.” Countries where we have sister schools include, but are not limited to, England, Italy, Guatemala, Brazil, France, Russia, Spain, Japan, and New Zealand.
One Of Many Throughout The Year

TUESDAY, JUNE 30th

Siena
7:30 am at the bus terminal in Arezzo
7:55 am to Siena
9:00 am: Piazza del Campo "Il Palio"
Walking tour of Siena
The Cathedral
1:00 pm Lunch
Scavenger Hunt
4:45 pm departure Siena
6:10 pm arrival time

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1st

Arezzo
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Walking tour downtown Arezzo
5. Francesco Church and Pietro della Francesca's fresco, Palazzo di S. Maria, Piazza Grande, Duomo, Fortezza
Welcome ceremony in the Town Hall
Walk to the top Tower of the Town Hall
Tour 1: Palazzo delle Prerettinlu dei Luccci
1:00 pm Lunch
Tour 2: Archeological Museum
Scavenger Hunt
7:00 pm farewell dinner

THURSDAY, JULY 2nd

Florence
8:35 am Train from Arezzo to Florence
9:32 am arrival in Florence
10:00 - 12:00 Guided walking tour
12:30 - Lunch and Free time
2:30 - 4:30 pm "ambassadors of art" project: students from Florence guide the tour to Boboli Garden

6:25 pm Train to Milan
overnight in Milan (Sofia's apartment)

FRIDAY, JULY 3rd

11:05 am DEPARTURE from Milan Malpensa Airport.

CHECK PASSPORTS BEFORE DEPARTURE

HAVE A SAFE FLIGHT BACK
As part of the Thornton-Donovan experience, students are exposed to acting, singing, and performing with instruments in various core and elective music courses across grades K-12. The major emphasis in Thornton-Donovan’s musical program is not only to teach music theory but music production as well by getting instruments and recording devices into the hands of our students. Our teachers encourage our students to explore their performing identities while studying those that have so positively impacted both the theatrical and musical world.

Performers in grades K-12 have multiple opportunities throughout the year to perform. Students can take part in our monthly garden showcases, quarterly Arts House Cafes, and yearly Peace Day celebration. Individual performances include monologues, poetry recitation, dance, singing, and instrumentals. The school features several bands from punk to classical. At the final Arts House Café performance, individual music courses and lower school classes have the opportunity to put on a final performance. Past graduates who have found themselves involved in our music courses and extracurriculars have matriculated to such schools as William Patterson University Jazz Program, Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, New York University Tisch School of The Arts, SUNY Purchase Music Conservatory, Berklee College of Music, and Yale University School of Music. Graduates from the the Thornton-Donovan music department include Joey Kramer ’69 of Aerosmith and critically acclaimed international orchestra conductor James Feddeck ’01.
Within the Visual Arts Department, students have opportunities to explore the worlds of fashion, sculpting, cinematography, photography, drawing, ceramics, painting, and architecture. Students can choose to begin in theory-based courses and then dive deep into practical-based courses. For example, students can take an architectural history course and then progress to an architectural design course. Students have access to their own sewing machines, kilns for pottery, art studio, computer-based architectural design programs, and editing equipment for both film and photography. Monthly exhibitions are held on and off campus to showcase student work. Students graduating Thornton-Donovan with a concentration in visual arts have moved on to such schools as The New School, Fashion Institute of Technology, Champlain College, CCNY School of Architecture, Pratt Institute, and New York University Institute of Fine Arts.
Community Service

Community service is encouraged for all students in grades K-12. Students can contact the school’s Community Service Director for help with locating service opportunities.

Opportunities have included BuildOn, Habitat for Humanity, and on-campus tutoring. It is our goal at Thornton-Donovan to instill in our students the mindset of not only helping the world around them with creative ideas and problem solving but also through their actions. Students are encouraged to help their community and it is through this experience that they will see the benefit of their service.

Glory Days Experience

Although Thornton-Donovan School is a non-sectarian institution, the school nevertheless offers students in grades 8 through 12 and their parents opportunities for self-reflection and spiritual contemplation. Each year during the first week of February, Thornton-Donovan students explore sacred sites within the metropolitan area. Visits to neighboring cathedrals, churches, mosques, temples, and anywhere man bows down to pay respect or looks up for special intention are included in the scope of Glory Days.

During the school’s annual Glory Days, students spend five days taking daily trips throughout the five boroughs and beyond. To understand about the ways in which people choose to live, work, and practice their faith, students visit houses of worship, academic institutions, and corporations. Past trips have included visits to Plymouth Church, where such famous abolitionist speakers as former pastor Henry Ward Beecher and William Lloyd Garrison spoke and aided the cause for freedom with the underground railroad, and Google, where students engaged in a lively conversation with The Huffington Post’s religion section editor. While learning about various ideologies that teach service, Thornton-Donovan students also enjoy an exciting array of culinary, historical, and touring adventures throughout the Tristate region.
Thornton-Donovan School is proud to be the home of the Thornton-Donovan Lions and its gifted student-athletes. The Athletic Department, offers boys basketball, girls basketball, boys soccer, girls volleyball, co-ed tennis, and co-ed cross country. All teams compete in multiple competitions throughout the year against schools both in New York and neighboring states. All students in grades 6-12 are welcome to participate in the various sports teams no matter their experience. The goal of our coaches is to build team unity and develop athletic skills. Students are required to keep a strong academic standing throughout the year as the primary focus of Thornton-Donovan school is to develop strong minds.

Outside of varsity and junior varsity competition, the lower school has the opportunity to participate in various athletic programs that include tennis, golf, soccer, and basketball. Programs are offered throughout the fall and spring for all athletes. At the end of the year, the annual Lions Athletic Banquet brings together all athletes in grades 5-12 for a night of food, photos, and recognition. Individual athletic awards, All-Academic team honors, and sportsmanship awards are handed out during the event.
Thornton-Donovan has developed a strong relationship with Anshe Sholom Synagogue, which has allowed our school to host both boys and girls basketball at the facility as well as girls volleyball. The court is located in the beautiful downtown section of New Rochelle, roughly a five minute drive from campus. Students are transported to the facility via bus and are picked up by parents after games. Students are bused back to campus after all away games unless picked up from the game by a parent or guardian.

The boys soccer team hosts all its home games during the year at our beautiful six-acre campus. Parents and students are cordially invited to attend all games free of charge as well as any guests they would like to bring. When not used by the soccer team, the field is open during the day for recess and after-school recreational enjoyment by all our students. The lower school golf program has been using the field to develop strong driving skills and proper hitting technique for students in grade K-5.

Our outdoor basketball and tennis court plays host to our co-ed tennis team as well as our lower school tennis and basketball programs. When not in use by the athletic department, the court is available to all students during recess and after school for recreational use. At the end of the year, the lower school graduation is held on the court as well as the lower school Field Day, which also happens to use the field for its action-packed day of activities.
Once a family enrolls a child in Thornton-Donovan, they automatically become members of the Parent-Teacher Partnership (PTP). Parent-Teacher Partnership meetings are held once a month in the Berns Memorial Library. All meetings are held with one underlying purpose, and that is to benefit the school and the children it serves through fundraising efforts and special program coordination.

Annual PTP activities include indoor rock climbing events, organized community service, parent socials, art exhibits, and an International pot luck dinner. To celebrate Mother’s Day, the PTP hosts a “Muffins with Mom” breakfast, as well as a “Donuts with Dad” celebration for Father’s Day in the school’s cafeteria. Grandparents are not left out as they are invited to attend a “Pastries with Grandparents” event. PTP activities for the year come to an exciting end at the annual Spring Gala, which is held at the Larchmont Yacht Club.

The annual Spring Gala is a wonderful celebration that includes food, drinks, dancing, and both live and silent auctions. Tickets to the event are covered by the yearly tuition. The gala is a great opportunity for parents and teachers to socialize, and it also serves as an early introduction to the next year’s theme. Past galas have included performances by South African drummers, Irish step dancers, and Argentinian tango dancers. All funds raised by the Parent-Teacher Partnership are used to cover capital improvements, local school trips, and facility maintenance.
Admissions

Thornton-Donovan School enrolls qualified and motivated students who possess strong academic ability. Thornton-Donovan accepts students regardless of origin, background, or religion. Thornton-Donovan is approved by the U.S. Office of Immigration and issues I-20 forms to international student members.

The admissions process begins with the prospective student and his/her family meeting with the Director of Admissions. After a special introduction to the school, its faculty, and program, candidates are given an appointment to spend a day on campus with pupils in their own grade after submitting a completed application and $100.00 application fee. Decisions on admission are based on the strength of the interview, the student’s previous school record, how the student interacts on the day of the visit, and various letters of reference.

Parents may choose to tour the campus before applying to the school or may apply before visiting. When applying, parents are asked to send in the most recent two years of academic transcripts and pertinent standardized testing documents along with any academic or service awards their child has received. For families applying for kindergarten, transcripts are not required.

While the final decision is solely in the hands of the Director of Admissions, he considers information from the faculty, the student’s former teachers, and the student’s family. Additional standardized testing is not required if the applicant’s record shows strong potential and achievement. Test scores are not used to eliminate students from consideration and are merely used as additional data in the decision-making process. Thornton-Donovan has a rolling admission and inquiries can be made at any time during the year. Once accepted, all applicants are notified in writing and have a two-week window to respond. An acceptance deposit of $1,500.00 is required as well as a current physical exam form and immunizations form. A copy of the school’s application can be found on the school’s website at www.td.edu.

Tuition Payment Plan

Thornton-Donovan School offers a low-cost, flexible tuition payment plan (TPP), which enables families to pay educational expenses through 10 scheduled monthly payments. For a $100.00 service fee, families can avoid borrowing or using savings or other assets that could be earning interest.

In addition, Life Benefit Coverage is provided at no charge. Should the enrolled parent or guardian pass away while the coverage is in effect, the balance of the budgeted amount will be paid to the school. Coverage applies to the enrolled parent or guardian under 65 at the time of application and remains in effect for the term of the plan, so long as each payment is received within 15 days of the due date. This coverage is not available to those over 65 or those with pre-existing conditions that may contribute to the enrolled party’s death.

There are no finance charges on the amount budgeted through TPP. Past due amounts, however, will be subject to a 1.5% interest charge per month. This is equivalent to 18% per annum. Payment dates start on July 1. Families may, however, enter TPP at a later time based on the date of enrollment. A TPP application form is enclosed with the first monthly bill.
It is critical that each applicant has a history of academic and behavioral success. The student must demonstrate adequate English ability, as determined by proficiency testing (TOEFL or SLEP). Two letters of reference, two years of academic transcripts, and a completed application with the $100.00 application fee paid in U.S. dollars or by MasterCard or Visa are required. A copy of the applicant’s passport page showing date of birth and a 2”x 2” photo are required along with a copy of a bank statement matching or surpassing the school’s annual charges.

Once accepted all applicants are notified in writing and have a two-week window to respond. An acceptance deposit of $3,500.00 is required as well as current completed student health forms and immunizations. Once the fee and health records are received an I-20 application will be provided, if necessary.

Certain applicants, depending on country of origin, may be required to secure a student visa. Students are encouraged to apply for their visa early to provide ample time for visa processing. Most visa applicants will be interviewed at an embassy or consulate. The waiting time for the interview usually varies, so again early visa application is encouraged. Visa wait times for interview appointments and visa processing time information for each U.S. Embassy or Consulate worldwide is available at the Visa Wait Times website. Once the student visa is confirmed, a tuition statement will be forwarded. Tuition can be paid in two equal installments, the first one in August and the second in January. All boarding will be handled by the school and only under special circumstances can this arrangement be altered.

**Contact Information**

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Summer Camp

For over forty years, Thornton-Donovan Summer Challenge Camp has been enriching the summers of campers ages 3-14 from across Westchester County.

Located on the six acre Thornton-Donovan campus, the Summer Challenge Camp offers two distinct camp programs along with an additional academic enrichment program. Campers ages 3-7 are members of the Play School program, while ages 8-14 are athletes in the Sports Fitness program.

Campers participating in either program are welcome to participate in the additional enrichment program that runs throughout the camp day. Students not affiliated with the camp may also take part in the academic program hosted by Thornton-Donovan’s teachers. It can accommodate students in grades K-12 for various subjects along with students seeking tutoring for upcoming SAT/ACT exams.

An overview, campers ages 3-7 have the opportunity to participate in daily arts and crafts, athletics, dance, karate, music, free play, swim instruction, and free swim. Every week, special activities are provided to the campers including treasure hunts, pajama days, crazy hat days, petting zoos, and themed science programs.

Groups are kept small with roughly 12-14 students per group with two counselors per group. Counselors are either current elementary school teachers or college students majoring in education.

The Sports Fitness program focuses on developing sports-specific skills while still allowing campers time to participate in activities such as arts and crafts, bowling, and treasure hunts. The sports covered by the Sports Fitness program include soccer, tennis, basketball, football, volleyball, and swimming. Counselors overseeing each athletic station and instructing skill development are all current or former athletes in that specific sport.

The Summer Challenge Camp also offers door-to-door busing and daily lunches in the enrollment price. Even more important than busing, food service, athletics and fun is the fact that parents can relax while their children are at camp. We pride ourselves on making sure our families know their children are in a safe environment that will return them home the same way they left; however, they will be very tired from an action-packed day.