



*It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.*

*Parable of the Mustard Seed- Matthew 13:31-32*

## Message from Miss Mills

Dear families,

I hope this message finds you well. As we approach the end of another busy week, I am delighted to share some of the wonderful achievements and exciting events happening within our school community.

This week has been filled with remarkable accomplishments, and I am proud of our pupils and staff for their hard work and dedication. Our Parent-Teacher and Friends Associations (PTFAs) have been incredibly active, fostering a strong sense of community and support for our school. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to these efforts; your involvement makes a significant difference in our children's educational experience.

In the coming two weeks, we are excited to welcome the TSSMAT team, who will be conducting a maths review in both our schools. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to enhance our teaching strategies and ensure that our pupils are receiving the best possible education in mathematics. We look forward to sharing the outcomes with you.

A heartfelt thank you to all who participated in our "Rock Up and Read" event this morning. It was wonderful to see parents and children sharing their love for books together. Reading is a vital part of our pupils' development, and your engagement is invaluable in fostering a lifelong passion for literature.

As we enter harvest time, we are preparing for our Harvest Festival at the church. This is a wonderful occasion to celebrate the abundance of our community and give thanks. We also encourage families to donate to the Trussell Trust, supporting those in need during this season. Please see the article in this newsletter for more details on how you can contribute.

As we reflect on the theme of harvest and giving, I am reminded of the words from Galatians 6:9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Let us continue to support one another and our community as we strive to create a nurturing environment for our children.

Wishing you all a restful weekend ahead. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

Warm regards,

Miss Mills

# Dinners for Week Commencing 9th September 2024

This week is: Week 3

## YOUR SCHOOL MENU

### WEEK 1



#### MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Plant-based burger in a bap with diced potatoes  
 Spaghetti bolognese  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Tomato pasta  
 Italian style chicken goujons with diced potatoes  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Chocolate brownie

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Handmade margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges  
 Chicken and oriental style vegetable rice  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Fruit and jelly

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Quorn chicken pieces in a Yorkshire pudding  
 Sliced beef and Yorkshire pudding  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy  
 TO FINISH  
 Lemon drizzle sponge

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Sweet potato and lentil curry with a blend of brown and white rice  
 Baked fish fingers and chips  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Ice cream topped with cream

### WEEK 2

Our primary school menus comply with the Government's food and nutritional standards, meeting an average of 530 calories for each meal

#### MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Meat-free hotdog with diced potatoes  
 Cottage pie  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Roasted vegetable lasagne  
 Chicken nuggets with diced potatoes  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Apple flapjack

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Handmade margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges  
 Ham carbonara with penne pasta  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Fruit and jelly

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Vegetable pastry crown  
 Roast chicken and Yorkshire pudding  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy  
 TO FINISH  
 Victoria sponge

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Somerset cheddar cheese and potato frittata  
 Baked battered fish and chips  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Homemade cookies

### WEEK 3



#### MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Somerset cheddar cheese and tomato quesadilla with diced potatoes  
 Pork sausage roll with diced potatoes  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Macaroni cheese with Somerset cheddar  
 Chicken curry with a blend of brown and white rice  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Jam sponge

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Handmade margherita pizza  
 Bubble salmon  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges  
 TO FINISH  
 Fruit and jelly

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Vegetable and bean burrito  
 Baked fish fingers and chips  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day  
 TO FINISH  
 Freshly baked marble shortbread biscuit

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 Somerset cheddar cheese and tomato puff  
 Roast chicken and Yorkshire pudding  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy  
 TO FINISH  
 Chocolate orange sponge

Light bite options available. Daily sandwiches, jacket potatoes with fresh daily fillings

All menu items are subject to change, based upon availability and in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

Vegan

Vegetarian

# What's Coming Up This Week

## Monday 30th September

- ♦ PE kits

## Tuesday 1st October

## Wednesday 2nd October

## Thursday 3rd October

## Friday 4th October

- ♦ PE Kits

Please access the Schools' website for key events-

Mary Howard- [Upcoming Events | Mary Howard CE Primary School](#)

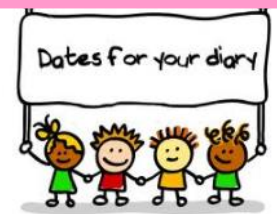
St Andrew's- [Upcoming Events | St.](#)

[Andrew's CE Primary School \(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk\)](#)

**What's  
Happening  
This Week**

# Dates to Note

## DATES TO NOTE



## October

- 15.10-St Andrews Parent Forum– 2:45pm-3:30pm
- 17.10-Mary Howard Parent Forum 2:45pm-3:30pm
- 25.10– Let your Light Shine– Values Assembly– Mary Howard 9am and St Andrew's 3pm

## Upcoming Church Events:

### Mary Howard

- Harvest - Wednesday 16th October at 9:15am.
- Christingle - Tuesday 10th December at 6pm.
- Nativity - Wednesday 18th December at 9:15am.

### St Andrews

- Harvest - Thursday 17th October at 9:40am.
- Christingle - Wednesday 11th December at 6pm.
- Nativity - Tuesday 17th December at 9:15am.

# Spiritual Council

We are thrilled to announce the selection of our new Spiritual Councils, a vital part of our commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth and development of our pupils. These councils will play an essential role in promoting our values of Koinonia, Wisdom, Love, and Perseverance, as well as fostering a sense of community and inclusivity within our schools.

Mary Howard Spiritual Council: We are proud to introduce the following pupils who will represent Mary Howard:

**Leo, Olivia, Jude, Luke, Darci, Elodie**

St Andrews Spiritual Council: Equally, we are excited to welcome the new members of the St Andrews Spiritual Council:

**Charlotte, George, Kaj, Billy, Arthur, Ellie, Keira**

These pupils were selected based on their commitment to our values and their passion for making a positive impact within our school community. They will work together to plan and lead initiatives that inspire their peers, encourage reflection, and promote our shared vision of 'growing and flourishing.'



We look forward to seeing the wonderful contributions these councils will make in the coming year. Please join us in congratulating our new council members and supporting them as they embark on this meaningful journey!

# Monthly Online Safety



## Online Safety Newsletter

Oct 2024

### iOS 18 Launch

Apple have recently released their latest operating system, iOS 18. iOS 18 offers lots of new features (some are restricted to newer phones) but one feature that you should be aware of is the ability to now lock and hide apps.

When an app is locked, Face ID, Touch ID or your passcode will be required to open it. This also means that notifications will no longer be shown for that app. Additionally, apps can now be hidden so they can only be accessed through a hidden apps folder that is also locked. This new feature illustrates the need to have regular chats with your child about what they are using their phone for.

### Vault (secret) Apps

Have you heard of Vault Apps? They are basically secret apps that are concealed by looking like a normal, less conspicuous app. For example, one of these apps looks and works like a working calculator when opened, but when a passcode is entered, it reveals photographs, videos, documents and contacts. One way to prevent your child from using these apps is to ensure parental controls are set up so you can review all app purchases. You can find out more here:

- <https://www.bark.us/blog/find-hidden-apps/>
- <https://www.safes.so/blogs/vault-apps/>

### Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams



### What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have: <https://www.compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

### EE launches Age Guidance

EE has launched age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up. You can read the full guidance here: <https://newsroom.ee.co.uk/ee-launches-age-guidance-for-smartphone-usage-in-drive-to-improve-childrens-digital-wellbeing/>

### Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

### What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then Which? provide an overview of some options available: <https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.10.24.

Please access the full newsletter here: [Safeguarding | Mary Howard CE Primary School](#)

[Safeguarding | St. Andrew's CE Primary School \(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk\)](#)

# For Information



## Grow and Flourish

At The Mease Federation, we empower our children to be agents of change; we want to help those in need! Nobody in our community should have to face hunger and so this year, we will be collecting donations ahead of our Harvest Festival ready to donate to Tamworth Foodbank. Tamworth Foodbank are supported by The Trussell Trust and work hard to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. Please could all donations be handed into the office by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024. A recent list of urgently needed food items along with items that the foodbank already has can be found below. Any donations will be greatly appreciated! Thank you!



### URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS IN SEPTEMBER

LONG-LIFE MILK

TOILETRIES -  
SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER/DEODORANT

SMALL BOTTLES OF SQUASH

TINNED VEGETABLES -  
CARROTS/SWEETCORN/PEAS

TINNED FISH

TINNED MEAT - STEW, CURRY, CHILLI, HOT  
DOGS, CHICKEN, MEATBALLS

SMALL JARS OF COFFEE

SIZE 6 NAPPIES

SOUP

SUGAR

TOILET ROLLS

### WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

BEANS

TOMATOES

SIZE 1, 2, 3 AND 4 NAPPIES

PASTA

Miss Warner



# For Information

## Hatha Yoga

*By Keely*

### Local, Friendly Yoga Classes

**Suitable for all ages and abilities.  
Get fit and have fun!**

*Fully insured and qualified instructor.  
Classes cost £6.00 per session  
For more information contact  
Keely on 07795 692 332*

#### Classes available in-

##### **Clifton Campville**

Monday 6.45pm - 7.45pm

Thursday 9.30am - 10.30am

##### **Elford**

Tuesday 7.15pm - 8.15pm

##### **Kings Bromley**

Wednesday 9.30am - 10.30am

Thursday 6.30pm - 7.30pm

##### **Edingale**

Wednesday 6.45pm - 7.45pm

**All Welcome**


Rev Nicky and Laura at Holy Trinity Church are hosting the following events over the Christmas period

- Blue Christmas service 10.15am - Sunday 1st December
- Christmas Activity Service 10.15am - Sunday 15th December.

Please see our Mental Health and well being section on the website:

[Mental Health & Well-Being | Mary Howard CE Primary School](#)

[Mental Health & Well-Being | St. Andrew's CE Primary School \(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk\)](#)



Thrive 365

Impact Education®

Parent Guide

**KEEPING STRESS IN CHECK**

15 simple tools for you to try with your child or teen to help reduce or relieve stress every day

www.dragonflyimpact.co.uk

The poster features a dragonfly logo at the top, a central illustration of five hands holding a glowing lightbulb, and a checklist icon at the bottom. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout.



## Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

**89% or below**  
Drastic effect on academic achievement

**96% - 90%**  
Cause for Concern

**100% - 97%**  
Excellent!



Across the TSSMAT we expect good attendance to ensure that all pupils are able to take full advantage of the education available to them. Good attendance matters.

Pupils who have good attendance: **Get better jobs in the future, Achieve better results, Make better friendships, Have good self-esteem and confidence**

We strive for every child to achieve 96% attendance or higher. Please do not be offended if you are told that we are concerned about your child's attendance or if you receive a letter of concern. Attendance falls under the category of safeguarding and it is our duty of care to challenge and support attendance. If we can help in any way please contact Miss Mills or the office. Thank you.

### Medical Appointments

Could we kindly remind

parents, to try and book medical appointments outside of school times.

We do understand that there are occasions when this is not always possible.

Thank you!

### Little Heroes Attendance

We are excited to announce the return of our Little Heroes Attendance Initiative for the current academic year. You will see posters and other promotional materials displayed throughout the school to raise awareness of this programme.

In each classroom, there is a sticker chart where pupils' names are displayed. Every day a pupil attends school and arrives on time, they will receive a sticker next to their name on the chart. The "Hero" acronym stands for "Here Everyday Ready and On Time" - the key pillars of this initiative.

The Little Heroes Attendance Initiative will run throughout the year. Pupils who maintain 100% attendance and punctuality each half term will be rewarded with a certificate.

For more detailed information about the programme, please visit the dedicated webpage at [Staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes](https://Staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes).

We appreciate your continued support in encouraging strong attendance habits among our pupil community. Together, we can ensure all our pupils have the best possible start to their day and access the full benefits of their education.

For the TSSMAT Attendance policy, please click the link:

Mary Howard: <https://maryhoward.staffs.sch.uk/parents/attendance-absence>

## **Autumn Term 2024**

**Inset day:** Monday 2 September & Tuesday 3 September

**Term Starts:** Wednesday 4 September

**Holiday:** Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

**Inset: TSSMAT training day for staff- Monday 4th November**

**Term Ends:** Friday 20 December

**Holiday:** Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January

## **Spring Term 2025**

**Inset:** Monday 6 January

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 7th January

**Holiday:** Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

**Term Ends:** Friday 11 April

**Holiday:** Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 20 April

## **Summer Term 2025**

**Term Starts:** Monday 28 April

**May Day:** Monday 5 May

**Holiday:** Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

**Inset:** Monday 2nd June