



*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,

As we leave November and head into the countdown to Christmas, we take a moment to reflect on our blessings and express gratitude for our school community.

We are delighted that Mrs. Boag is back and running the office, diligently catching up on all administrative tasks. We appreciate her hard work and dedication. We are excited to welcome Mrs. Regan, who will be joining us at St. Andrews starting on December 9th. We look forward to her contributions to our school community.

This week, we celebrated St. Andrew's Day, beautifully led by Revd John and Sarah Ennis. It was a wonderful occasion that brought our community together. A special thanks to Mrs. Wardale and her dedicated helpers for successfully planting our Forest School hedges and trees. This initiative will enhance our outdoor learning environment and provide our children with more opportunities to connect with nature.

On Wednesday, we enjoyed a festive Crafternoon, thanks to the wonderful parents who organised this special afternoon. Your support makes such events possible and enjoyable for our children.

Today is Festive Friday at Mary Howard, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of Mary Howard (FOMH) for their hard work and dedication in making this day festive and fun for everyone.

As we embrace the spirit of the season, let us remember the words *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* - Jeremiah 29:11

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend filled with joy and gratitude.

**Rachel Mills**

Executive Head of Mary Howard Primary and St. Andrews Schools

# Dinners for Week Commencing 18th November 2024

This week is: Week 2



## YOUR SCHOOL MENU NOVEMBER 2024

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

● Vegan  
● Vegetarian

### WEEK 1

#### MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread

Beef Chilli Con Carne with Brown and White Rice

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Chocolate Brownie

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Veggie Cottage Pie

Chicken Nuggets with Diced Potatoes

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Yogurt or Jelly

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Homemade margherita pizza

Homemade BBQ Pizza topped with Chicken

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges

TO FINISH

Jammy Shortbread Biscuit

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Vegetable and Bean Burrito

Pork Sausages and Mashed Potato and Gravy

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Chocolate Sponge with Mint Custard

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Quorn Sausages

Breaded Cod

ON THE SIDE

Peas, salad or beans and Chips

TO FINISH

Toffee Apple Sponge

### 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

- Veggie Bolognese and Pasta with Garlic Bread

Chicken Katsu Curry with Brown and White Rice

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Homemade Cookies

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Veggie Sausage Roll with Wedges

Ham Carbonara with Pasta and Garlic Bread

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Fruit Mousse or Jelly

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Homemade Margherita Pizza

Homemade Cheese and Ham Pizza

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges

TO FINISH

Rice Krispie Cake

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Veggie Sausages in a Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy

Sticky Honey Glazed Chicken with Brown and White Rice

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Ginger Sponge

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Tomato and Basil Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread

Breaded Cod and Chips

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream

### WEEK 3

#### MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Cauliflower and Broccoli Bake topped with Cheese

Pork Sausage Roll

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad and diced potatoes

TO FINISH

Apple Sponge Cake

#### TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Mediterranean Veg Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread

Baked Chicken Fajita with Diced Potatoes

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Homemade Cookies

#### WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Handmade Margherita Pizza

Homemade Chicken Pizza

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges

TO FINISH

Flapjacks with Raisins

#### THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Quorn and Leek Pastry Crown

Roast Chicken and Yorkshire pudding

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day, mashed potatoes and gravy

TO FINISH

Chocolate Sponge

#### FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM

- Sweet Potato and Chickpea Curry with Brown and White Rice

Breaded Cod and chips

ON THE SIDE

Vegetables of the day or salad

TO FINISH

Fruit or Jelly

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

# What's Coming Up This Week

## Monday 2nd December

- ◆ PE
- ◆ Gymnastics after school club at St Andrews

## Tuesday 3rd December

## Wednesday 4th December

- St Andrews Crafternoon-3:30-5pm

## Thursday 5th December

## Friday 6th December

- ◆ PE
- ◆ Rock up and Read both Schools 8:45-9:15
- ◆ Edingale Monthly Meet-9am-10am

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



## December

- 9.12– Large orange donation for Christingle
- 11.12-St Andrews-Crafternoon 3:30-4:30
- 13.12 Before and After school Club at St Andrews
- 13.12– Mease Schools Christmas Day at St Andrews– pantomime in the afternoon (Mary Howard included in this)
- **16.12– Mary Howard- Christmas Breakfast Club (we need to know numbers by 13.12.24– no drop ins).**
- 18.12– Mease Schools trip to Statfold (St Andrews and Mary Howard)- MH will go after the Nativity,
- 19.12-St Andrews-Let Your Light Shine– Values worship– 3pm- parents invited.
- 20.12– Mary Howard-Let Your Light Shine– Values worship– 9am- parents invited.
- 20.12– Mary Howard Dis-glow at Edingale Village Hall– 3:30-5:30
- **20.12– No after-school Care Club available at Mary Howard on this date due to the Dis-glow**

## Upcoming Church Events:

### Mary Howard

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

### St Andrews

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



## INSET Consultation Update

Dear families

Thank you for your contribution to our consultation regarding INSET days and term dates.

Leaders (our senior leadership team and subsequently, Chair of Governors) have met to explore the outcomes and, whilst in some schools it was rather unanimous across the parental and staff bodies, there were some mixed outcomes for others.

We are notifying you that the outcome for your school is that we will continue as we are. We will set 5 INSET days across the year and will notify you of next year's (2025/2026) INSET dates

later this academic year. So that we can work together as a whole Trust staff body once a year, we will have an INSET day next year on: **Monday 3rd November 2025**. Thank you for your engagement and understanding of the outcome.

Kind Regards,

**Mrs. Charlene Gethin**

**Chief Executive Officer**



# Reverse Advent Calendar and Christingle



We recognise that Christmas can be a difficult time of year for many people and we want to help! This year, we will be supporting our local food bank in Tamworth by creating a whole-school reverse advent calendar. From December,



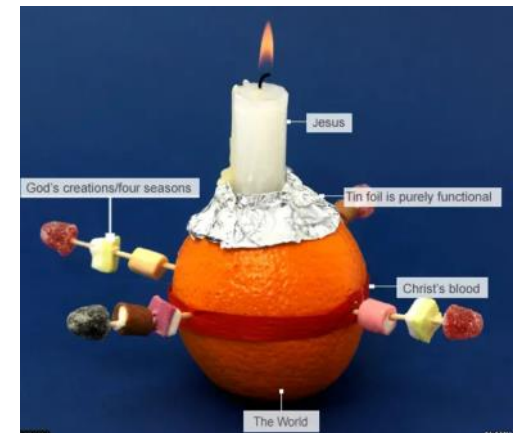
we will have a large grid in school counting down to Christmas. If you would like to support then on the day that your child brings a donation to school, they will add their donation to our Santa sack and write their name on the grid for that day. At the end of half term, we will take our donations to Tamworth foodbank. Any donations will be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your support!



## Christingle

Please could you donate a large orange for our upcoming Christingle? Please send them in on Monday 9th December, so that we can make the Christingles ready for our church services. We have everything else.

Thank you for your support!



## St Andrews – After School Club – Mondays

### After School Dodgeball Club

St Andrew's CofE (C) Primary School

13th January 2025 - 10th February 2025

Course starts on **Mon 13th January 2025**

Times: 15:30 – 16:30

Age Range: Reception (4/5 Years old) - Year 6 (10/11 Years old)

Year Group: R-Y6

Online Price: £30.00

[Book this Activity](#)

20  
places  
remaining

After School Dodgeball Club – Premier Education

# St Andrews – SASA events

## CRAFTERNOONS

COME AND JOIN US FOR  
CREATIVE, SEASONAL  
CRAFTING FUN OR MAYBE  
WATCH A FILM WITH A  
SNACK AND YOUR MATES!

**3:30 - 5pm**  
**St. Andrew's**  
**Includes snack & squash**

**16th Oct**



AUTUMNAL CRAFT  
AND MAYBE A  
SPOOKY, SILLY FILM!

**27th Nov 4th Dec 11th Dec**



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND  
FESTIVE FILMS!  
*Parents, use the extra time for shopping, baking, wrapping!*

**£5 each session**

**(Business)**

We are really excited for our new Crafternoon sessions! If you would like to book on one or more of the sessions, please use the reference code below for a BACS transfer.

Child name + class + CRAFT + date(s) of session

Example: Olivia|craft1|627 or Olivia|craft4 or Olivia|craftALL

If you want to confirm, clarify or discuss your booking please text Katie @ 077159 66802 or [sasa.charitypta@gmail.com](mailto:sasa.charitypta@gmail.com)



Mary Howard – FOMH events

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

**CHILDRENS'  
CHRISTMAS  
DISGLOW**

£7.50 A TICKET >>> AVAILABLE AT  
WWW.FOMH.CO.UK

INCLUDES ENTRY, REFILLABLE SQUASH,  
UNLIMITED PIZZA, AND GLOW PACK!

3.30PM- 5.30PM | 20TH DECEMBER  
EDINGALE VILLAGE HALL  
ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED  
BAR OPEN AND FOOD AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE





## 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://www.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