



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 embrace the festive spirit, I am delighted to reflect on a successful week at both Mary Howard and St. Andrews. Our classrooms have been buzzing with creativity as the children engaged in Christmas crafts and participated in our wonderful Christmas fayres. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our Parent-Teacher and Friends Associations for their hard work and dedication in making these events a success. Your support truly enriches our school community.

This week, we also had the opportunity to moderate our writing with other schools in our TSSMAT. I am proud to share that the quality of writing produced by our children was met with great admiration. It is a testament to the hard work of our students and teachers, and I am thrilled to see their efforts recognised.

We also enjoyed a successful "Rock Up and Read" session, where we welcomed some residents from Edingale to join us for a delightful morning of carols. It was a joy to see our children share the gift of music and community spirit.

Looking ahead, we have a series of exciting events planned, including our Christingle service, Nativity performances, a pantomime, and a school trip to Statfold. These events not only celebrate the joy of the season but also foster a sense of togetherness and belonging within our school community.

As we celebrate this festive season, let us remember the words from Matthew 5:16: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." May we continue to shine brightly as we support one another and nurture our children to grow and flourish.

Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful week ahead.

Rachel Mills

Executive Head of Mary Howard Primary and St. Andrews Schools

Dinners for Week Commencing 9th December 2024

This week is: Week 3



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

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

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

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 9th December

- Please send in a large orange for Christingle
- ◆ Gymnastics after school club at St Andrews

Tuesday 10th December

- ◆ Mary Howard Christingle– Holy Trinity Church– 6pm start

Wednesday 11th December

- St Andrews Crafternoon-3:30-5pm
- ◆ St Andrews Christingle– St Andrews Church– 6pm start

Thursday 12th December

- Christmas jumper day and Christmas dinner day- £2 donation for Save the Children Fund

Friday 13th December

- Before and After school Club at St Andrews today (Mary Howard children to come to St Andrews today)
- Mease Schools Christmas Day at St Andrews– pantomime in the afternoon (Mary Howard included in this)

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

- **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-Christmas Party Day! - Non Uniform
- 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

- Nativity - Wednesday 18th December at 9:15am.

St Andrews

- Nativity - Tuesday 17th December at 9:15am.



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!



Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Dinner Day

On **Thursday 12th December**, children are welcome to wear non uniform and a Christmas jumper for a donation of £2 for the annual Save the Children Fund. It is also Christmas Dinner day. Please note that Christmas dinners have been pre ordered and cannot be booked on the day.

[Christmas Jumper Day 2024 | Save the Children UK](#)



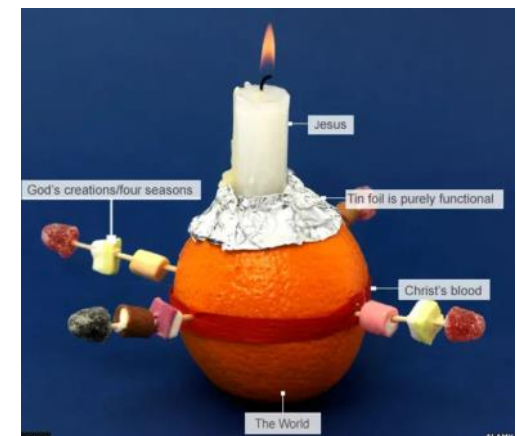
Thank you for your support!



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!



Spelling Bee and St Andrews Pantomime

Spelling Bee– Round 1

We are excited to announce the first round of our Spelling Bee Heats, taking place on the following dates:

- **Monday, 16th December** at St. Andrews
- **Tuesday, 17th December** at Mary Howard

This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to showcase their spelling skills and compete within their classes. The word lists for this round are available on our school website, so please encourage your child to review them in preparation for the event.

[Spelling Bee | Mary Howard CE Primary School](#)

[Spelling Bee | St. Andrew's CE Primary School](#)

Key Details:

- **Format:** The Spelling Bee heats will be held in classes, allowing each child to participate and demonstrate their abilities.
- **Winners:** Those who excel in their class will receive a certificate during our Values assembly, recognising their hard work and achievement.
- **Next Steps:** Class winners will have the honour of representing our schools in the Summer tournament against other schools in our Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

We look forward to an exciting competition that promotes learning and engagement in a fun and supportive environment.

Thank you for your continued support!



Pantomime Day Announcement

Date: Friday, 13th December

Drop-off Time: 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: St. Andrews

Important Information:

- **Christmas Jumper/Non-Uniform Day:** All children are encouraged to wear their festive jumpers or non-uniform attire to celebrate the season!
- **Wrap Around Care:** There will be wrap-around care available both before and after school on this day. Please contact the office to book your child's place.
- **Morning Activities:** The children will be engaged in making Christmas cards and calendars.
- **Afternoon Activity:** The children will attend St. Andrews Church to watch the pantomime "Cinderella."
- **Collection Times:** Children will be collected from St Andrews School as follows, Mary Howard at **3:15 PM** and from St. Andrews at the usual time of **3:30PM**
- **After School Care:** After school care will be available. Please contact the office for arrangements.

Special Thanks: The pantomime has been kindly paid for by SASA and FOMH. Thank you for your support!

We look forward to a fun-filled day of creativity and festive cheer!



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 – Last Crafternoon!



CRAFTERNOONS

11th Dec session will end at 4:30

This is so students, parents, staff and PTA members can prepare for the **Christingle @6pm**



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



**Edingale
ELF
TRAIL**

Christmas holiday fun for all the family

DECEMBER 21ST - JANUARY 5TH

EDINGALE, STAFFORDSHIRE
Visit fomh.co.uk for more information



FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

The poster features a central illustration of an elf holding a large candy cane. Surrounding this are various Christmas-themed icons: a green gift box with a red ribbon, a red star, a holly leaf with berries, a red and white striped candy cane, a red and white Santa hat, a green Christmas tree, a pair of green and red patterned socks, a red and white gift box with a white ribbon, a snowflake, and a Santa Claus head. The background is a light pinkish-white with a subtle pattern of stars and snowflakes.



**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



FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

The poster has a dark, vibrant background with a glowing blue and purple circular light effect. It features a red Santa hat, a glowing starburst, and a candy cane. The text is in a mix of white and yellow, with some words in a stylized, outlined font. At the bottom, there's a colorful checkered floor pattern. The overall theme is festive and glowing.



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