



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 Mary Howard Families,

As we come to the close of this half term, I am delighted to reflect on what has been a truly wonderful and enriching period for both St. Andrews and Mary Howard. Our children have engaged in a range of activities that have brought their learning to life and provided fantastic opportunities for personal growth.

On Monday, Mr. Buckley and Miss Arrowsmith organised an inspiring Ancient Egyptian Day. The children took part in a variety of hands-on activities that not only consolidated their learning but also made history vibrant and exciting. It was a joy to see their enthusiasm and curiosity in action.

Sporting events have also been a highlight this term. Our Oak class children competed with great spirit in the netball tournament, demonstrating teamwork and perseverance. Additionally, children from both Oak and Willow classes participated in the swimming heats, and we eagerly await news of who will progress to the finals at The Snowdome. Their dedication and effort are truly commendable.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our staff. Their hard work, care, and willingness to go the extra mile ensure that our schools remain nurturing and rich learning environments. I am also incredibly grateful to you, our parents and carers, for your continued support with these events and our fundraising efforts.

As we break for the half term, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in March, when the daffodils will be blooming, and we can look forward to brighter days ahead, hopefully leaving the challenging weather behind us.

“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” – Hebrews 12:1

With warmest wishes,

Rachel Mills

Executive Headteacher

What's coming up this week...

Monday 23rd February

- PE Kit for Oak

Tuesday 24th February

Wednesday 25th February

Thursday 26th February

- PE Kit for all classes

Friday 27th February

- PE Kit for Maple & Willow
- Ukulele lessons Willow - Please bring in your instrument

Dates to note...

March

- 3rd March - Academy Photos- groups and leavers
- 6th March - The Library Bus is here!
- 6th March - Rock up & Read
- 6th March - World Book Day - bring & swap books
- 9th March - Momissons Mother's Day shop during school time
- 11th March - Boccia event @ The Howard School 3-5pm
- 11th March - Chaplaincy Service sessions 10.30 - 12.30pm
- 12th March - Mothering Sunday in Church @ 9:15am
- 13th March - Non-uniform day for Easter bingo donations
- 19th March - Easter BINGO @ 5.30-7pm
- 20th March - Red Nose Day
- 20th March - The Library Bus is here!
- 25th March - Easter Worship in Church @ 9:15am
- 27th March - Break the rules day!!
- 27th March - Living out our school vision worship @ 9am in school

Please access the Schools' website for key events - Mary Howard

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

Weekly Talk Task

Helping our children find their voices, one conversation at a time.

Welcome to the second Mease Talk Task. We are on a mission to turn every home into a "Talk-Rich Zone." Oracy isn't just about speaking; it's about the confidence to own your ideas and the empathy to hear others.

ACTIVE LISTENING FOCUS

- Reflective Listening: Try to mirror the speaker's enthusiasm. If they describe something exciting, use your voice and face to show you are interested.
- The "Tell Me More" Prompt: When the speaker finishes a sentence, instead of giving your opinion, simply say: "That sounds interesting, tell me more about that part."
- Eliminate Distractions: For this talk task, ensure all phones are away and you are sitting comfortably where you can see each other's faces.

THE ADVENTURE ARCHITECT CHALLENGE

"If you could plan the ultimate 'half term' day out with no limits, what would it look like?"

Explain your choice: * What is the main destination or activity?
Who are the three people (real or fictional) you would invite to join us?
What is the one thing you want to experience most during this adventure?

VOCABULARY SPOTLIGHT

- **Ideal:** Most suitable; perfect.
- **Memorable:** Worth remembering or easily remembered, especially because of being special or unusual.

Sentence Stems Use these to help build your point of view:

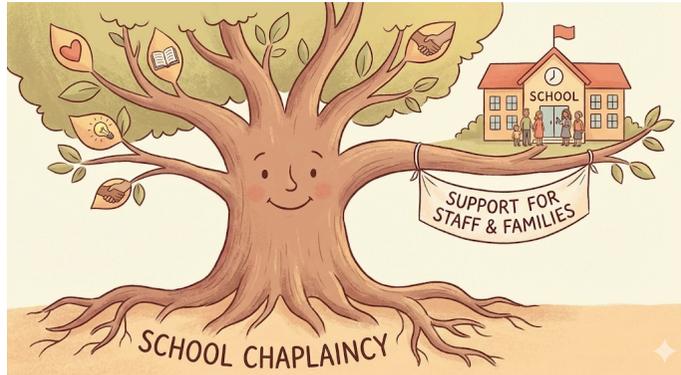
- "My ideal half term adventure would involve..."
- "I believe the most memorable part of the day would be when we..."
- "To ensure everyone has a great time, I would include..."

EYFS/KS1: Focus on the "First, Next, Last."

Can you tell the story of your dream day in the order it would happen? What would we eat for our adventure snack?

KS2: Focus on the "Why." Why did you choose those specific guests? How would you make sure your adventure is fun even if things don't go exactly to plan?

School Chaplaincy



We are thrilled to announce that Mr Kev. Borg, our previous Co-Chair of the Board of Directors has offered a 10 week chaplaincy service for our Trust schools.

These will take place at Mary Howard on the following days;

Wednesday 11th March 10.30 - 12.30pm

Monday 11th May 10.30 - 12.30pm

Message from Kev. Borg.

In today's fast-paced world, well-being is more important than ever. As your school chaplain, I'm here to support the emotional and spiritual health of our entire school community—students, parents, and staff.

My services are available to everyone, regardless of their background or beliefs.

I offer a listening ear, a confidential space to talk, and support during difficult times.

I am also here to celebrate our community's joys and successes. I look forward to working alongside you to foster a compassionate and supportive environment for everyone.

Dinners for Week Commencing 23rd February 2025 - Week 1

Please all can you preorder your childrens meals on Arbor



WINTER MENU FROM NOVEMBER 2025



V Vegetarian
VE Vegan
GF Gluten Free
DF Dairy Free

Week 1

Monday

Mains

Beef Bolognese
100% beef bolognese with sliced garlic bread

Sides

Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Homemade Apple Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit

Tuesday

Mains

Tuna and Cheese Pasta Bake
Served with diced herby potatoes

Sides

Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Natural Yoghurt (v) or Fresh Fruit

Monday

Mains

BBQ Chicken
100% chicken breast, topped with BBQ sauce and sliced peppers

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Chocolate and Caramel Cake
Cocoa chocolate and sugar free condensed milk, caramel cake (v)
Fresh Fruit

Tuesday

Mains

All day breakfast
100% Pork sausage, beans, hash brown and an egg omelette

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Homemade Raisin Flapjack (v, ve) or Fresh Fruit

Monday

Mains

Pork Meatballs
Pork meatballs served in a tomato and basil sauce with wholemeal pasta and Garlic Bread

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Natural Yoghurt (v) or Fresh Fruit

Tuesday

Mains

Sausage and Bean Casserole
Pork sausage in a baked bean casserole sauce topped with sliced potatoes

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Lemon Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit

Wednesday

Mains

Cheese and Tomato Pizza
Homemade Pizza Dough topped with Cheese and Tomato. Served with Potato Croquettes

Sides

Seasonal vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Freshly Baked Oat and Raisin Cookies (v) or Fresh Fruit

Thursday

Mains

Roast Chicken
100% Chicken breast, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Apple and Berry Crumble (v)
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday

Mains

Cottage Pie
100% beef. Topped with sliced potatoes and gravy.

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Apple Crumble (v) or Fresh Fruit

Thursday

Mains

Roast Ham
100% pork, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy or cheese sauce

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Homemade Chocolate Brownie (v)
Cocoa chocolate brownie
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday

Mains

Cheese and Tomato Pizza
Homemade Pizza Dough topped with Cheese and Tomato. Served with Potato Croquettes

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Pancakes and fresh fruit (v) or Natural Yoghurt

Thursday

Mains

Roast Chicken
100% Chicken breast, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy

Sides

Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Fresh Berry Sponge Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit

Friday

Mains

Fish Fingers
Breaded cod served with oven fried chips

Sides

Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar

Desserts

Ice Cream (v, ve, gf) or Fresh Fruit

Daily Options

Jacket Potatoes
Freshly baked jacket potatoes. 1 filling from a choice of Tuna, Cheese or Beans (v, ve, gf)

Tomato Pasta Bake
Wholemeal pasta in a tomato sauce (v, ve, gf)

Homemade Toasties
50/50 bread, with filling options of Tuna, Cheese or Ham.

Homemade Soup and Sandwich
Soup made using fresh seasonal vegetables. Some vegetables are grown in the school allotments at selected schools. 50/50 bread, with filling options of Tuna, Cheese or Ham.

All options are served with seasonal vegetables, potato option of the day and fresh salad bar

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All of our food is made on site using the freshest ingredients and complies with all Government legislation for nutritional value for schools

BREAK THE RULES DAY!

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

PAY £1 PER RULE

PLEASE BRING MONEY ON THE DAY!

TICK THE RULES YOU ARE BREAKING!

- 1 WEAR YOUR OWN CLOTHES** ✓
- 2 HAVE A WACKY HAIRSTYLE** ✓
- 3 WEAR NAIL POLISH** ✓
- 4 TEMPORARY TATTOOS** ✓
- 5 BRING IN A TOY OR GAME FROM HOME** ✓
- 6 EAT PUDDING BEFORE MAIN** ✓
- 7 BRING A TREAT IN FOR SNACK** ✓

FOMH Friends of Mary Howard

Friends of Mary Howard would like to invite you back to...

'MOMISSONS'

Mother's Day Present Shop

Monday 9th March
£5 per gift

Please complete and return form and pre-payment to school by 26th February

FOMH Friends of Mary Howard

A vibrant blue poster for an Easter Bingo event. At the top, a string of colorful triangular bunting hangs across the width. The text is centered and reads: 'FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO OUR FUN-TASTIC ANNUAL' in white, followed by 'EASTER BINGO' in large yellow letters. Below that, 'THURSDAY 19TH MARCH' and '5.30-7PM' are in yellow, and 'MARY HOWARD SCHOOL' is in yellow. Ticket prices are listed in white: 'ADULT/CHILD TICKETS £5 EACH' and 'UNDER 5S £2 EACH'. The event details 'TICKET INCLUDES BINGO GAMES AND EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE CHILDREN' and 'FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE EVENING' are in white. A white bar contains the booking information 'HEAD TO WWW.FOMH.CO.UK TO BOOK'. The bottom half features two cartoon rabbits on a green grassy field with several decorated Easter eggs. The FOMH logo is at the bottom center.

FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO OUR FUN-TASTIC ANNUAL

EASTER BINGO

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH
5.30-7PM
MARY HOWARD SCHOOL

ADULT/CHILD TICKETS £5 EACH
UNDER 5S £2 EACH

TICKET INCLUDES BINGO GAMES AND EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE CHILDREN

FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE EVENING

HEAD TO WWW.FOMH.CO.UK TO BOOK



FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

Reminders

Arbor payments

Would you please check your Arbor Parental Portal for any outstanding payments. We would like to keep all accounts in credit or cleared of any debt.

If your Arbor Account is in arrears of over £10 for Snacks, we will no longer be able to offer your child a daily snack.

If your Account is in arrears of over £50 for Wraparound Care, we will no longer be able to offer the care (unless payments are made via vouchers).

Thank you for your understanding.

Trips & Mothers Day payments

The Rosliston Trip for Maple class and the Residential to Standon Bowers is available to pay on Arbor, please make payments by the deadline stated on Dojo and Arbor.

Mothers Day Breakfast items are also available to make payments on Arbor, please pay for any breakfasts that have been ordered as soon as possible. Thank you!

* Parents & Carers' please can you refrain from using Dojo out of School working hours, many thanks in your support with this.*

Spelling Bee



Spring Spelling Bee Reminder

Please don't forget to practice your Spring Spelling Bee words in preparation for the next round of heats scheduled for the week commencing 23rd March.

To access the latest list of Spring Spelling Bee words, please visit the school website.

Good luck to all our spellers as you continue to grow and flourish!

Weblink: Mary Howard: <https://maryhoward.staffs.sch.uk/children/spelling-bee>



The graphic features a photograph of five children of diverse backgrounds standing in a line with their arms around each other's shoulders, viewed from behind. The text 'We are an Operation Encompass School' is centered above the photo, with the tagline 'For further information, please come and see us.' below it. At the top right of the photo area, the 'OPERATION ENCOMPASS' logo is visible. Below the photo, there are four logos: the 'OPERATION ENCOMPASS' logo with the tagline 'In every force. In every school. For every child.', the 'ST ANDREWS' school crest, the 'STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE' logo, and a smaller 'OPERATION ENCOMPASS' logo.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.

ST ANDREWS

STAFFORDSHIRE POLICE

Spring Term 2026

Holiday: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

Term Ends: Friday 27 March

Holiday: Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 5 April

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13 April

May Day: Monday 4 May

Holiday: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Term Ends: Friday 17 July

Inset: Monday 20 July

Holiday: Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August