



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,

What a week — another busy, joyful week at Mary Howard with so many enrichment opportunities for our children. Thank you to everyone who supports our school community: staff, families, FOMH and our volunteers. Here are the highlights.

Spelling Bee success - On Tuesday we held our Spelling Bee finals. All of the children were brilliant and showed great resilience and sportsmanship.

I am delighted to share that our KS2 team won the Spelling Bee and brought the trophy home for another year - a huge well done to the pupils and staff who prepared them. Special praise to our Year 1 team who competed magnificently against teams that included Year 2 pupils.

Willow trip to Conkers - On Thursday, children in Willow visited Conkers by mini-bus for their final trip of the term. Thank you to Mrs Aston-Wright for driving the mini-bus; being able to provide transport in this way helped keep the cost of the visit down and made the trip accessible for everyone.

Playground markings - a **BIG THANK YOU** to Friends of Mary Howard (FOMH) for organising the new playground markings. They have really brightened our outdoor space and the children are already using them to enhance their play and learning.

Colour Run - After last year's success, we're going bigger this year at the Village Hall. It promises to be a colourful, fun-filled community event.

Tamworth Arts - Saturday 4th July 2026 at Tamworth Castle Grounds. Our children are performing on the main stage at 2:00pm. Do come along to support them if you can; it's a great day out!

Sports Day - Monday 6 July 2026, held at the Village Hall. Many thanks to Steve Keay for mowing the track for us - your help is much appreciated.

We are proud of how our children take part in activities with kindness, perseverance and confidence - they really do live our values of Koinonia, Wisdom, Love and Perseverance. Thank you to staff and parents for your continued support in making these opportunities possible.

Next week we will be sending out reports, we will be trailing sending these through Arbor instead of paper copies to reduce our carbon footprint! So watch this space.

"From small beginnings great things grow." — Matthew 13:31-32. Wishing everyone a super weekend, full of rest and joy. *Rachel Mills - Executive Headteacher*

What's coming up this week...

Saturday 4th July

- Tamworth Arts Festival 11am at Tamworth Castle Grounds. Mary Howard are performing at 2pm for the dance..

Monday 6th July

- Sports Day 9:15am, refreshments available from FOMH from 8:45am.
- PE Kit for Oak

Tuesday 7th July

- Music lessons - remember to bring Violin & Guitars

Wednesday 8th July

Thursday 9th July

- PE Kit for all

Friday 10th July

- Library Bus is here!
- Maple and Willow PE

Dates to note...

July

- 14th July - Open Evening.
- 15th July Year 6 Leavers service in church @9.15am.
- 16th July - MH Got Talent in the village hall @4-6pm.
- 17th July - Break up for Summer Holidays!

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

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

[Click here for Current Vacancies](#)

[Job Vacancies | The Staffordshire Schools Multi Academy Trust](#)

Dinners for Week Commencing 6th July 2026 - Week 3

Please all can you preorder your children's meals on Arbor.



SUMMER MENU FROM JUNE 2026



V Vegetarian
VE Vegan
GF Gluten Free
DF Dairy Free

Week 1

<p>Monday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce (DF)</p> <p>Tomato and Herb Pasta Bake (V VE DF)</p> <p>Both options made with whole wheat pasta</p> <p>Sandwich option</p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Fresh Fruit Salad with Unsweetened Cream Swirl</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>All Day Breakfast Sausage, hashbrown, egg and beans</p> <p>Vegan Sausage All Day Breakfast (V VE)</p> <p>Sandwich option</p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Sugar Free Jelly</p>
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Wednesday

Mains

Pepperoni topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub

Margherita Pizza Sub

Both options served with Herby Diced Potatoes and Sweetcorn

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Summer Fruit Baked Sponge Cake (V)

Thursday

Mains

BBQ Chicken
Served with brown rice and broccoli

Tomato Pasta Bake

Sandwich Option

Tuna or Cheese

Desserts

Apple Crumble

Friday

Mains

Cod Bites
Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas

Sweet Potato and Cauliflower Curry

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Frozen yoghurt pot (Tofee or Strawberry flavour)

Daily Options

Jacket potatoes
Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)

Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily

Week 2

<p>Monday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>Macaroni Cheese Bake</p> <p>Tomato Pasta Bake</p> <p>Both options made with whole wheat pasta, served with carrots</p> <p>Sandwich Option</p> <p>Tuna or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Fruit Slices with Unsweetened Cream Swirl</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>Chicken Korma Served with Brown Rice and Broccoli</p> <p>Cauliflower and Sweet Potato Korma (V VE DF)</p> <p>Sandwich Option</p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Sugar Free Jelly</p>
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Wednesday

Mains

Pepperoni Topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub

Margherita Pizza Sub (V VE)

Both options served with herby diced potatoes and sweetcorn

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Apple baked sponge cake (V)

Thursday

Mains

Chicken Fajitas

Vegetable Fajitas

Both options served with brown rice and carrots

Sandwich options

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Baked Fruit Crumble

Friday

Mains

Cod Bites
Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas

Tomato Pasta Bake (V VE DF)

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Frozen yoghurt pot (Tofee or Strawberry flavour)

Daily Options

Jacket potatoes
Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)

Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily

Week 3

<p>Monday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>Pepperoni and Tomato Pasta Bake Served with carrots</p> <p>Tomato Pasta Bake</p> <p>Both made using whole wheat pasta</p> <p>Sandwich Options</p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Homemade Fruit Salad - unsweetened cream optional</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>Mains</p> <p>Sweet and Sour Chicken</p> <p>Cheesy Bean Burrito</p> <p>Both served with brown rice</p> <p>Sandwich Option</p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p>Desserts</p> <p>Sugar Free Jelly</p>
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Wednesday

Mains

Pepperoni Topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub

Margherita Pizza Sub (V VE)

Both options served with herby diced potatoes and sweetcorn

Sandwich Option

Tuna or Cheese

Desserts

Chocolate sponge cake

Thursday

Mains

Roast Chicken
Served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding, broccoli and gravy

Vegetarian Sausage Roast Dinner

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Fruit Crumble

Friday

Mains

Cod Bites
Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas

Tomato Pasta Bake (V VE DF)

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Frozen yoghurt pot (Tofee or Strawberry flavour)

Daily Options

Jacket potatoes
Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)

Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily

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

This Weeks Attendance @ Mary Howard

Government guidelines on attendance

Full attendance (100%) should be the standard expected.

Attendance of 97% or above is very good,

97-95% is good,

95-90% is poor

Below 90% is a serious cause for concern.

Reception 96.4%

Year 1 95.3%

Year 3 98.4%

Year 4 100%

Year 5 100%

Year 6 100%

Well done to Year 4, 5 & 6 for 100% attendance this week 👍

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS APPROXIMATE DAYS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY WEEKS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11 ½ weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13 ½ weeks	270 lessons

GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL REALLY DOES MATTER

DID YOU KNOW...?

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...

In a school year, if your child is late every day by...	Your child would have lost approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3 days from school	12 lessons
10 minutes	6 days from school	24 lessons
15 minutes	9 days from school	36 lessons
20 minutes	12 days from school	48 lessons
30 minutes	18 days from school	72 lessons

PLEASE ENCOURAGE PUNCTUALITY TO MAINTAIN ATTENDANCE

Fabulous new playground markings - thank you FOMH!!



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FOMH Events

Mary Howard's got
TALENT

PLEASE JOIN THE STUDENTS OF MARY HOWARD SCHOOL AS
THEY TAKE TO THE STAGE FOR A FANTASTIC EVENING OF TALENT!

16TH JULY 4PM - 6PM
Edingale Village Hall

OUR SMALL SCHOOL IS MIGHTY TALENTED!

TICKETS £3- INCLUDES
DRINK ON ENTRY
TICKETS ON SALE SOON

FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE TO BUY ON
THE EVENING

Summer Savings

The Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, helping families feel a bit less squeezed this summer.

The new scheme includes reduced VAT on days out, including tickets at attractions like soft play, adventure centres and theme parks, children's tickets for theatres and cinemas, and children's meals in restaurants. Children aged 5 to 15 in England will also be able to travel free on local bus services throughout August.

For further information about the scheme visit [Summer Savings](#). If helpful, please share this with parents, carers and families through your usual channels.

This is in addition to further support available to families, with more information available at [Cost of Living Help](#).

Education Support Fund

Important Information – Education Support Fund

Please be aware that the Education Support Fund has now closed, and we are no longer able to accept or process any new applications.

All funding has been allocated. The last eVouchers to be issued through the scheme were for the Easter Holiday 2026.

If you are currently experiencing a financial crisis or are in urgent need of support, please contact Staffordshire Crisis & Resilience Team at staffordshirecrf@staffordshire.gov.uk

A member of the team will review your situation and provide guidance on the assistance that may be available to you.

Alternatively use the following link to our webpage [Crisis and Resilience Fund \(CRF\) | Staffordshire County Council](#)

Please find information, advice, and guidance that you may find beneficial for support at this time.

- [Staffordshire County Council Here to help](#) [Here to help - cost of living support - Staffordshire County Council](#)
- [Citizens Advice Search for your local Citizens Advice - Citizens Advice](#)
- [Gov.UK Private renting advice for rent arrears - Private renting: Rent arrears - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Cooking for a family on a budget - Family Hub Cooking | Staffordshire Connects](#)
- [Staffordshire Warmer Homes, a scheme run by Staffordshire County Council in partnership with district and borough councils to combat fuel poverty - Staffordshire Warmer Homes - Warm Homes Scheme](#)
- [Help for Households, this site shows the different support available for families to access. Help for Households - Get government cost of living support](#)
- [Staffordshire Connects – This website can help you find help and support locally. You may want to search for things to do with your children, help with budgeting and local food banks. There are also the Family Support providers who can help you 1:1 with support if you feel this is beneficial. Staffordshire Connects](#)
- [Below are links to our Family Hub social media pages, if you would like to like and follow your local Family Hub as we use this platform to advertise any funding that can be applied for direct by families as and when it comes available.](#)

[Cannock Chase Family Hub](#)

[East Staffordshire Family Hub](#)

[Lichfield Family Hub](#)

[Newcastle Family Hub](#)

[South Staffordshire Family Hub](#)

[Stafford Family Hub](#)

[Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub](#)

[Tamworth Family Hub](#)

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.

Thank you for your understanding.

Safeguarding



PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW

[SAFEGUARDING ALERT: Viral Trend Risks Causing Severe Burns to Children - Ineqe Safeguarding Group](#)

Term Dates 2026/2027

Summer Term 2026

Term Ends: Friday 17 July

Inset Day: Monday 20 July

Holiday : Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August

Autumn Term 2026

Inset Day: Tuesday 1 September

Inset Day: Wednesday 2 September

Term Starts: Thursday 3 September

Holiday: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October

Inset day: Monday 2 November

Term Ends: Friday 18 December

Holiday: Monday 21 December – Friday 1 January

Spring Term 2027

Inset day: Monday 4 January

Term starts: Tuesday 5th January

Holiday: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February

Term Ends: Thursday 25 March

Holiday: Monday 29 March – Friday 9 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 28 March

Summer Term 2027

Term Starts: Monday 12 April

May Day: Monday 3 May

Holiday: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June

Inset Day: Monday 7th June

Term Ends: Wednesday 21 July

Holiday: Thursday 22nd July – Friday 3 September