



*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,

We're now in the final two weeks before the half-term — this term has flown by. A big thank you to Mrs Aston-Wright and Mrs Keeley and the after-school club, for planting up our outdoor areas and making the growing beds look fabulous; the children have loved being outdoors this week.

On Wednesday, Willow and Oak enjoyed a wonderful trip to Walsall Art Gallery. The children embraced a range of art forms and took part in a Plaster-of-Paris workshop — a lovely treat for everyone and a welcome break for our Year 6s, who have been working incredibly hard preparing for their SATs next week. We wish them every success and will be supporting them all the way. We want them to feel confident, to arrive with a smile, and to do their best — SATs do not define them or reflect the wonderful individuals they are.

We also held a supportive parent forum this week. Parents gave the school valuable insight into what we do well and helped shape ideas for improving enrichment and communication. We pride ourselves on strong relationships and share the same aim: to make Mary Howard the very best place for our children to grow, flourish and thrive. Thank you, parents and staff, for your continued investment and support.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Rachel Mills*

*Executive Headteacher*

# Special message from Miss Mills to Year 6

Dear Year 6,

The week you've been preparing for is finally here. I know that for many of you, there is a mix of butterflies in your stomach and a desire to just "get it done."  
Before you pick up your pens, there are a few things I want you to remember.

## You Are More Than a Score

While these tests measure how you are doing with English and Maths, they only measure a tiny slice of who you are. **SATs do not define you.**

- They do not measure your **kindness** or how you help your friends.
- They do not see your **artistic flair**, your **musical talent**, or your **sporting skills**.
- They cannot track your **sense of humor** or the way you brighten up our classrooms every day.

## Our Only Expectations

We aren't looking for perfection; we are looking for **you**. My only requests for you this week are simple:

1. **Try Your Best:** If you give it your honest effort, you have already succeeded. That is all anyone can ask of you.
2. **Keep Your Head Up:** If a question feels tricky, take a deep breath and move on. Don't let one tough problem spoil your day.
3. **Remember to Smile:** This is just one week in a long and exciting journey. You have so much to look forward to this summer.

**A Final Thought:** The people who love you and the teachers who cheer for you will be just as proud of you on Friday as they are right now, regardless of what is on those test papers.

You've worked hard, you've grown so much, and you are ready. Eat a good breakfast, bring your water bottle, and most importantly, **believe in yourself** as much as we believe in you.

Good luck, Year 6!

**Warmly,**

Miss Mills x

## What's coming up this week...

### Monday 11th May

Year 6 SATS

- PE Kit for Oak

### Tuesday 12th May

Year 6 SATS

### Wednesday 13th May

Year 6 SATS

### Thursday 14th May

Year 6 SATS

- PE Kit for all
- FOMH Quiz Night @ 5.30pm

### Friday 15th May

- Ukulele lessons Willow - Please bring in your instrument
- Maple and Willow PE
- The Library Bus is here!
- Y6 Celebration afternoon

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

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

## Dates to note...

### May

- 18th - 22nd May - Walk to School Week
- 18th-20th May - Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bower
- 21st May School census day - please help us by ordering a school dinner if possible!
- 21st May Values Celebration worship @ 3pm in school
- **25th - 29th May - Half Term!**

### June

- 2nd June- Cross country at Richard Crosse 4-6pm - more details to follow
- 5th June - Rock up & Read @8.45-9.15am
- 8th June - new EYFS meeting @5pm
- 15th June - Fathers Day 'ASDAd' Shop - details to follow
- 16th June - Tamworth Primary Athletics KS2 - more details to follow
- 17th June - Greenpower Race Day - Curborough Oak class
- 19th June - FOMH Fathers Day Breakfast 09.00 - 9:30am at school (Details to follow) Thank you to FOMH for hosting this for us!
- 25th June - WCET Celebration Concert - Willow Class Ukulele concert at the Coton Centre, Tamworth - Link for Tickets <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GAZD>

**Mary Howard Sports Day will be held on Monday 6th July @9:15am**

**The Year 6 Leavers service will be on Wednesday 15th July in church @9.15am**

# Dinners for Week Commencing 11th May 2026 - Week 2



## WINTER MENU FROM NOVEMBER 2025



V Vegetarian  
VE Vegan  
GF Gluten Free  
DF Dairy Free

### Week 1

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Beef Bolognese 100% beef bolognese with sliced garlic bread</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Homemade Apple Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Tuna and Cheese Pasta Bake Served with diced herby potatoes</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Natural Yoghurt (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Cheese and Tomato Pizza Homemade Pizza Dough topped with Cheese and Tomato. Served with Potato Croquettes</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Freshly Baked Oat and Raisin Cookies (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Roast Chicken 100% Chicken breast, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Apple and Berry Crumble (v) Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Fish Fingers Breaded cod served with oven fried chips</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Ice Cream (v, ve, gf) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Daily Options</b></p> <p><b>Jacket Potatoes</b> Freshly baked jacket potatoes. 1 filling from a choice of Tuna, Cheese or Beans (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Tomato Pasta Bake</b> Wholemeal pasta in a tomato sauce (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Homemade Toasties</b> 50/50 bread, with filling options of Tuna, Cheese or Ham.</p> <p><b>Homemade Soup and Sandwich</b> 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.</p> <p>All options are served with seasonal vegetables, potato option of the day and fresh salad bar</p>
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### Week 2

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>BBQ Chicken 100% chicken breast, topped with BBQ sauce and sliced peppers</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Chocolate and Caramel Cake Cocoa chocolate and sugar free condensed milk, caramel cake (v) Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>All day breakfast 100% Pork sausage, beans, hash brown and an egg omelette</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Homemade Raisin Flapjack (v, ve) or Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Cottage Pie 100% beef. Topped with sliced potatoes and gravy.</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Apple Crumble (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Roast Ham 100% pork, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy or cheese sauce</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Homemade Chocolate Brownie (v) Cocoa chocolate brownie Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Fish Fingers Breaded cod served with oven fried chips</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Ice Cream (v, ve, gf) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Daily Options</b></p> <p><b>Jacket Potatoes</b> Freshly baked jacket potatoes. 1 filling from a choice of Tuna, Cheese or Beans (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Tomato Pasta Bake</b> Wholemeal pasta in a tomato sauce (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Homemade Toasties</b> 50/50 bread, with filling options of Tuna, Cheese or Ham.</p> <p><b>Homemade Soup and Sandwich</b> 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.</p> <p>All options are served with seasonal vegetables, potato option of the day and fresh salad bar</p>
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### Week 3

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Pork Meatballs Pork meatballs served in a tomato and basil sauce with wholemeal pasta and Garlic Bread</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Natural Yoghurt (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Sausage and Bean Casserole Pork sausage in a baked bean casserole sauce topped with sliced potatoes</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Lemon Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Cheese and Tomato Pizza Homemade Pizza Dough topped with Cheese and Tomato. Served with Potato Croquettes</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Pancakes and fresh fruit (v) or Natural Yoghurt</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Roast Chicken 100% Chicken breast, served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding and gravy</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Fresh Berry Sponge Cake (v) or Fresh Fruit</p>
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<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Fish Fingers Breaded cod served with oven fried chips</p> <p><b>Sides</b></p> <p>Seasonal Vegetables of the day and Homemade fresh salad bar</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Ice Cream (v, ve, gf) or Fresh Fruit</p>	<p><b>Daily Options</b></p> <p><b>Jacket Potatoes</b> Freshly baked jacket potatoes. 1 filling from a choice of Tuna, Cheese or Beans (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Tomato Pasta Bake</b> Wholemeal pasta in a tomato sauce (v, ve, gf)</p> <p><b>Homemade Toasties</b> 50/50 bread, with filling options of Tuna, Cheese or Ham.</p> <p><b>Homemade Soup and Sandwich</b> 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.</p> <p>All options are served with seasonal vegetables, potato option of the day and fresh salad bar</p>
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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

# 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 100%

Year 1 100%

Year 3 100%

Year 4 100%

Year 5 100%

Year 6 100%

## 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

Well done to the **WHOLE SCHOOL FOR 100% ATTENDANCE** this week

**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**

# FOMH Events



**Family Quiz Night**

*for all the family!*

**MAY | 14**  
**5:30PM**  
Mary Howard School

£5 a ticket. Ticket includes a jacket potato or pizza!  
Please see the letter coming home from school with how to purchase tickets.



FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME BACK...

# ASDAD

FATHER'S DAY PRESENT SHOP

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June  
£5 per gift

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN FORM AND PRE-PAYMENT TO SCHOOL BY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE



# Out of School Activities



**JUNIOR  
PARKRUN**

**EVERY SUNDAY  
9AM**

Fun, free running events  
for 4-14 year olds!

**JOIN US AT TAMWORTH CASTLE GROUNDS**

Register at: [juniorparkrun.com](http://juniorparkrun.com)

# ADVENTURE DAYS

May Half Term



- THRILLING ACTIVITIES
- FAMILIAR GROUNDS
- CONVENIENT SCHEDULE

- AFFORDABLE FUN
- LUNCH INCLUDED

**SEN**  
INCLUSIVE

Capita

entrust  
Inspiring Futures

Ideal for children aged 5–16, taking place at the Standon Bowers Outdoor Education Centre, Weston Lane, Stafford, ST21 6RD & Laches Wood Outdoor Education Centre, Laches Lane, Slade Heath, Wolverhampton, WV10 7PA.

**20% off all May Half Term Adventure Days bookings**

**Use Code - ADSCHOOL20**

# School Day Changes

## Thank You for Your Consultation Feedback

Following the consultation period and review by the Local Governing Committee, the proposed changes to our school day have been approved for September 2026.



*This reduces our school day by 15 minutes from the start of the 2026 academic year, bringing us in line with other schools in the TSSMAT and meeting the expected 32.5 hour school week by the Department of Education*

## Adapted Wraparound Care for Working Families

We understand that an earlier finish affects family routines. Our wraparound care sessions have been adjusted to seamlessly cover the earlier finish at **no extra core cost**.



After-School Club ⌚ 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm £5.20\*

Extended Care ⌚ 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm £9.05\*

Thank you for your continued support as we implement this change to benefit our entire school community. We are providing this notice well in advance to ensure families have ample time to prepare. Should you have any questions regarding your specific childcare needs, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Miss R. Mills  
Executive Headteacher, St Andrew's Primary School

Mrs Anna Spencer-Gray  
Chair of the LGC

\*Prices remain consistent with previous rates, with only slight adjustments to session times to accommodate the earlier finish. Please note these prices are subject to standard annual review.

# Census Day Menu



## Special Census day Menu

Thursday 21st may

### SUBS AND SIDES

Meatball sub

cheesy beans sub

Hash brown

Sweetcorn

Homemade coleslaw

### JACKET POTATO

Choose topping

Cheese

Baked beans

Homemade coleslaw

### DESSERT

Frozen natural yogurt

tub-

Toffee or strawberry

A selection of fresh fruit

# *Tax-free Childcare*

**Tax-Free Childcare can help with the cost of paying for childcare.**

**You'll need to set up a childcare account, which both you and the government will pay into. You can then use this money to pay your childcare provider.**

**For every £8 you pay into the account, the government will top it up by £2.**

**The total top up you can get for each child is £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year). This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if your child is disabled (up to £4,000 a year).**

**You'll usually need to be working (or returning to work) and your child must be 11 or younger (16 or younger if they're disabled).**

## **How it works**

**Once you have a childcare account, you can pay money into your account by Direct Debit, standing order or bank transfer.**

**Your payment will usually appear in your childcare account within one working day. The government's payment is added at the same time.**

**You can then pay your childcare provider.**

**You must sign in to your childcare account every 3 months to confirm you're still eligible. If you do not, your Tax-Free Childcare will stop.**

**For more information go to <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>.**

## Safeguarding



### **Summer Term 2026**

**Holiday:** Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

**Term Ends:** Friday 17 July

**Inset:** Monday 20 July

**Holiday:** Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August

**PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW**

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

## Term Dates 2026

### **Autumn Term 2026**

Please note there has been a change of inset days to include the 2nd of September instead of the 21st of July 2027 due to staff training.

**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:** Wednesday 21st July – Friday 3 September