



*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 lovely week of growing and flourishing we have had at Mary Howard. Children have been busy planting and caring for our outdoor areas, learning responsibility and enjoying time outside — it's wonderful to see our school grounds come to life.

I want to say a special well done to our Year 6 children. They have shown real growth and determination this week as they approached their SATs with calmness and confidence. Their resilience is a credit to themselves and to Miss Warner for her thoughtful preparation and support. We are very proud of every one of them.

Next week Oak class is off to Standon Bowers for their residential. This is a brilliant opportunity for them to develop independence, teamwork and confidence — I know they will have an amazing time.

I will also be attending the Tamworth Arts meeting next week. We are excited to be performing in the castle grounds on Saturday 4th July (save the date!) Our children will join others from across Tamworth to sing a variety of songs and we will be performing our Mease dance to "Reach for the Stars" by S Club 7. It promises to be a joyful celebration of our pupils' creativity and community spirit.

Wishing you all a restful weekend and a great penultimate week of the half term.

Have a lovely weekend.

*Rachel Mills*

*Executive Headteacher*

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

### Monday 18th May

- Walk to School Week
- Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bower
- PE Kit for Oak

### Tuesday 19th May

- Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bower

### Wednesday 20th May

- Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bower

### Thursday 21st May

- PE Kit for all
- School census day - please help us by ordering a school dinner if possible
- Let your Light Shine Values Celebration worship @ 3pm in school

### Friday 22nd May

- Ukulele lessons Willow - Please bring in your instrument
- Maple and Willow PE

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

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

## Dates to note...

### May

- **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>
- 26th June - Non uniform day for Colour run raffle donations

**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**

**Save the date: Saturday 4th July- Tamworth Castle grounds performance (11-3) our time on stage tbc but there will be all the children singing at the end.**

[Click here for Current Vacancies](#)

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

# Dinners for Week Commencing 18th May 2026 - Week 3



## 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

#### 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

#### 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

### Week 2

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

### Week 3

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

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

## *Let your Light Shine Celebration*

*The following Children will be receiving an award at our Let your Light Shine assembly at School on Thurs at 3pm*

### *Maple Class*

*Jessica Hancock*

*Oliver Fellows*

### *Willow Class*

*Jude Ryan*

*Olivia Glover*

### *Oak Class*

*Henry Mahadeo*

*Luke Raybould*



*Parents @ Carers of the above children only are all welcome to attend*

# 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 93.7%

Year 5 96.7%

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 Reception, Year 1, 3 & 6 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**

# 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).

# FOMH Events



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

# ASDAQ

## 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



# FATHER'S Day Breakfast

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June

Mary Howard School

9am

*Please make your food choice and return to school with correct cash by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June*





FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO  
OUR ANNUAL



# COLOUR RUN

**FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY**  
**3PM-5PM EDINGALE VILLAGE HALL**

Save the date!

Lots more details to follow...



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**

# *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**



A fun-filled cricket camp where children learn new skills, play exciting games, and grow their confidence on the field. All abilities welcome!

**WHITSUN**

**WEDNESDAY 27TH-THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**SUMMMER HOLIDAY'S**

**WEDNESDAY 29TH- THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**WEDNESDAY 5TH - THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

**PROGRAMME -BATTING, BOWLING, FIELDING ACTIVITIES & GAMES**

**SUITABLE FOR AGES 5-13 (OTHER AGES ON REQUEST)**

**9am-3:30pm/ 8am-5pm/ half days**

**TROPHIES FOR 2 DAY ATTENDANCE/ MEDAL FOR 1 DAY ATTENDANCE**

Qualified Coaches, DBS & First Aid Certified

**ALREWAS CRICKET CLUB, DE13 7EW**

**PRICES FROM £29 PER DAY**

Early Bird & Sibling discounts

Wet Weather Programme

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# 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

*Walk to School week!*

 Staffordshire  
County Council

# Walking Warriors



Are you ready to join  
the Walking Warriors?

# *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>.**

## *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



### 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

