



*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 race through our first half-term, it's hard to believe that next week is our last before the half term break.

We have enjoyed successful parents' evenings this week. Thank you for your support, and I hope you found your meeting useful. We are proud of the progress our wonderful children have already made. A heartfelt thank you to our staff for their hard work and commitment to helping every child grow and flourish.

This week, Oak class also visited Tamworth Foodbank to deliver the donations collected by our school community. The children were shown around the community room and learned about the food and other resources available to support local people. It was a fantastic opportunity to see how our actions can make a difference and to live out our school vision as thoughtful, caring members of our community and advocates for change. Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously.

Next week promises to be a busy and exciting one, with our final swimming lessons, the Mary Howard Bake Off and our Wear Pink day in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. Thank you in advance for supporting these activities and for being such an important part of our school community.

**Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." — Galatians 6:9*

With warm wishes,

With my thanks and best wishes,

Rachel Mills

Executive Head, The Mease (St Andrew's & Mary Howard)

What's coming up this week...

Monday 19th October

Tuesday 20th October

- PE Kits - all classes
- Guitar lessons with Entrust - please bring in guitars

Wednesday 21st October

- Last Swimming lesson for Year 4, 5 & 6 at Belgrave
- Oak class and Year 4 - PE Kits

Thursday 22nd October

- Music with Ed - bring in instruments
- Piano lessons with Entrust - please bring in books
- FOMH The Great British Bake Off, all welcome. Cafe 3.15-4pm

Friday 23rd October

- Maple and Year 2 - PE Kits
- Ukulele Y4, 5 & 6
- Let Your Shine Celebration @9am
- Wear pink for breast cancer -

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mease-wear-it-pink-for-breast-cancer

Dates to note...

Half Term - 26th-30th October

November

Mon 2nd November - Inset Day

- Thu 5th Nov - Parents Forum - 2.45pm.
- Fri 6th Nov - Academy Photography. There will be no Rock up & Read on this date. All children must wear full uniform - no PE kit.
- Wed 11th Nov - Pre-school stay & play session 9.30-10.30 am please get the word out to anyone you know who may like to join us!
- Wed 11th Nov - Netball Tournament @ RC - info to follow.
- Wed 11th Nov - Oak class joining Remembrance service @ church.
- Fri 13th Nov - The Library bus is here!
- Mon 16th Nov - Odd Socks Day.
- 16th-20th Nov - Anti-bullying week - "Break the silence".
- Wed 18th Nov - Pre-school stay & play session 9.30-10.30 am please get the word out to anyone you know who may like to join us!
- Thurs 19th Nov - Flu Vaccinations all years.
- Fri 20th Nov - Children in need - non uniform spotty clothes.
- Wed 25th Nov - Pre-school stay & play session 9.30-10.30 am please get the word out to anyone you know who may like to join us!
- Fri 27th Nov - Non-uniform day for raffle prizes.
- Fri 27th Nov - The Library bus is here!

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 19th October 2026 - Week 2

Meal prices will increase to £3.05 in the new academic year



SUMMER MENU FROM JUNE 2026



V Vegetarian
VE Vegan
GF Gluten Free
DF Dairy Free

Week 1

Monday

Mains

Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce (DF)
Tomato and Herb Pasta Bake (V VE DF)

Both options made with whole wheat pasta

Sandwich option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Fresh Fruit Salad with Unsweetened Cream Swirl

Tuesday

Mains

All Day Breakfast
Sausage, hashbrown, egg and beans
Vegan Sausage All Day Breakfast (V VE)

Sandwich option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Sugar Free Jelly

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 Spongo Cake (V)

Thursday

Mains

BBO 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 (Toffee 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

Monday

Mains

Macaroni Cheese Bake
Tomato Pasta Bake

Both options made with whole wheat pasta, served with carrots

Sandwich Option

Tuna or Cheese

Desserts

Fruit Slices with Unsweetened Cream Swirl

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)

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 (Toffee or Strawberry flavour)

Tuesday

Mains

Chicken Korma
Served with Brown Rice and Broccoli
Cauliflower and Sweet Potato Korma (V VE DF)

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Sugar Free Jelly

Thursday

Mains

Chicken Fajitas
Vegetable Fajitas

Both options served with brown rice and carrots

Sandwich options

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Baked Fruit Crumble

Monday

Mains

Pepperoni and Tomato Pasta Bake
Served with carrots
Tomato Pasta Bake

Both made using whole wheat pasta

Sandwich Options

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Homemade Fruit Salad - unsweetened cream optional

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

Week 3

Tuesday

Mains

Sweet and Sour Chicken
Cheesy Bean Burrito

Both served with brown rice

Sandwich Option

Ham or Cheese

Desserts

Sugar Free Jelly

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 (Toffee 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 96.6%

Year 1 100%

Year 2 88.9%

Year 4 100%

Year 5 100%

Year 6 96.6%

Well done to Year 1, 4 & 5 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

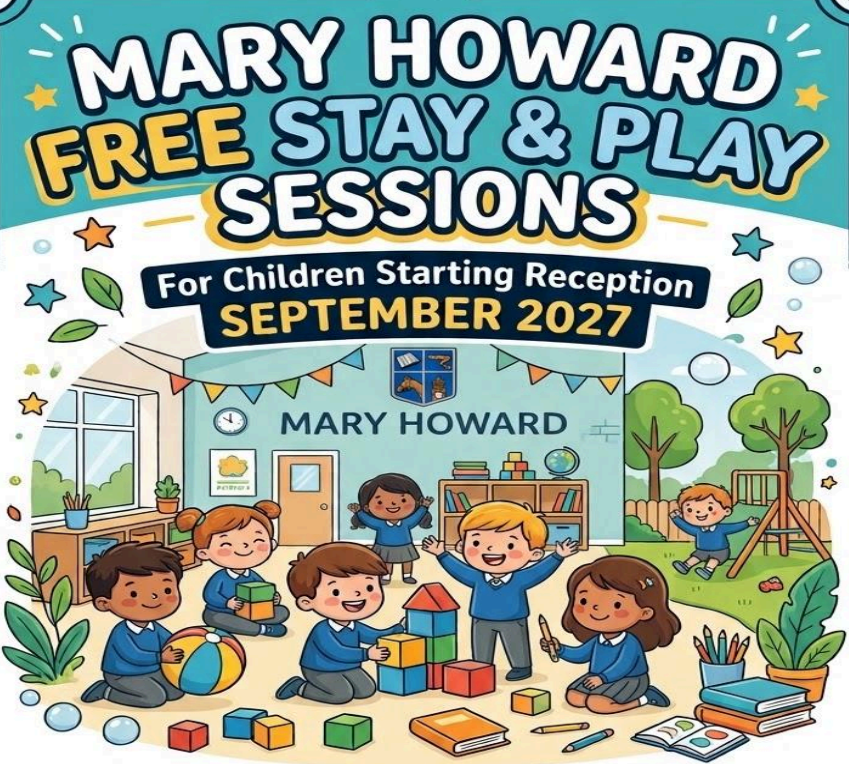
DID YOU KNOW...?

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

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

Mary Howard Events



MARY HOWARD FREE STAY & PLAY SESSIONS

For Children Starting Reception
SEPTEMBER 2027

**COME JOIN OUR WONDERFUL
NURTURING & HAPPY SCHOOL!**

For a weekly session where you can get to know
and become part of the Mary Howard family.

 **DATES & TIMES (all 9:30-10:30am)**
Wed 11th Nov | Wed 18th Nov | Wed 25th Nov | Wed 2nd Dec

 Please contact the school office to reserve your place! 

Tel: 01827 383245 | Email: office-maryhoward@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

 **MARY HOWARD
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We look forward to welcoming you!



JOIN US FOR MARY HOWARD'S VERY FIRST



AUTUMN BAKE OFF



THURSDAY OCTOBER 22ND

3.15PM-4PM

£1 TO ENTER

PLEASE SEE LETTER SENT HOME
FOR MORE DETAILS!



**Odd
Socks
Day** 

**We will be wearing our odd socks
this Odd Socks Day, will you?**

Monday 16 November



Food Bank visit - thank you for your donations



Let Your Light Shine Celebration

*Parents of the following pupils are more than welcome to attend school on
Friday 23rd October at 9am.*

Maple

Poppy - Love

Benjamin - Wisdom

Willow

Olivia - Love

Eli - Perseverance

Oak

David - Perseverance

Theo - Love

Job Vacancies

Teaching Assistant at Mary Howard Church of England Primary School

About this Role

Are you a nurturing, enthusiastic educator looking for a rewarding part-time role?

Mary Howard CE Primary School is seeking a dedicated Grade 3 Teaching Assistant to join the team in our Oak Class, working 1-1 with a child. This is a wonderfully unique opportunity to support our mixed-age class of Year 5 and Year 6 children within a fun, busy, and happy learning environment.

You will play an integral role in supporting a child with social, emotional and mental health needs within the class. If you are passionate about child development, enjoy variety, and want to make a meaningful impact in a supportive village school community, we want to hear from you!

The role is 8.45am - 1.15pm with an unpaid 30m break, M-F, term time only. The role is linked to an EHCP, currently due to end in July 28.

What we are looking for:

- A positive, creative approach to supporting children 1:1 and in small groups, and across continuous provision.
 - Knowledge of ELSA, emotion coaching or therapeutic intervention of social problem solving would be useful
 - Excellent communication skills and a team-player attitude.

After school Care Club Assistant at Mary Howard Church of England Primary School

Role Overview:

As a Care Club assistant, you will play a vital role in providing a safe and engaging environment for our children during the morning and after-school care sessions. You will support children in their activities, ensuring they feel valued and included.

Key Responsibilities:

- Supervise children in the care club, ensuring their safety and well-being.
- Plan and lead engaging activities that promote learning and social interaction.
 - Foster positive relationships with children, staff, and parents.
 - Maintain a clean and organised environment.
- Collaborate with other staff members to ensure the smooth running of the care club.

Qualifications and Skills:

- Experience working with children in a school or care setting is desirable.
 - A passion for supporting children's development and well-being.
 - Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
 - Ability to work as part of a team and independently.

Why Join Us?

- Be part of a caring and supportive team.
- Contribute to the growth and development of our children.
- Enjoy a rewarding role in a positive school environment.

Reminders & Notices

For Remembrance Day we are going to create an outdoor poppy display.
Please can you collect 2 litre plastic drink bottles and send them into school?
We are starting to make them next week.
Thank you.





School photos will be conducted on
Friday 6th of November - 2026

At this session we will be photographing:
Everyone

Families : 8:15am to 8:45am, classroom 2
Siblings
Individuals

Please ensure full uniform is worn and children are neat and tidy.
Parents will receive free proofs of every image and
the option to make a purchase.

Reminders & Notices

At our school, we are always looking for ways to keep our festive celebrations fresh, exciting, and memorable for the children.

Starting this academic year, we will be alternating our major Christmas celebrations on a two-year cycle with this year a festive in school pantomime and next year a whole school Christmas trip.

We know our Christmas trip to Statfold has become a much-loved tradition, so we hope the children won't be too disappointed that there won't be a trip this year.

By switching between a special trip one year and a brilliant live pantomime experience in school the next, we can keep the magic alive with something different to look forward to each December.

This updated schedule also allows our wonderful PTA to spread their support across a wider variety of fantastic new projects and resources for the children throughout the whole school year, while helping us keep overall festive costs manageable for all our school families.

Thank you for your understanding, and we're looking forward to a lovely Christmas season together!

Arbor payments

Would you please check your Arbor Parental Portal for any **outstanding payments**.

Please can ALL payments be cleared.

We would like to keep all accounts in credit or cleared of any debt.

Thank you for your understanding.

To help our team maintain a good work-life balance, please send dojo messages during our regular working hours. Thank you so much.

Sue Keeley and some other members of our local community are working together to create a village display for Remembrance Day. They need helpers to knit or crochet poppies for the display! If you can help in any way please see Sue or drop your completed items into the school office. Thank you!

Safeguarding



PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW

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

Term Dates 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

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