



*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 Mease families,

It is such a joy to be back with you all on my first day back. Thank you to Mrs Orgill, Mrs Porter and the rest of my amazing team for ensuring it was 'business as usual' during my absence. The staffs' calm, care and professionalism meant our children returned to a settled, happy start which is obvious to see.

I am incredibly proud of both St Andrew's and Mary Howard. This week we welcomed TSSMAT reviewers who saw, first hand, how our teaching, learning and school environment reflect the love and expertise adults show our children. It was wonderful to hear praise for the way our pupils learn and grow in a place where they truly flourish.

Sporting life is already in full swing too-we had a strong turn-out at the MAT cross-country and it's brilliant to see children taking part with such enthusiasm and resilience.

Let us embrace being back together as one school family. I am excited to see what we will achieve this year as we live out our values of koinonia, wisdom, love and perseverance.

"With faith as small as a mustard seed... nothing will be impossible for you." — Matthew 17:20 (NIV)

With thanks and best wishes,

*Rachel Mills*

*Executive Headteacher*

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

### Monday 21st September

Please note sandwiches available only for this day to order due to repairs taking place in the kitchen.

### Tuesday 22nd September

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

### Wednesday 23rd September

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

### Thursday 24th September

- Music with Ed
- Piano lessons with Entrust - please bring in books

### Friday 25th September

- Maple and Year 2 - PE Kits
- MacMillan Coffee Morning @8.45-9.30 with a french twist. All Welcome! Cake donations night before/or the morning
- Ukulele Y4, 5 & 6

## Dates to note...

### October

- Thurs 1st Oct - Census Day - please order a meal if you can
- Fri 2nd Oct - Rock up & Read 8:45am-9:15am
- Fri 2nd Oct - The library bus is here!
- Thurs 8th Oct - Harvest Worship in church @9.15am. Parents welcome to attend
- 5th-9th Oct - NSPCC kindness challenge week
- Fri 9th Oct - World Mental Health Day
- Wed 14th Oct - Parents Evening from 3pm
- Thurs 15th Oct - Parent forum meeting @2.45pm
- Fri 16th Oct - The library bus is here!
- Fri 23rd Oct - Let Your Shine Celebration @9am
- Fri 23rd Oct - Wear pink for breast cancer

### Half Term - 26th-30th October

### November

- Fri 6th November - Academy Photography this date has changed from September due to swimming. There will be no Rock up & Read on this date. All children must wear full uniform - no PE kit.

*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!*

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 14th September 2026 - Week 1

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

| Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Thursday                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Pepperoni topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub<br>Margherita Pizza Sub<br>Both options served with Herby Diced Potatoes and Sweetcorn<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Summer Fruit Baked Sponge Cake (V) | <b>Mains</b><br>BBQ Chicken Served with brown rice and broccoli<br>Tomato Pasta Bake<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Tuna or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Apple Crumble |

| Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Daily Options                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Cod Bites Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas<br>Sweet Potato and Cauliflower Curry<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Frozen yoghurt pot (Toffee or Strawberry flavour) | <b>Jacket potatoes</b><br>Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)<br><b>Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily</b> |

### Week 2

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

| Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Pepperoni Topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub<br>Margherita Pizza Sub (V VE)<br>Both options served with herby diced potatoes and sweetcorn<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Apple baked sponge cake (V) | <b>Mains</b><br>Chicken Fajitas<br>Vegetable Fajitas<br>Both options served with brown rice and carrots<br><b>Sandwich options</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Baked Fruit Crumble |

| Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Daily Options                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Cod Bites Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas<br>Tomato Pasta Bake (V VE DF)<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Frozen yoghurt pot (Toffee or Strawberry flavour) | <b>Jacket potatoes</b><br>Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)<br><b>Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily</b> |

### Week 3

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

| Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Pepperoni Topped Cheese and Tomato Pizza Sub<br>Margherita Pizza Sub (V VE)<br>Both options served with herby diced potatoes and sweetcorn<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Tuna or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Chocolate sponge cake | <b>Mains</b><br>Roast Chicken Served with roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding, broccoli and gravy<br>Vegetarian Sausage Roast Dinner<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Fruit Crumble |

| Friday                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Daily Options                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mains</b><br>Cod Bites Breaded cod served with oven fried chips and peas<br>Tomato Pasta Bake (V VE DF)<br><b>Sandwich Option</b><br>Ham or Cheese<br><b>Desserts</b><br>Frozen yoghurt pot (Toffee or Strawberry flavour) | <b>Jacket potatoes</b><br>Freshly baked jacket potatoes, 1 filling from a choice of cheese or beans (V, VE, GF)<br><b>Fresh fruit and salad bar available daily</b> |

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 2 98.4%

Year 4 100%

Year 5 92.1%

Year 6 100%

*Well done to Reception, Year 1, 4 & 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**

# Census

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday, 1st October, our school will participate in the national School Census.

This day is critical for our school budget. Government funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals (Reception, Year 1, and Year 2) is calculated directly from the number of children who eat a school lunch on Census Day.

## How this impacts our school:

- Every infant pupil who eats a school meal on 1st October secures approximately **£500 per year** in government funding for our school.
- 
- If your child normally brings a packed lunch, choosing a school dinner on this single day makes a substantial financial difference to our budget.
- 
- All funds received go directly back into learning resources, classroom materials, and support staff for the children.

All pupils in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch every day. We strongly encourage all families to have their children enjoy a school meal on **Thursday, 1st October** to help us secure our full funding allocation.

To make the day extra special, our kitchen team will be serving a favourite menu on 1st October, we'll send more details out shortly.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us maximise funding for our school at a time when our budgets are exceptionally tight.

# CENSUS DAY MENU

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October



Pepperoni pizza sub  
with vegetables and  
herby diced potatoes

Margarita pizza sub  
with vegetables and  
herby diced potatoes



Jacket potatoes  
with cheese or beans

Ham or cheese  
sandwiches



Fresh fruit platter

Chocolate cake



Good  
Food  
Happy  
Learners  
😊

# Macmillan Coffee Morning - ALL WELCOME



## *Cross Country*

Well done to The Mease for participating in this year's cross country event. You all showed great perseverance when the distance became challenging along with a love for representing our schools.



## *Free School Meals*

Dear all

If you think you may be eligible for Free school meals or would like to check please complete the form below:

<https://fsm.app.staffordshire.gov.uk/>

If it comes up with a green tick and tells you that you are entitled it will tell you if you are entitled to expanded or targeted FSM.  
Please then tell us in the office the result so we can put this on to Arbor for you.

Thank you

## *Reminders*

A polite reminder: Breakfast club starts at 7:45am.

### Injury on arrival forms

If your child comes to school with an injury please can you inform the member of staff on the door who will get you to complete an injury on arrival form. Thank you

### 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.

## 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