



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 busy week at Mary Howard-full of muddy trainers, squeaky helmets and an astonishing amount of community spirit. Here are the highlights;

Sporting stars: KS2 Athletics — Tamworth Athletics Club

Our KS2 children were absolute troopers at Tamworth Athletics Club this week. They raced, jumped and threw with determination — and came away with a fantastic 3rd place overall. Huge well done to every child who took part: you showed perseverance, teamwork and some rather dramatic finishing poses.

Greenpower Race Day — Curborough

Rainforest-themed go-karts, cheering spectators and a whole lot of ingenuity — our Greenpower teams had a sensational day at Curborough. **Mary Howard picked up Best Portfolio — a real testament to the children's research, presentation and teamwork.** We had a fabulous day at the track — sun, speed and smiles. Thank you to everyone involved for making it so special.

Father's Day Breakfast — thank you FOMH

A heartfelt thank you to FOMH for organising the Father's Day breakfast. This event could not have happened without your time, cooking skills and early-morning energy. The children loved it and we are very blessed by the strength of our school community. We are so grateful for the generosity, time and support shown by parents, staff and volunteers this week. Events like these make our vision — that every child should "grow and flourish" — come to life.

Enjoy a restful weekend with your families.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... it grows into a large tree, and the birds come and perch in its branches." — Matthew 13:31–32

Rachel Mills - Executive Headteacher

What's coming up this week...

Monday 22nd June

- PE Kit for Oak

Tuesday 23rd June

- Music lessons - remember to bring Violin & Guitars

Wednesday 24th June

Thursday 25th June

- PE Kit for all
- WCET Celebration Concert - Willow Class Ukulele concert at the Coton Centre, Tamworth - bring own packed lunch. Concert starts @2.15pm

Friday 26th June

- Ukulele lessons Willow - Please bring in your instrument
- Maple and Willow PE
- Library Bus is here!
- Non uniform day for Colour run raffle donations.

Dates to note...

July

- 2nd July - Willow Trip to Conkers - Details to follow.
- 3rd July - Rock up & Read - 8:45-9:15am.
- 3rd July - Colour Run 3-5pm @ the Village Hall.
- 4th July - Tamworth Arts Festival "Better Together" 11am - 3pm performance time TBC Tamworth Castle Grounds.
- 6th July - Sports Day 9:15am, refreshments available from FOMH from 8:45am.
- 10th July - Library Bus is here!
- 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 22nd June 2026 - Week 1

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

Monday	Tuesday
<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>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>

Week 2

Monday	Tuesday
<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>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>

Week 3

Monday	Tuesday
<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>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>

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

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

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 Breadcr 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

Friday

Mains

Cod Bites Breadcr 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

Friday

Mains

Cod Bites Breadcr 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 100%

Year 1 100%

Year 3 98.8%

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 Reception, Year 1, 4, 5 & 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).

Tamworth Festival



Tamworth Festival 2026

Dear families,

We are delighted to share some very exciting news with you about the Tamworth – Better Together Festival, which will be returning in 2026 following the huge success of last year's event.

This year's Festival will follow a similar, much-loved format and will bring together 20 primary schools and two high schools from across Tamworth. Leaders and teachers from all participating schools have worked collaboratively to plan a rich and inspiring Creative Week, celebrating the power of belonging and the belief that we really are *better together*.

Save the Date: Festival Celebration Event

We would also love to invite families and the wider community to celebrate with us at the main Festival event:

Saturday 4th July 2026

11:00am – 3:00pm

Many families brought picnics last year, and we are pleased to share that even more attractions, performances, and community groups will be joining us this year, making it a wonderful day for all ages. Further details will be shared closer to the time.

Thank you for your continued support. We are incredibly excited about the creativity, joy and togetherness this Festival brings, and we look forward to celebrating with you and your children.

Yours sincerely,

Tamworth – Better Together Festival Planning Team

FOMH Events



FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO
OUR ANNUAL



COLOUR RUN

FRIDAY 3RD JULY
3PM-5PM EDINGALE VILLAGE HALL

Save the date!

Lots more details to follow...



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](#).

Social Media

Social media ban for under-16s

On Monday, the Prime Minister announced the introduction of a social media ban for under-16s.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Liz Kendall MP (Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology) set out the ban would come into force from spring 2027, covering “user-to-user platforms that allow users to post material alongside algorithms” such as Snapchat, TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and X.

Restrictions on “high-risk features” will also be introduced, including banning livestreaming for under-16s; “stranger communication” on gaming platforms; and AI chatbots that offer sexualised content for under-18s. The Government is also “strongly minded to bring in default overnight curfews and breaks in infinite scrolling”, with an additional statement due in July following pilot schemes.

Ofqual is expected to set out age-assurance and compliance proposals, undertake a review into the Online Safety Act 2023 to ensure children cannot access “riskier, less regulated sites”, and publish an enforcement strategy.

A summary fact sheet (*new rules to protect children online*) has been published, and further details and the government’s full response to the consultation are expected in the coming months.

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



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: Wednesday 21st July – Friday 3 September

