



*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 week — despite the mixed weather, it has been a brilliant end to the first half of the summer term.

Oak class had a fantastic time at Standon Bowers, taking part in a wide range of adventures and challenges. Watching the children tackle new activities, support one another and return with big smiles was a joy — these trips are such a powerful way for children to build resilience, overcome fears and grow a determined ‘can-do’ attitude. A huge thank you to Miss Arrowsmith and Mrs Porter for giving up their time to lead and support the trip; your commitment made the experience possible and memorable for everyone.

As we break up for Whitsun, we’re already looking ahead to a fun-packed final summer term. There are so many highlights to look forward to: our summer sporting evenings, the Spelling Bee, our contribution to Tamworth Arts, the arrival of end-of-year reports, and — of course — our final farewells to Year 6. Let’s make the most of this last term together, celebrating learning, friendships and the many ways our children continue to grow and flourish.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the promise of some glorious weather.

We welcome you back on Monday 1st June.

*Rachel Mills*

*Executive Headteacher*

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

### Monday 1st June

- PE Kit for Oak

### Tuesday 2nd June

- Cross country at Richard Crosse 4-6pm - google forms have been sent
- Music lessons - remember to bring Violin & Guitars

### Wednesday 3rd June

### Thursday 4th June

- PE Kit for all

### Friday 5th June

- Rock up & Read @8.45-9.15am
- 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](#)

[Click here for Current Vacancies](#)

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

## Dates to note...

### June

- 8th June - new EYFS meeting @5pm
- 12th June - Library Bus is here!
- 15th June - Fathers Day 'ASDA' 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. Please complete the consent form below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdh3ggLnpFdy8LfN7-PtSTCg7YX-D7aEqplgXcdZQDlaQPw7Q/viewform?usp=header>

Link for Tickets

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GAZD>

- 26th June - Library Bus is here!
- 26th June - Non uniform day for Colour run raffle donations

### July

- 2nd July - Willow Trip to Conkers - Details to follow
- 3rd July - Rock up & Read - 8:45-9:15am
- 3rd July - Colour Run 3.30-6pm
- 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!
- 15th July Year 6 Leavers service will be on Wednesday 15th July in church @9.15am
- 16th July - MH Got Talent in the village hall @4-6pm
- 17th July - Break up for Summer Holidays!

# Dinners for Week Commencing 1st 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><b>Mains</b></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><b>Sandwich option</b></p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Fresh Fruit Salad with Unsweetened Cream Swirl</p>	<p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>All Day Breakfast Sausage, hashbrown, egg and beans</p> <p>Vegan Sausage All Day Breakfast (v VE)</p> <p><b>Sandwich option</b></p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Sugar Free Jelly</p>

### Week 2

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

### Week 3

Monday	Tuesday
<p><b>Mains</b></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><b>Sandwich Options</b></p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></p> <p>Homemade Fruit Salad - unsweetened cream optional</p>	<p><b>Mains</b></p> <p>Sweet and Sour Chicken</p> <p>Cheesy Bean Burrito</p> <p>Both served with brown rice</p> <p><b>Sandwich Option</b></p> <p>Ham or Cheese</p> <p><b>Desserts</b></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  
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

**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

**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 96.8%

Year 1 93.1%

Year 3 97.5%

Year 4 79.4%

Year 5 73.3%

Year 6 92.5%

## 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

# 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 WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME BACK...

# ASDA

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**

# Active CREW

## CRICKET CAMP

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**  
**SUMMER HOLIDAY'S**  
**WEDNESDAY 29TH- THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**WEDNESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> - 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  
 email [activecrewstaffs@gmail.com](mailto:activecrewstaffs@gmail.com)

Active Crew Limited    active\_crew\_staffs  
 Active Crew Limited is a Registered Company : 097-074633

# MAY HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CAMP!

Come and visit us at Tamworth Athletics track!

## TRACK STARS HOLIDAY CAMP

**BOOK HERE!**  
 Scan the QR code

Sprints Throws Jumps Games  
 Indoor activities Crafts

*No experience needed!*

- ★ 26<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May      CLOSED BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
- ★ 9.00am until 3.00pm
- ★ TAMWORTH ATHLETIC CLUB, B77 2HF

**LIMITED PLACES BOOK NOW!**

Want to see more information?  
[Check out our website here](#)

★ FUTURE STARS  
 ★ COACHING

## *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