



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 delight it has been to see the daffodils blooming—spring has finally sprung! The vibrant yellow flowers bring a fresh sense of hope and renewal to our school grounds, reminding us of the beauty in new beginnings.

This week, the Maple Class teachers have been busy sprucing up the outdoor areas outside their classroom, creating even more inviting spaces for our children to explore and enjoy. Thank you Miss Delderfield for taking a lead on this.

Today, we celebrated our very own World Book Day. It was wonderful to share a love of reading together as a community. Thank you to all the families for supporting the children with dressing up and for joining us during Rock Up and Read to share a book. These moments truly nurture a lifelong passion for stories and learning.

Looking ahead to next week, we are excited to celebrate the special women in our lives, honouring their love, strength, and guidance.

As Proverbs 31:25 reminds us, “She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.” May this inspire us all as we reflect on the remarkable women who shape our lives.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend and a joyful start to next week.

With warmest wishes,

Rachel Mills

Executive Headteacher

What's coming up this week...

Monday 9th March

- PE Kit for Oak
- Mommissons Mother's Day shop during school time

Tuesday 10th March

Wednesday 11th March

- Chaplaincy Service sessions 10.30 - 12.30pm

Thursday 12th March

- PE Kit for all classes
- Mothering Sunday in Church @ 9:15am all parents and carers welcome to attend

Friday 13th March

- PE Kit for Maple & Willow
- Mothers Day Breakfast - 08:45 - 09:30am
- Non-uniform day for Easter bingo donations

Dates to note...

March

- 17th March - Academy Photos- everyone
- 19th March - Easter BINGO @ 5.30-7pm
- 20th March - Red Nose Day - more information to follow
- 20th March - The Library Bus is here!
- 25th March - Easter Worship in Church @ 9:15am all parents and carers welcome to attend - Maple class Easter Bonnet parade in Church
- 25th March - Parents Evening - Oak class @3-6pm
- 26th March - Living out our school vision worship @ 3.30pm in school
- 27th March - Break the rules day!!

April

- 23rd April - KS1 Trip to Rosliston Forestry Centre - please complete google form on Dojo and make payments on Arbor

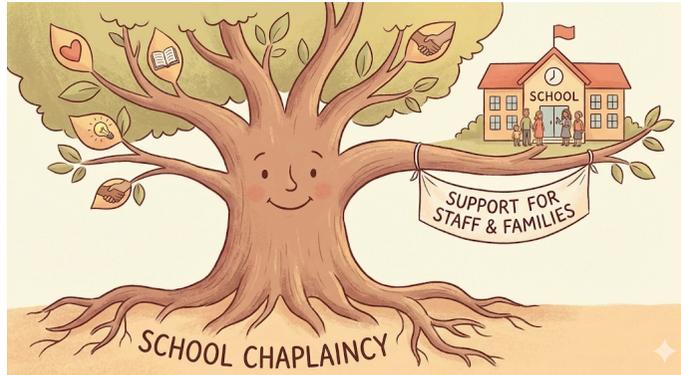
May

- 18th-20th May - Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bowers.

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

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

School Chaplaincy



We are thrilled to announce that Mr Kev. Borg, our previous Co-Chair of the Board of Directors has offered a 10 week chaplaincy service for our Trust schools.

These will take place at Mary Howard on the following days;

Wednesday 11th March 10.30 - 12.30pm

Monday 11th May 10.30 - 12.30pm

Message from Kev. Borg.

In today's fast-paced world, well-being is more important than ever. As your school chaplain, I'm here to support the emotional and spiritual health of our entire school community—students, parents, and staff.

My services are available to everyone, regardless of their background or beliefs.

I offer a listening ear, a confidential space to talk, and support during difficult times.

I am also here to celebrate our community's joys and successes. I look forward to working alongside you to foster a compassionate and supportive environment for everyone.

Dinners for Week Commencing 9th March 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

BREAK THE RULES DAY!

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

PAY £1 PER RULE

PLEASE BRING MONEY ON THE DAY!

TICK THE RULES YOU ARE BREAKING!

- 1 WEAR YOUR OWN CLOTHES** ✓
- 2 HAVE A WACKY HAIRSTYLE** ✓
- 3 WEAR NAIL POLISH** ✓
- 4 TEMPORARY TATTOOS** ✓
- 5 BRING IN A TOY OR GAME FROM HOME** ✓
- 6 EAT PUDDING BEFORE MAIN** ✓
- 7 BRING A TREAT IN FOR SNACK** ✓

FOMH Friends of Mary Howard

Friends of Mary Howard would like to invite you back to...

'MOMISSONS'

Mother's Day Present Shop

Monday 9th March
£5 per gift

Please complete and return form and pre-payment to school by 26th February

FOMH Friends of Mary Howard

A vibrant blue poster for an Easter Bingo event. At the top, a string of colorful triangular bunting hangs across the width. The text is centered and reads: 'FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO OUR FUN-TASTIC ANNUAL' in white, followed by 'EASTER BINGO' in large yellow letters. Below that, 'THURSDAY 19TH MARCH' and '5.30-7PM' are in yellow, and 'MARY HOWARD SCHOOL' is in yellow. Ticket prices are listed in white: 'ADULT/CHILD TICKETS £5 EACH' and 'UNDER 5S £2 EACH'. The event details 'TICKET INCLUDES BINGO GAMES AND EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE CHILDREN' and 'FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE EVENING' are in white. The booking information 'HEAD TO WWW.FOMH.CO.UK TO BOOK' is in white. At the bottom, two pink rabbits sit on a green grassy field with several colorful Easter eggs. The FOMH logo is at the bottom center.

FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO OUR FUN-TASTIC ANNUAL

EASTER BINGO

THURSDAY 19TH MARCH
5.30-7PM
MARY HOWARD SCHOOL

ADULT/CHILD TICKETS £5 EACH
UNDER 5S £2 EACH

TICKET INCLUDES BINGO GAMES AND EASTER EGG HUNT FOR THE CHILDREN

FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE ON THE EVENING

HEAD TO WWW.FOMH.CO.UK TO BOOK



FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

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.

If your Arbor Account is in arrears of over £10 for Snacks, we will no longer be able to offer your child a daily snack.
If your Account is in arrears of over £50 for Wraparound Care, we will no longer be able to offer the care (unless payments are made via vouchers).

Thank you for your understanding.

Trip payments

The Rosliston Trip for Maple class and the Residential to Standon Bowers is available to pay on Arbor, please make payments by the deadline stated on Dojo and Arbor.

Parents Evening - Oak Class

Parents' Evening on Wednesday 25th March, which will run from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Appointments are still available to book through Arbor on, please note that we are only able to offer one 10-minute slot per child. If you feel that you require a more in-depth discussion than the allocated time allows, our teachers are happy to arrange a further meeting with you for another date. We look forward to seeing you there and discussing your child's progress.

World Book Day 2026!!!

What a wonderful array of costumes we have had this year, thank you Parents & Carers, we hope the children have a fabulous day.



World Book Day 2026!!!



World Book Day 2026!!!



Academy Photographs



School photos will be conducted on

Tuesday 17th of March - 2026

At this session we will be photographing:

Everyone



Spelling Bee



Spring Spelling Bee Reminder

Please don't forget to practice your Spring Spelling Bee words in preparation for the next round of heats scheduled for the week commencing 23rd March.

To access the latest list of Spring Spelling Bee words, please visit the school website.

Good luck to all our spellers as you continue to grow and flourish!

Weblink: Mary Howard: <https://maryhoward.staffs.sch.uk/children/spelling-bee>

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 87.3%

Year 1 95.8%

Year 3 96.3%

Year 4 98.1%

Year 5 96.7%

Year 6 96.3%

Well done to Year 4 this week for the highest attendance

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

Safeguarding



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.



OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.



Term Dates 2025-2026

Spring Term 2026

Term Ends: Friday 27 March

Holiday: Monday 30 March – Friday 10 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 5 April

Summer Term 2026

Term Starts: Monday 13 April

May Day: Monday 4 May

Holiday: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Term Ends: Friday 17 July

Inset: Monday 20 July

Holiday: Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August