



*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 families

A huge well done to our Willow Class pupils who represented Mary Howard at the Tamworth Cross Country competition this week! They showed fantastic spirit, determination, and teamwork. Taking part in these events is a wonderful way for our children to develop resilience and enjoy competitive sports. We are so proud of everyone who took part!

Following on from our success at the cross country event, we are thrilled to announce the relaunch of our competitive sports competition for the school against Tamworth Schools and schools within the TSSMAT. This will be a chance for children across different classes to participate in various sports, develop their skills, and experience friendly rivalry. More details on which sports, dates, and how your child can get involved will be sent out shortly. Get ready to cheer them on!

We are delighted to share that the Friends of Mary Howard (FoMH) have been busy planning some wonderful events for the autumn term! Their hard work is essential in helping to provide enriching experiences for our children.

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

— Jeremiah 17:7-8

Have a relaxing and joyful weekend, Mary Howard families!

Warm regards,

Rachel Mills,  
Executive Headteacher

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

### **Monday 6th October**

PE Kit Oak & Willow

Swimming - Willow & Oak (please arrive prompt 8.45 and swim ready- we will leave at 8:50)

Parents Evening 3 - 6pm

### **Tuesday 7th October**

Arboretum - Oak Both Schools

### **Wednesday 8th October**

### **Thursday 9th October**

PE Kit Maple

Cross Country - Oak - Rawletts 3.15

### **Friday 10th October**

PE Kit Willow Class & Maple Class

Music - Willow Class - Please remember Ukulele

Please access the Schools' website for key events -

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

## *Dates to note...*

### **October**

- 6th October - Parents Evening 3-6pm
- 7th October - Arboretum Trip for Oak (Class 3)
- 9th October Cross Country for Oak - Rawletts - link for form sent via dojo
- 14th October - Whittington Barracks trip - Willow (Class 2)
- 16th October - Parent Forum 2:45pm
- 16th October- PJs and Movie Night- 5:30pm-7:30pm
- 17th October- Lego Workshops
- 17th October - Library Bus
- 22nd October - Mental Health & Wellbeing day - All children to be dropped at St. Andrews - See leaflet attached.
- 23th October - Let your light shine worship 9am
- 31st October - Deadline for Secondary School Applications

### **November**

- 7th November - Rock up and read 8:45 - 9:15am
- 10th November - Odd Socks day
- 13th November - KS2 Derby Faith Trail
- 14th November - Children in need - non uniform day (wear spotty clothes)
- 14th November - Anti bullying show and share
- 17th November - Flu Vaccination Programme

### **December**

- Friday 5th December - Rock up and Read
- Wednesday 10th December Christingle Rehearsal at Church 1.20pm to 2.20pm
- Wednesday 10th December Christingle at Church - 6pm to 7pm
- Thursday 11th December - Stay & Play 9.30 to 10.30
- Friday 12th December Library Bus
- Friday 12th December Rick Whittington Panto Performance at SA Church 1.45 to 3pm
- Tuesday 16th December Nativity Rehearsal at Church 1.20 to 2.20pm
- Thursday 18th December - Father Christmas Visit 1pm to 2pm

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*Dinners for Week Commencing 6th October 2025 - Week 3*

Parents can now start ordering meals for their children on Arbor -  
**Option A will always be the Meat option and Option B will always be the veggie option**  
**Please start giving this a go and let the office know if you are having any troubles with this.**  
**We will still be checking meals ordered with the children in the mornings.**

## WEEK 1



### CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Sausage Roll**  
 Pork Hot Dogs  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or salad and chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Chocolate Brownie

### PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread**  
 Pasta and Meatballs  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad  
 TO FINISH  
 Yogurt or Jelly

### PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Homemade Margherita Pizza**  
 Homemade Pepperoni Pizza  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges  
 TO FINISH  
 Homemade Cookies

### CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Chicken Nuggets**  
 Chicken Korma and Rice  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes  
 TO FINISH  
 Chocolate Sponge

### FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Quorn Sausages**  
 Breaded Cod  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Peas or beans and Chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

## WEEK 2



### CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Cheese and Onion Pasty**  
 Chicken Nuggets  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Croissants

### PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Tomato and Basil Pasta Bake**  
 Ham Carbonara with Pasta and Garlic Bread  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad  
 TO FINISH  
 Banana Sponge or Yoghurt

### PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Homemade Margherita Pizza**  
 Homemade Cheese and Ham Pizza  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges  
 TO FINISH  
 Jelly or Yoghurt

### CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Chicken Nuggets**  
 Chicken Burger  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes  
 TO FINISH  
 Toffee Sponge

### FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Sausage Roll**  
 Breaded Cod  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Peas or beans and Chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

## WEEK 3



### CHEEKY MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Sausage Roll**  
 Beef Burger  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Raisin Sponge

### PASTA TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Mediterranean Veg Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread**  
 Spaghetti Bolognese  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad  
 TO FINISH  
 Homemade Cookies

### PIZZA WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Handmade Margherita Pizza**  
 Homemade Ham and Sweetcorn Pizza  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges  
 TO FINISH  
 Chocolate Sponge

### CHICKEN THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Vegan Chicken Nuggets**  
 Italian Chicken  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Vegetables of the day or Salad and Diced Potatoes  
 TO FINISH  
 Jelly and Yoghurt

### FISH FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM  
 ✓ **Quorn Hot Dogs**  
 Breaded Cod  
 ON THE SIDE  
 Peas or beans and Chips  
 TO FINISH  
 Ice Cream or Ice Lolly

Light bite options available. Daily sandwiches, jacket potatoes with fresh daily fillings

# IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER?

Join us in a place of joy and flourishing!

'Mary Howard is a small school with a big heart'  
- Ofsted 2025

**JOIN US ON THE  
FOLLOWING DATES...**

Wednesday 17th September

Thursday 25th September

Thursday 2nd October

Thursday 11th December

**From 09:30 – 10:30**



Stay  
and  
Play!

**MARY HOWARD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

01827 383245

office-maryhoward@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

School Lane, Edingale, B79 9JJ

<https://maryhoward.staffs.sch.uk/>



Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025

## Mental Health and wellbeing day with... **ZACTIV!**



On 22<sup>nd</sup> October, all children will be taking part in lots of activities all centred around positive mental health and wellbeing. We are very excited to announce that the gladiator STEEL will be joining us for the morning!

The day will be held at St Andrews. Mary Howard children will need to be dropped at St Andrews in the morning at 8:45am and collected at 3pm please to avoid congestion.

Wraparound club is still available for all children on this day until 5.15pm and will be based at St Andrews.

Children need to come in PE kits please.

If your child has school dinners this will be available as normal.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



## The Build Barn are coming to Mary Howard!



WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BE WELCOMING THE FANTASTIC JAMES FROM THE BUILD BARN TO OUR SCHOOL FOR A DAY OF LEGO FUN ON FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OF OCTOBER!

Throughout the day, James will run 3 different sessions across the 3 classes, tailoring the sessions appropriately to the needs of the children. Concentrating on and developing team building, creativity, problem solving, social skills and more!

<https://www.thebuildbarn.co.uk>



Thank you to you all for your kind donations for the Tamworth Foodbank.

Miss Warner.

**Urgently needed food items in  
July/August 2025**

long-life Milk

Toiletries - deodorant, shampoo,  
conditioner

Tinned vegetables -  
Carrots/sweetcorn/peas/potatoes

Tinned fish

Tinned meat - stew, curry, chilli, chicken,  
meatballs, hotdogs

Small jars of coffee

Tinned fruit

Toilet rolls

Custard

**We've got plenty of**

Beans

Tomatoes

Size 1, 2, 3 and 4 nappies

Pasta

# TSSMAT Spelling Bee: Getting a 'BUZZ' about Spelling!

The TSSMAT is thrilled to announce the second year of our exciting new Spelling Bee competition, designed to promote high standards in spelling across our schools. This termly event will not only enhance children's spelling skills but also foster a sense of community and friendly competition among peers.

## **Aims of the Spelling Bee**

The School Spelling Bee is set to take place at the end of each term, encouraging children to learn their key spelling words in a supportive and engaging environment.

## **The initiative aims to:**

- Promote High Standards: By focusing on key spelling words, we aim to elevate spelling proficiency across the school.
- Encourage Participation: Every child is invited to take part, regardless of their current spelling abilities. We believe that all children can achieve and aspire to be their best.
- Celebrate Achievements: All participants will be celebrated, with each child receiving a Spelling Bee certificate during our Achievement Assembly.

## **How does It Work?**

To prepare for the competition, we encourage parents and guardians to support their children in learning the key spelling words. A downloadable list of these words is available below.

## **Here's how the competition will unfold:**

1. Class Heats: At the end of each term, class teachers will hold heats within their classes to identify the year group winners.
2. MAT Spelling Bee Competition: In the summer term, the excitement will culminate in a MAT Spelling Bee Competition, where our school will compete against other schools in the academy for the coveted MAT Spelling Bee trophy.
3. Finals and Celebrations: The final event will determine which school will take home the title of Spelling Bee Champion.

## **Join the Buzz!**

We encourage all children across every year group and ability level to participate.

Remember, "You've got to be in it to win it!"

Let's rally together and aim to bring the trophy home to the Mease Schools in 2025!

Together, let's make spelling a fun and rewarding experience for all our children, fostering a love for words and language that will last a lifetime. For further details and to download the key spelling words, please check the website.

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



PARENT/CARER SUPPORT GROUP  
FOR PARENTS OF AUTISTIC CHILDREN

This group is for parent/carers of diagnosed and non-diagnosed children & young people.

Join the Autism Inclusion Team for coffee and conversation at Tamworth Family Hub – Basin Lane.  
The group will meet on the last Tuesday of every month  
between 1.00pm and 2.30pm.

No booking required just drop in. Look forward to  
Seeing you at our first session on:

Tuesday 30th September 2025

## Term Dates 2025-2026



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



### Autumn Term 2025

**Holiday:** Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October

**TSSMAT Inset day:** Monday 3 November

**Term Ends:** Friday 19 December

**Holiday:** Monday 22 December – Friday 2 January

### Spring Term 2026

**Inset Day:** Monday 5 January

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 6 January

**Holiday:** Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

**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