



*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,

What an exciting time of year it is at our school! The build-up to Christmas is in full swing, with cheeky elves making mischievous appearances around our corridors and the sound of Christmas songs filling the air as we begin our festive practice sessions.

An exciting new addition to our curriculum has arrived - our Goblin Greenpower Go-karts! These have now been delivered for our Oak Class, this Design and Technology project will be a thrilling journey. The children will have the opportunity to build the kit, design the bodywork, and ultimately participate in a TSSMAT Race Day at Curborough later in the year. What an incredible hands-on learning experience!

We've had some wonderful moments to celebrate recently. Our Stay and Play sessions for potential new children have been a delight, with the children already feeling part of our school family.

A special mention goes to our brilliant FOMH who hosted a magical Afternoon tea with Santa on Sunday. Thank you to all the families who supported and helped run the event, and a special thanks to Santa himself, who was exceptional at engaging with the children and building excitement for the big day.

As we approach this busy time of year, I encourage everyone to keep an eye out for upcoming events and stay connected with our school community.

"And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him." - Luke 2:40

Rachel Mills

Executive Headteacher

What's coming up this week...

Monday 8th December

- PE Kit Oak Class
- **Please can everyone bring in a large orange today to decorate for the Christingle!**

Tuesday 9th December

Wednesday 10th December

- Christingle at Church - 6pm to 7pm - Parents Welcome to attend. Children must wear School uniform, long hair to be tied back and no hairspray.

Thursday 11th December

- PE Kit for all classes
- New Reception - Stay & Play 9.30 to 10.30
- School singing at Edingale Village Hall- 11am-11:20am- all welcome

Friday 12th December

- All Pupils will be at St Andrews the whole day - Rick Whittington Panto Performance at SA Church 1.45pm to 3pm. Non-uniform day - Christmas Jumpers!!
Breakfast & After School Club open at SA with Miss Brownhill & Mrs Aston-Wright. Children can bring Library bus books to exchange.
Children to be collected at 3.15pm from SA

Dates to note...

December

- 17th December Christmas Lunch
- 17th December at 9:15am - Nativity at Church & Celebration Certificates - Parents welcome to attend
- 18th December - Christmas Parties & FOMH disco after school - wear party clothes!
- 19th December - Christmas Jumper Day!
- 19th December - Both Schools Christmas Magic Statfold Trip & Break up.
- **22nd December - 2nd January - Christmas Holiday**

January

- **5th January - Inset Day**
- **6th January - Return to School**
- 9th January - The Library Bus is here!
- 7 - 9th January - Oak Class Bikeability - Children need to have their own suitable bike and helmet bought into school. Please let us know if this is not possible.
- 23rd January - The Library Bus is here!

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

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

Reminders

Young Voices Payment of £19.50 is now on Arbor also to pay for those attending.

Statfold's Magical Santa Express! - 19th December

All payments are now due on Arbor. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to a wonderful day!

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.

Celebration Certificates - Grow & Flourish



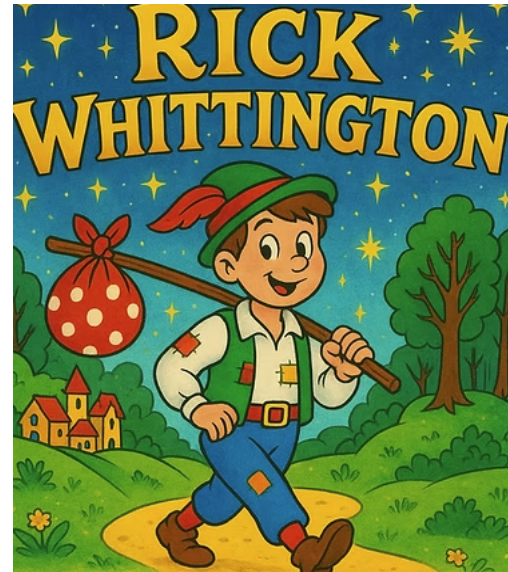
Class 1 - Alice & Finley

Class 2 - Henry & Theo

Class 3 - Isaac & Ella

These will be presented in Church after the Nativity on 17th Dec.

Panto Day! - Friday 12th December



On Friday, both schools will be based at St Andrews all day.

Miss Brownhill will be available from 7:45am for morning breakfast club at St Andrews - this includes breakfast.

- **Mary Howard children can be dropped off at St Andrews and use the paid care club facility from 7:45 am.**
- **Mary Howard children not using the St Andrews before-school club should be dropped off at St Andrews at 9:00 am.**

Collection times are as follows:

- **Mary Howard children will be collected at 3:15 pm.**
- **Care club will be available at St Andrews after school please book on Arbor**



The Christmas postbox is NOW OPEN!!

Final post date Thurs 18th Dec.

All envelopes need a name and class.

The School Council will be making the deliveries.

Dinners for Week Commencing 8th December 2025 - 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

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)

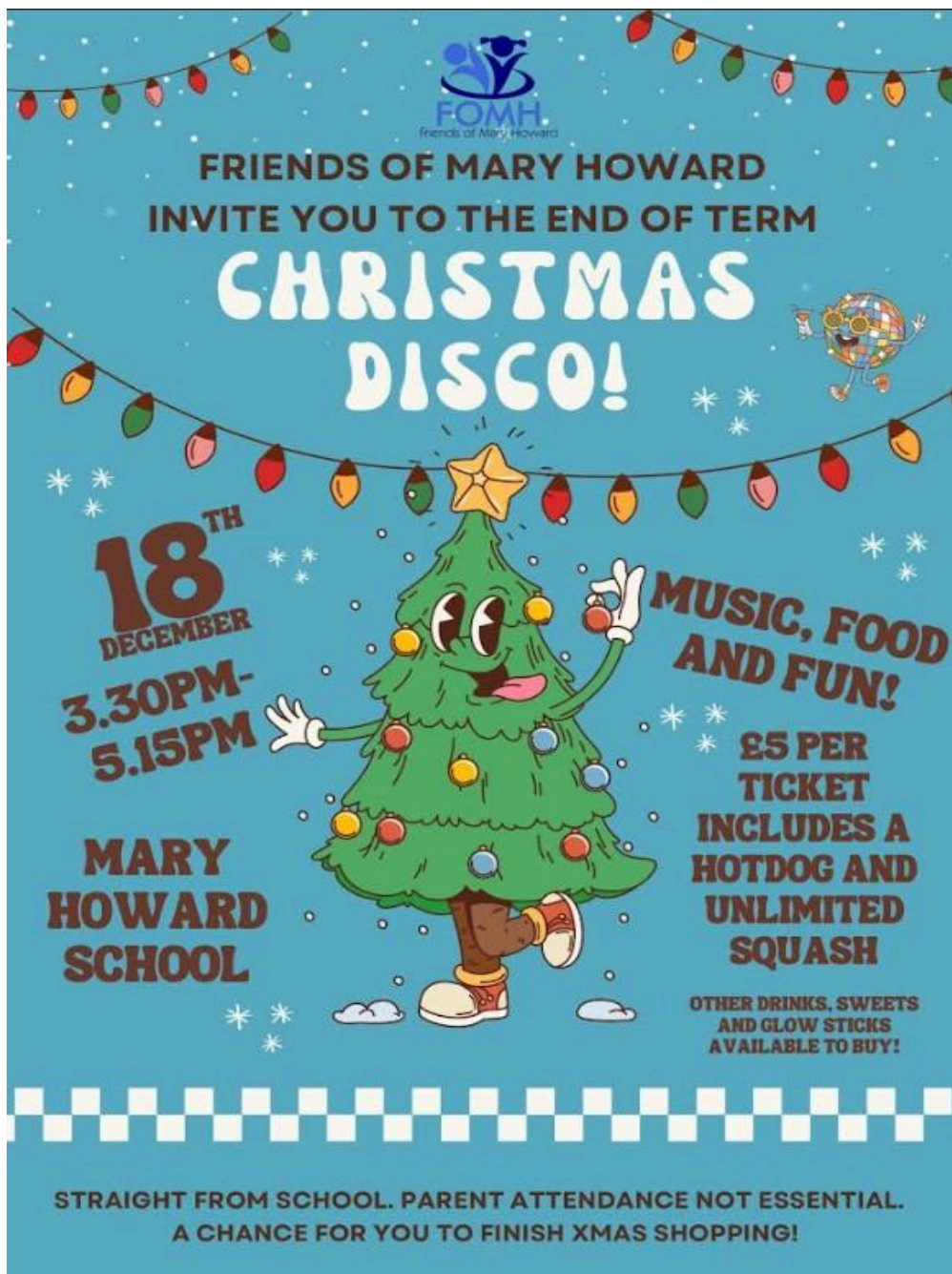
Homemade Toasties

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



A festive poster for a Christmas Disco event. The background is blue with white snowflakes and strings of colorful Christmas lights. At the top center is the FOMH logo (Friends of Mary Howard) with a stylized figure. Below it, the text reads: "FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO THE END OF TERM CHRISTMAS DISCO!". To the left, the date and time are listed: "18TH DECEMBER 3.30PM-5.15PM". In the center is a cartoon Christmas tree with a face, arms, and legs, wearing a star on its head and holding a disco ball. To the right of the tree, the text says: "MUSIC, FOOD AND FUN! £5 PER TICKET INCLUDES A HOTDOG AND UNLIMITED SQUASH". Below this, it says: "OTHER DRINKS, SWEETS AND GLOW STICKS AVAILABLE TO BUY!". At the bottom left, it says: "MARY HOWARD SCHOOL". At the bottom center, a checkered border separates the main text from the footer, which reads: "STRAIGHT FROM SCHOOL. PARENT ATTENDANCE NOT ESSENTIAL. A CHANCE FOR YOU TO FINISH XMAS SHOPPING!".

FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD
INVITE YOU TO THE END OF TERM
CHRISTMAS DISCO!

18TH DECEMBER
3.30PM-5.15PM

MARY HOWARD SCHOOL

MUSIC, FOOD AND FUN!

£5 PER TICKET INCLUDES A HOTDOG AND UNLIMITED SQUASH

OTHER DRINKS, SWEETS AND GLOW STICKS AVAILABLE TO BUY!

STRAIGHT FROM SCHOOL. PARENT ATTENDANCE NOT ESSENTIAL.
A CHANCE FOR YOU TO FINISH XMAS SHOPPING!



A festive poster for a Christmas Shop event. The background is dark green with white snowflakes and various gingerbread cookies (ginger man, star, heart, holly, candy cane, Santa Claus, house, snowflake, and star). At the top center, the text reads: "FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE ALL THE CHILDREN TO VISIT OUR VERY OWN CHRISTMAS SHOP...". Below this, the name "ELFRIDGES" is written in large, bold, red letters. To the right of the name is a green Christmas tree. Below the name, the text says: "JOIN US TO CHOOSE A GIFT FROM YOU FOR A SPECIAL PERSON AT HOME!". Below this, the date is listed: "DECEMBER 15TH". Below the date, the price is listed: "£5 PER GIFT". Below the price, the text says: "THIS IS A CHILD-ONLY ACTIVITY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE DURING SCHOOL TIME. PLEASE SEE LETTER FOR FURTHER DETAILS.". At the bottom center is the FOMH logo (Friends of Mary Howard) with a stylized figure. Below the logo, it says: "FOMH Friends of Mary Howard".

FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE ALL THE CHILDREN TO
VISIT OUR VERY OWN CHRISTMAS SHOP...

ELFRIDGES

JOIN US TO CHOOSE A GIFT FROM YOU
FOR A SPECIAL PERSON AT HOME!

DECEMBER 15TH

£5 PER GIFT

THIS IS A CHILD-ONLY ACTIVITY WHICH WILL TAKE
PLACE DURING SCHOOL TIME. PLEASE SEE LETTER FOR
FURTHER DETAILS.

FOMH
Friends of Mary Howard

Christmas Fayre
Sunday 23 November 10am-2pm
Festive kitchen ~ mulled wine
craft stalls



If you would like to book a stall contact
clarekecy@gmail.com

NEW



Sewing & Craft Group

For new & experienced crafters. Join us
during the coffee morning in the Dale room on
Thursday 20 Nov at 10.00am

Learn how to use a sewing machine,
knit & crochet as well as other crafts.

Bring your own project or join in with new ones.

£3.00 per person refreshments provided

Contact Lisa Thorpe on ljt2009@live.co.uk
01827 383183 / 07467 339079 or

edingalevillagehall.com

QUIZ

Festive Quiz
Fri 5 Dec 7.00pm

fish, sausage or veg pie & chips
£10.00

ticket sales:

www.edingalevillagehall.com or
wegottickets.com/event/668404/
£4 on the door with no food

Bar open ~ Raffle

Santa Claus is coming to town!

Santa will be driving around Edingale Village
on Sunday 21st December *

He'll be leaving the village hall car park at
6.00pm and making his way around.

Pop out and say hello, he'd love to see you!



* date is weather dependant, but Santa will come!

Watch www.edingalevillagehall.com and Facebook

Safeguarding



Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

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

Advice and Helplines over the Christmas period

Staffordshire Families Integrated Front Door (SFIFD) if you have concerns or are worried for a child and wish to make a referral: **0300 111 8007**

NSPCC Helpline Call **0808 800 5000** or email help@nspcc.org.uk if you're worried about a child.
[NSPCC Christmas Support \[nspcc.org.uk\]](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/our-services/christmas-support/)

Childline Free, confidential support for children and young people: **0800 1111** or [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)

Samaritans
116 123 [samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)

Citizens Advice Staffordshire – Debt, benefits, budgeting
0808 278 7874

StepChange Debt Charity – Free debt advice
0800 138 1111