



*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,

It has been wonderful to see the children back this week — full of energy and ready for a busy summer term ahead.

We launched the term with Arts Week across The Mease, and it has been a joyful start. Thank you to Miss Arrowsmith for organising this Mease school event; her work has given every child the chance to explore a range of creative activities. There has been brilliant enrichment on offer and some truly stunning artwork — the children are rightly very proud of what they have produced.

Last night we were delighted to take part in the Tamworth Schools Swimming Gala finals. Seven children qualified to represent The Mease against much larger schools and they did us proud: 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze. A huge well done to every child who swam — your resilience and sportsmanship were excellent to see. Thank you to Mrs Jones, Mrs Raybould and all the parents who supported this event.

We were especially pleased to welcome the Entrust music ensemble into school — live music for the children to enjoy and sing-along to was a real highlight.

During this half term, we continue to broaden experiences for our children with many enrichment activities, trips and visits.

Thank you to all staff, parents and volunteers who support these opportunities; together we help every child to grow and flourish.

Have a wonderful weekend.

“With faith as small as a mustard seed... nothing will be impossible.” — Matthew 17:20 (NIV)

*Rachel Mills*

*Executive Headteacher*

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

### Monday 20th April

- PE Kit for Oak

### Tuesday 21st April

### Wednesday 22nd April

### Thursday 23rd April

- PE Kit for Oak & Willow
- KS1 Trip to Rosliston Forestry Centre - parents are to drop off between 9:00 and 9:15am at the centre and collect between 3pm and 3:30pm. If you book an after school place for the 23rd by Monday your child will be taken back to school on the minibus and you can collect after club.

### Friday 24th April

- Ukulele lessons Willow - Please bring in your instrument
- Maple and Willow PE

## Dates to note...

### April

- 29th April Boccia event at The Howard 4-5.30pm - more information to follow
- 29th April - Height and Weight checks of Reception and Year 6 children as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) - an email will be sent via Arbor with information.

### May

- 1st May - The library bus is here
- **4th May - Bank Holiday!**
- 7th May Parent Forum 2.45pm
- 8th May - Rock up & Read - 8:45-9:15am
- 11th - 15th May - Year 6 SATS week
- 14th May - FOMH Quiz Night 5.30pm
- 15th May - The library bus is here
- 18th - 22nd May - Walk to School Week
- 18th-20th May - Year 5-6 Residential to Standon Bowers, **please continue to make payments the balance is due on May 4th.**
- 21st May School census day - please help us by ordering a school dinner if possible!
- 21st May Values Celebration worship @ 3pm in school
- **25th - 29th May - Half Term!**

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

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

# Dinners for Week Commencing 20th April 2026 - Week 2



## 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  
attempts 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

BBO 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  
attempts 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  
attempts 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

# Splashing Success - Tamworth Schools Swimming Gala Finals

What a night to be proud of! On an electric evening at Tamworth's SnowDome our children took part in the Tamworth Schools swimming gala finals — competing against much larger schools and showing exactly what The Mease are made of.

Seven of our children qualified for the finals and they did us proud: a fantastic haul of 2 **gold**, 3 **silver** and 1 **bronze**. The children showed determination, concentration and great team spirit throughout. It was a brilliant example of perseverance and koinonia in action — supporting one another and celebrating every success, big or small.

A huge thank you to Mrs Jones and Mrs Raybould for their time, encouragement and calm organisation on the poolside, and to the parents who came along to cheer the children on. Your support made the evening even more special.

A few highlights;

★ 7 finalists representing The Mease against larger schools — a real achievement in itself.

★ Medal tally: 2 **gold**, 3 **silver**, 1 **bronze**.

★ Strong sportsmanship throughout; children congratulated one another, welcomed younger teammates, and kept nerves focused into strong performances.



**We are extremely proud of our schools' community!**

# 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 3 100%

Year 4 100%

Year 5 93.3%

Year 6 96.3%

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 to Reception, Year 1, 3 & 4 with 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

# FOMH Events



The poster features a purple background with a white border. At the top center is the FOMH logo, which consists of a stylized figure holding a book above their head, with the text 'FOMH Friends of Mary Howard' below it. The main title 'Family Quiz Night' is written in a large, bubbly, white font with a red outline. Below the title is a yellow banner with the text 'for all the family!' in blue. The date and time 'MAY | 14 5:30PM' are displayed in white, with 'Mary Howard School' underneath. At the bottom, there is a small white box containing the text: '£5 a ticket. Ticket includes a jacket potato or pizza! Please see the letter coming home from school with how to purchase tickets.' The poster is decorated with yellow stars and white wavy lines.

  
FOMH  
Friends of Mary Howard

# Family Quiz Night

*for all the family!*

MAY | 14  
**5:30PM**  
Mary Howard School

£5 a ticket. Ticket includes a jacket potato or pizza!  
Please see the letter coming home from school with how to purchase tickets.

## *DfE Screen Time Guidance*

**[DfE guidance](#)** published this week aims to give parents clear, evidence-backed advice on screen time for children under five. It recommends:

- For under-twos, screen time should be avoided except for shared activities.
- For children aged two to five, it should be limited to around one hour a day and avoided at mealtimes and before bed.

This guidance sits alongside a wider government consultation on online safety. NGA will respond to the consultation, drawing on views from the governance community to ensure your perspectives are represented.

# 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

Young Voices deposit and the Residential to Standon Bowers are all available to pay on Arbor, please make payments by the deadline stated on Dojo and Arbor.

## 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 2026

### Summer Term 2026

**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