

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

Koinonia- Wisdom-Love- Perseverance



Message from Miss Mills

Dear families

As we reach the end of a busy and fulfilling half-term at both St. Andrew's and Mary Howard Primary Schools, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved together. It has been a period brimming with enriching experiences, exciting trips, and memorable sporting events, all contributing to our children's growth and development, in line with our vision to help them 'Grow and Flourish'. As Proverbs 22:6 says, "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." This quote underpins our commitment to providing a strong foundation for our children's future.

Our children have benefited from a range of educational visits and in-school experiences designed to broaden their horizons and bring learning to life. From historical explorations to nature walks, these opportunities have sparked curiosity and fostered a love of learning. We've witnessed fantastic teamwork, sportsmanship, and determination in our sporting events. Whether on the field, in the hall, or participating in inter-school competitions, our children have represented our schools with pride and enthusiasm.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our incredible staff. Their commitment to providing a nurturing and stimulating learning environment is truly appreciated. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Orgill, Miss Leigh, and Miss Watkins for their engagement in balance bike training. Because of their commitment, we have secured £1,500 worth of balance bikes and helmets for each school. This will significantly enhance our children's physical development and enjoyment of outdoor activities.

Finally, thank you to our supportive governors and families. Your partnership and involvement in your child's education are invaluable, and we are grateful for your continued support. We are looking forward to the TSSMAT English review the first week back, showcasing our English curriculum and the hard work of our staff and children. We also look forward to welcoming you to our Parents' Evening, where we can discuss your child's progress and achievements.

As we head into a well-deserved break, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable time. We look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the next half-term, where we will continue to provide them with opportunities to grow, learn, and flourish.

With warmest regards,

Rachel Mills

Executive Head

Mary Howard and St Andrews Primary Schools

CEO Update Spring 1 2025



It has been a fast paced half term for all of our schools. There have been a huge range of wonderful curriculum linked activities from special menus for Chinese new year and a range of activities to trips such as Letocetum (the ancient remains of a Roman settlement at Wall) and Tamworth castle. Several schools have held beautiful spirituality days and Ralph and I enjoyed the leadership and delivery by Jordan and Reverend Jeremy at Richard Crosse. Greenpower has also started with gusto!

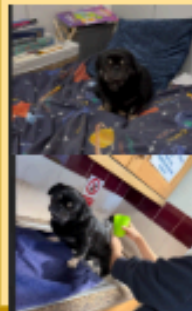


Thank you to our whole team for ensuring our children have had a vibrant time and

excellent learning, it's been a great half term!



It has also been a strategic half term for all of our Headteachers, Governing Committees (LGCs) and Directors. They have enjoyed meeting to identify the next steps in our school and Trust journeys. New LGCs to our Trust have conducted evaluations and developed plans for the future. We are so lucky to have such exceptional volunteers. It is important that we take this moment to thank one of our Directors for her 11 years of service. Sue Cockayne will remain an associate of our team but has resigned her post as Director of wellbeing. She will be sorely missed for all her work, especially as a tangible, supportive link to myself and our Headteachers. As you are also aware from our recruitment drive, we are securing new Governors and Directors across the Trust and ask that you contact your Headteacher or myself if this is something you are interested in.



Ralph and I have enjoyed being connected with our schools and were able to attend almost all LGCs as well as seeing children and staff. We were so proud of the children at St Marys who led our Trust worship on 'trustworthiness' and Ralph had a much needed bath with the children at All Saints - the children were so kind and gentle and had a ball playing with him - he liked the book corner too.

Have a good half term and we look forward to seeing you all in a week! From Charlene Gethin and *Ralph*!



Dinners for Week Commencing 24th February 2025- Week 1

WEEK 1



MONDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread
- Beef Chilli Con Carne with Brown and White Rice
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Chocolate Brownie

TUESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Veggie Cottage Pie
- Chicken Nuggets with Diced Potatoes
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Yogurt or Jelly

WEDNESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Homemade margherita pizza
- Homemade BBQ Pizza topped with Chicken
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad and crinkle cut wedges
- TO FINISH
Jammy Shortbread Biscuit

THURSDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Vegetable and Bean Burrito
- Pork Sausages and Mashed Potato and Gravy
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Chocolate Sponge with Mint Custard

FRIDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Quorn Sausages
- Breaded Cod
- ON THE SIDE
Peas, salad or beans and Chips
- TO FINISH
Toffee Apple Sponge

WEEK 2

Our primary school menus comply with the Government's food and nutritional standards, meeting an average of 530 calories for each meal

MONDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Veggie Bolognaise and Pasta with Garlic Bread
- Chicken Katsu Curry with Brown and White Rice
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Homemade Cookies

TUESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Veggie Sausage Roll with Wedges
- Ham Carbonara with Pasta and Garlic Bread
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Fruit Mousse or Jelly

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
Rice Krispie Cake

THURSDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Veggie Sausages in a Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy
- Sticky Honey Glazed Chicken with Brown and White Rice
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Ginger Sponge

FRIDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Tomato and Basil Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread
- Breaded Cod and Chips
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream

WEEK 3



MONDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Cauliflower and Broccoli Bake topped with Cheese
- Pork Sausage Roll
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad and diced potatoes
- TO FINISH
Apple Sponge Cake

WEDNESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Handmade Margherita Pizza
- Homemade Chicken Pizza
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges
- TO FINISH
Flapjacks with Raisins

FRIDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Sweet Potato and Chickpea Curry with Brown and White Rice
- Breaded Cod and chips
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Fruit or Jelly

TUESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Mediterranean Veg Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread
- Baked Chicken Fajita with Diced Potatoes
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day or salad
- TO FINISH
Homemade Cookies

THURSDAY

- CHOOSE FROM
- Quorn and Leek Pastry Crown
- Roast Chicken and Yorkshire pudding
- ON THE SIDE
Vegetables of the day, mashed potatoes and gravy
- TO FINISH
Chocolate Sponge

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

What's coming up this week...

Monday 24th February

PE Kits

After School Club Gymnastics - St Andrew's 3:30 - 4:30pm

Tuesday 25th February

Wednesday 26th February

Thursday 27th February

2:45pm Parent Forum MH

Friday 28th February

PE Kits

28th Feb Class 2 - both schools to Birmingham Museum Ancient Roman Workshop (except those who went to Tamworth castle) - Please complete the permission form and make payments on parent pay by Feb 24th!

Church Dates - St Andrew's

- 25th Mar 9:15 to 9:45am Mothers Day Service
- 10th Apr 9:15 to 9:45am Easter Service & Let Your Light Shine

Church Dates - Mary Howard

- 27th Mar 9:15 to 9:45am Mothers Day Service
- 8th Apr 9:15 to 9:45am Easter Service

Please access the Schools' website for key events -

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

St Andrew's- [Upcoming Events | St. Andrew's CE Primary School](#)
(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk)

Dates to note...

February

- Half term 17th -21st Feb - Return to school - Mon 24th Feb
- 24th Feb - 3:30 to 4:30pm Gymnastics after school club every Monday until Apr 7th
- 27th Feb 2:45pm Parent Forum MH
- 28th Feb Class 2 - both schools to Birmingham Museum Ancient Roman Workshop (except those who went to Tamworth castle)

March

- 2nd Mar Pancake Race - to register for tickets - www.fomh.co.uk
- 4th Mar - School photographs - class groups, Reception & Leavers
- 4th Mar - Pancakes for pudding
- 6th Mar - 8:45 to 9:15am Rock up & Read - World Book Day!
There will be a fancy dress competition for World Book Day - one winner per class and organised by the School Council
- 6th Mar - Netball Yr 5/6 Richard Crosse 3:30pm
- 12th Mar Class 1 Mothers Day Lunch - Please book your place by Feb 23rd!
- 19th Mar Class 2 Mothers Day Lunch - Please book your place by Feb 23rd!
- 26th Mar Class 3 Mothers Day Lunch - Please book your place by Feb 23rd!
- 21st Mar - Red Nose Day! Non uniform Day £1 Donation more details to follow
- 25th Mar - Parents Evening St Andrews
- 26th Mar - Non Uniform Day-Chocolate Donations please MH
- 27th Mar - Parents Evening Mary Howard
- 28th Mar - Mommissons
- 31st Mar - 1st Apr - Bikeability MH - Further Info to follow

April

- 3rd Apr - Non Uniform-Easter Egg donations please MH
- 8th Apr - 5pm to 7pm (approx.) Easter Bingo MH
- 7th - 9th Apr - Bikeability SA - Further Info to follow
- 10th April - 6-8pm KS2 Swimming Gala Final at Snowdome
- 11th Apr - 9am MH Let your light shine
- Easter Holidays 14th - 25th Apr - Return to School Mon 28th Feb

St Andrew's Events



EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

@ St Andrew's CE Primary School

Premier are pleased to announce that will be hosting the following Extra Curricular activities at St Andrew's CE Primary School -:

R-Y6

Monday- AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Gymnastics

24th February- 7th April (7 sessions)

Available to children in R-Y6

Cost = £38.50

Gymnastics: As one of the most popular sports across the planet, it's no wonder that boys and girls love to take part in gymnastics. Our classes are designed specially to ensure kids have fun, learn the fundamentals of movement, and leave with a smile on their faces.

While gymnastics is a fun, exciting activity for kids to participate in, it is also important to maintain proper safety measures. This will include things like laying out appropriate mats to provide a soft surface, and performing a good warm-up and stretching before beginning a class.

After-school clubs are a fantastic way for your child to experience gym – whether they are a regular gymnast, or if it's their first time!

Why Premier?....

Attending our club will provide your child/children with a series of fun sessions to improve not just sports skills, but also many other important assets in the process; Social skills and key motor skills are the successful by-products of the clubs we host. Our qualified coaches deliver fun sessions, allowing your child/children to enhance their skills and techniques vital towards successful short and long term athletic development. Premier strives to ensure each club is a place for your child/children to find new friends, enjoy themselves, be rewarded for success, boost self-confidence and obtain an active and healthy lifestyle.

Book your place now!!!

www.premier-education.com

Full terms and conditions available on the website

Mary Howard Events

FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE...

EDINGALE PANCAKE RACE

Flippin' Fun for all the family!
Races for all ages
£1 race entry
Refreshments available
Fancy dress optional!

FREE ENTRY

**SUNDAY
2ND MARCH
2PM-4PM**



honey

berry

PRE-LOVED BOOKS AND CHILDRENS CHARACTER COSTUME STALLS

AT EDINGALE VILLAGE HALL

PLEASE REGISTER FOR TICKETS AT WWW.FOMH.CO.UK



PLEASE SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD

NON-UNIFORM DAYS

Wednesday 26th March
CHOCOLATE RAFFLE DONATIONS PLEASE

Thursday 3rd April
EASTER EGGS DONATIONS PLEASE

Easter bingo Tuesday 8th April 5pm. See you there!



JOIN THE FRIENDS OF MARY HOWARD FOR OUR ANNUAL

EASTER BINGO

EGG TRAIL
EASTER EGG PRIZES
BINGO GAMES INCLUDED
FOOD AND ALCOHOLIC/SOFT DRINKS

TUESDAY 8TH APRIL 5-7PM
MARY HOWARD SCHOOL, EDINGALE
ADULTS £5. CHILDREN £5. UNDER 2S £2

HEAD TO WWW.FOMH.CO.UK FOR TICKETS!



Reminders

We have sent out forms on Dojo for our Mother's Day lunches.

If you wish to attend, please follow these steps:

Complete the Form: Fill out the form for the specific date you wish to attend.

Payment: Make your payment on ParentPay by Monday, February 23rd. Please note that we will not be able to accept further orders after this date. If you have children in different classes and wish to attend only one lunch, please indicate on the form that you would like your other children to join you for that lunch.

Forms have now also been sent out on Dojo for our Class 2 Roman Trip to Birmingham Museum on February 28th and the year 5&6 residential to Laches Wood 9-11th July. Please can you complete these forms: Roman Trip - by February 24th, The residential by February 28th. With payments to be made on parent pay by the same dates (£50 deposit for the residential to secure your child's place)

Thank you for your understanding and support!



Medicines

Important Medication Administration Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

We would like to remind you of our policy regarding the administration of medication at The Staffordshire Schools Multi Academy Trust.

- **Prescription Requirement:** We can only administer medication that has been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse, or pharmacist.
- **Medication Labelling:** All medication must have the prescription sticker attached, which should include your child's name, the date, the type of medicine, and the dosage.
- **Permission Form:** Before any medication can be administered, a signed Permission to Administer Medication form must be completed in advance at the school office.
- **Dosage Frequency:** Please note that we can only administer medication if your child requires a dose four times a day or more. For medications that need to be taken less frequently, we kindly ask that these be administered at home before school, immediately after school, and before bedtime.

INJURY ON ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

As part of our Safeguarding Children Policy, we ask that all parents/carers whose children suffer an injury outside of school e.g. cut knee from falling off a bike, bruises from a football match etc., would need to fill out an Injury on Arrival Form. It is paramount that we have this form filled out.

Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring the health and safety of all our children.



World Book Day Vouchers

WORLD BOOK DAY
6 MARCH 2025

READ YOUR WAY



WORLD BOOK DAY
6 MARCH 2025

£1 BOOK TOKEN

Changing lives through a love of books and reading

SWAP YOUR £1 TOKEN AT A BOOKSHOP

CHOOSE YOUR £1 BOOK FOR FREE

World Book Day is a charity sponsored by NATIONAL BOOK tokens

Valid from 13 February - 23 March 2025

Win Yoto's ultimate reading bundle!

Discover the incredible world of audiobooks with Yoto. Win a Yoto Player plus an annual Yoto Club Collectors membership which includes 24 audio cards and more... so bundles up for grabs! See overlaid to enter.

WORLD BOOK DAY
6 MARCH 2025

READ YOUR WAY THIS WORLD BOOK DAY 6 MARCH 2025

BEGINNING READERS



EARLY READERS



FLUENT READERS



Your children will have bought home world book day vouchers - Visit worldbookday.com to see which books you can get for free with these vouchers or use them towards other books!

Your local independent booksellers - Argosy, Asda, Blackwell's (selected stores only), Easons, Lidl, Sainsburys, Tesco, The Works, Trago Mills, Waterstones, WHSmith

Choose a World Book Day book for FREE with your £1/€1.50 book token. Books available in shops from 13 February until 23 March 2025.



Kaleidoscope of Colours Arts Festival

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are thrilled to share an exciting opportunity that your child/children will be engaging with this July 2025, and we hope that you will also participate fully.

We are delighted to announce that our school will be taking part in an Arts Festival called 'Kaleidoscope of Colours.' This vibrant project will take place during the week beginning the 7th of July. Twenty-two primary schools and several high schools will join together to participate in a week-long festival of art, music, and dance.

During this week, the children will have the unique opportunity to work with the Royal Ballet and Opera House. They will learn to sing and perform, as well as focus on producing art. The aim of this project is to celebrate Tamworth, its diversity, and its talent, while encouraging a wide range of community groups to connect with the children.

The festival will culminate in performances on the Tamworth Castle grounds on Saturday and Sunday, the 12th and 13th of July. The Sunday will also feature a Family Picnic, making it a wonderful day for the whole family to enjoy.

We kindly ask you to set these dates aside and join us in making this weekend a special community event, celebrating all the good in Tamworth. We are working closely with Tamworth Council and numerous community groups to ensure this weekend is memorable for everyone involved.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Attendance



HERE EVERYDAY READY ON TIME



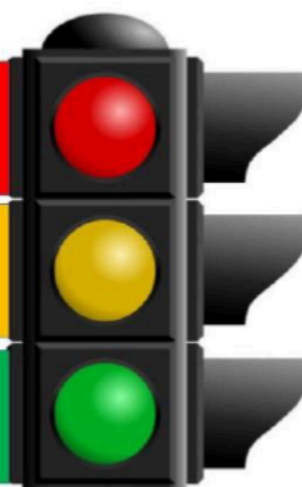
Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below
Drastic effect on
academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!



Across the TSSMAT we expect good attendance to ensure that all pupils are able to take full advantage of the education available to them. Good attendance matters.

Pupils who have good attendance: **Get better jobs in the future, Achieve better results, Make better friendships, Have good self-esteem and confidence**

We strive for every child to achieve 96% attendance or higher. Please do not be offended if you are told that we are concerned about your child's attendance or if you receive a letter of concern. Attendance falls under the category of safeguarding and it is our duty of care to challenge and support attendance. If we can help in any way please contact Miss Mills or the office. Thank you.

Medical Appointments

Could we kindly remind

parents, to try and book medical appointments outside of school times. We do understand that there are occasions when this is not always possible.

Thank you!

Little Heroes Attendance

We are excited to announce the return of our Little Heroes Attendance Initiative for the current academic year. You will see posters and other promotional materials displayed throughout the school to raise awareness of this programme.

In each classroom, there is a sticker chart where pupils' names are displayed. Every day a pupil attends school and arrives on time, they will receive a sticker next to their name on the chart. The "Hero" acronym stands for "Here Everyday Ready and On Time" - the key pillars of this initiative.

The Little Heroes Attendance Initiative will run throughout the year. Pupils who maintain 100% attendance and punctuality each half term will be rewarded with a certificate.

For more detailed information about the programme, please visit the dedicated webpage at Staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes.

We appreciate your continued support in encouraging strong attendance habits among our pupil community. Together, we can ensure all our pupils have the best possible start to their day and access the full benefits of their education.

For the TSSMAT Attendance policy, please click the link:

Mary Howard: <https://maryhoward.staffs.sch.uk/parents/attendance-absence>

A decorative frame with a white background and a black outline, featuring two clusters of red cherries with green stems at the top corners. The word "PANCAKE" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters with a black outline. Below it, the text "4TH OF MARCH" is written in white capital letters on an orange rounded rectangular background.

PANCAKE

4TH OF MARCH

Pancakes for pudding



Spring Term 2025

Inset: Monday 6th January

Term Starts: Tuesday 7th January

Holiday: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Term Ends: Friday 11th April

Holiday: Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 20th April

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28th April

May Day: Monday 5th May

Holiday: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

Inset: Monday 2nd June

Term Ends: Friday 18th July

Inset: Monday 21st July

Holiday: Monday 21st July – Friday 29th August