



*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

### It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas!

Dear families,

As we enter the final weeks of term, the festive spirit is truly upon us! This week, we have been blessed to hold our wonderful Christingle services in both churches. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff for making these services so special and meaningful for our children and families.

We also celebrated Christmas Jumper Day, which brought a delightful splash of colour and cheer to our schools. A huge thank you to our catering staff, Rachael and Darlene, for putting on a fantastic Christmas dinner feast that everyone enjoyed.

Today, we had our special Christmas-themed day at St. Andrews, culminating in a delightful pantomime of Cinderella. This event was generously funded by SASA and FOMH, and we extend our gratitude to the Church for hosting the performance. It was a wonderful way to bring our community together and spread joy.

Looking ahead, we are excited for the upcoming Nativities in church, where our children will showcase their talents and the true meaning of Christmas. Additionally, we will be holding our first Spelling Bee, which promises to be both fun and educational. To top off our festive celebrations, we have a special visitor planned for the end of the week, who will be bringing gifts for the children.

Thank you all for your continued support and involvement in our school community. May this season be filled with joy, love, and the spirit of giving.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." — Isaiah 9:6

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Christmas season!

Warm regards,

**Rachel Mills**

Executive Head of Mary Howard Primary and St. Andrews Schools

# Dinners for Week Commencing 16th December 2024

This week is: Week 1 – Please note that Wednesday is pre-ordered packed lunch or lunches from home.

**\*\*W.C. 6TH January we start back at Week 1\*\***



## YOUR SCHOOL MENU NOVEMBER 2024

All menu items are subject to change, based upon availability and in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

● Vegan  
● Vegetarian

### 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

**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 Bolognese 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

**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

**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

**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

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

# What's Coming Up This Week

## Monday 16th December

- ◆ Gymnastics after school club at St Andrews
- ◆ Mary Howard- Christmas Breakfast Club

## Tuesday 17th December

- ◆ St Andrews Nativity in Church– 9:15am

## Wednesday 18th December

- ◆ Mary Howard Nativity in Church– 9:15am
- Mease Schools trip to Statfold (St Andrews and Mary Howard)- MH will go after the Nativity

## Thursday 19th December

- St Andrews-**Let Your Light Shine– Values worship**– 3pm- parents invited.

## Friday 20th December

- Party Day– come in part clothes/ non uniform
- Mary Howard-**Let Your Light Shine– Values worship**– 9am- parents invited.
- Mary Howard Dis-glow at Edingale Village Hall– 3:30-5:30 (**No after-school Care Club available**)

## What's Happening This Week

# Dates to Note

## DATES TO NOTE

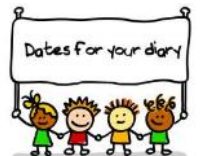
### January 2025

- ◆ 6th January INSET DAY—School Closed to children
- ◆ 7th January Children Back to School
- ◆ 10th January– Rock up and Read– 8:45-9:15
- ◆ Half term WC 17th Feb-21st Feb
- ◆ Return to school– Monday 28 th February
- ◆ Easter Holidays 14th April– 25th April
- ◆ Return to school 28th April

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 \(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk\)](#)



St Andrews-Values Nominations for  
Thursday 19th December - 3pm



Georgie A  
George A  
Hope K  
Ophelia H  
Kaj N  
Billy E  
Arthur  
Patrick  
Ellie

Mary Howard-Values Nominations for  
Friday 20th December - 9am



**Class 1**  
Jessica H  
Phoebe W  
  
**Class 2**  
George M  
Nicholas S  
  
**Class 3**  
Bradley S  
Eliza F

# THE MEASE FEDERATION - CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

RAISED  
**£100**

TARGET  
**£50**

## ACHIEVEMENTS

GIVE NOW

**£100**

RAISED

**£0**

TEXT MESSAGE DONATIONS

**£100**

TOTAL DONATIONS



Your picture



Storyteller



A magical start



You raised £20!



You raised £40!



You raised £80!



You raised £160!



Fundraising wizard!

Thank you for your generous donations. With your help, we managed to double our target of £50!  
£80 could bring a family in the Democratic Republic of Congo back together through family tracing.  
£40 could give a family who've escaped war in Ukraine enough food for a month.  
£20 could buy enough supermarket vouchers for two children in the UK.

# Spelling Bee

## Spelling Bee– Round 1

We are excited to announce the first round of our Spelling Bee Heats, taking place on the following dates:

- **Monday, 16th December** at St. Andrews
- **Tuesday, 17th December** at Mary Howard

This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to showcase their spelling skills and compete within their classes. The word lists for this round are available on our school website, so please encourage your child to review them in preparation for the event.

[Spelling Bee | Mary Howard CE Primary School](#)

[Spelling Bee | St. Andrew's CE Primary School](#)

Key Details:

- **Format:** The Spelling Bee heats will be held in classes, allowing each child to participate and demonstrate their abilities.
- **Winners:** Those who excel in their class will receive a certificate during our Values assembly, recognising their hard work and achievement.
- **Next Steps:** Class winners will have the honour of representing our schools in the Summer tournament against other schools in our Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

We look forward to an exciting competition that promotes learning and engagement in a fun and supportive environment.

Thank you for your continued support!



## St Andrews – After School Club – Mondays

### After School Dodgeball Club

St Andrew's CofE (C) Primary School

13th January 2025 - 10th February 2025

Course starts on **Mon 13th January 2025**

Times: 15:30 – 16:30

Age Range: Reception (4/5 Years old) - Year 6 (10/11 Years old)

Year Group: R-Y6

Online Price: £30.00

[Book this Activity](#)

**20**  
places  
remaining

[After School Dodgeball Club – Premier Education](#)

# Mary Howard— FOMH events



**Edingale  
ELF  
TRAIL**

*Christmas holiday fun for all the family*

**DECEMBER 21ST - JANUARY 5TH**

**EDINGALE, STAFFORDSHIRE**  
Visit [fomh.co.uk](http://fomh.co.uk) for more information

**FOMH**  
Friends of Mary Howard



The poster features a central illustration of an elf holding a large candy cane. Surrounding this are various Christmas-themed icons: a green gift box with a red bow, a red star, a holly leaf with berries, a red and white striped candy cane, a red Christmas ornament with a white snowflake, a green star, a pair of green and red patterned socks, a green Christmas tree ornament with white stars, a red star, a red gift box with a white bow, a snowflake, and a Santa Claus head. The background is a light pinkish-red gradient.



**YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR  
CHILDRENS'  
CHRISTMAS  
DISGLOW**

**£7.50 A TICKET** >>> **AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.FOMH.CO.UK](http://WWW.FOMH.CO.UK)**

**INCLUDES ENTRY, REFILLABLE SQUASH,  
UNLIMITED PIZZA, AND GLOW PACK!**

**3.30PM - 5.30PM | 20TH DECEMBER  
EDINGALE VILLAGE HALL  
ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED  
BAR OPEN AND FOOD AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE**



The poster has a dark blue and purple background with a glowing circular light effect. It features a red Santa hat, a candy cane, and a string of colorful Christmas lights. The text is in white and yellow. At the bottom, there is a colorful checkered floor pattern. The FOMH logo is in the top right corner.

**DISGLOW! Tickets are selling fast. Have you got yours yet? Please head to [www.fomh.co.uk](http://www.fomh.co.uk) to purchase. Ticket sales will close next Wednesday. Thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you there for lots of glow-fun**

**Christingle—thank you for your support buying Christingle refreshments we have raised another £63.80. Thank you so much!**





## 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](https://www.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>

## **Spring Term 2025**

**Inset:** Monday 6 January

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 7th January

**Holiday:** Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

**Term Ends:** Friday 11 April

**Holiday:** Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday 20 April

## **Summer Term 2025**

**Term Starts:** Monday 28 April

**May Day:** Monday 5 May

**Holiday:** Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

**Inset:** Monday 2nd June

**Term Ends:** Friday 18th July

**Inset-**Monday 21 July

**Holiday:** Monday 21 July – Friday 29 August