

*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

As we approach the festive season, I want to take a moment to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! This term has been truly eventful, filled with numerous achievements and celebrations that reflect the hard work and dedication of our entire school community.

One of the highlights of this term has been the wonderful nativity performances held at both Mary Howard and St Andrews. The children shone brightly on stage, showcasing their talents and spreading the joy of the season. I am incredibly proud of their efforts and the creativity that went into each performance.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to our visitor, Father Christmas, who brought an individual gift for each child. This magical moment was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Friends of Mary Howard (FOMH) and the St Andrews Society Association (SASA), who purchased and wrapped the presents. Your contributions truly made this experience special for our children.

As we celebrate this joyful season, let us remember the words from the Bible: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given..." (Isaiah 9:6). This reminder of hope and new beginnings resonates with our vision of nurturing each child to grow and flourish.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday, 7th January 2025, at 8:45 AM. May you enjoy a peaceful and joyful Christmas with your loved ones.

Warm regards,

**Rachel Mills**

Executive Head

Mary Howard and St Andrews Primary Schools



# Dinners for Week Commencing 6th January 2025

**\*\*W.C. 6th January we start back at Week 1\*\***  
 We return on Tuesday 7th January.



## YOUR SCHOOL MENU NOVEMBER 2024

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

Vegetarian  
 Vegan

### WEEK 1

**FRESH BREAD**  
 DAILY

**SALAD**  
 AVAILABLE DAILY

#### 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 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

#### 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

**FRESH FRUIT SALAD**  
 SERVED EVERY DAY

**YOGHURT**  
 SERVED EVERY DAY

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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 6th January

INSET day– school closed to children

## Tuesday 7th January

Children return to school at 8:45

## Wednesday 8th January

## Thursday 9th January

## Friday 10th January

PE kits

Rock up and Read 8:45-9:15

## What's Happening This Week

### Dojo Bronze Awards—Well Done

Addie, Betty, Evangeline, George H, George M, Henry, Holly  
Luke, Ocean, Olivia G, Phoebe & Rhea

# Dates to Note

## DATES TO NOTE

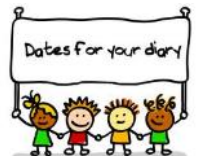
### January 2025

- ◆ 13th Jan– every Monday after school Dodgeball club at SA
- ◆ Half term WC 17th Feb-21st Feb
- ◆ Return to school– Monday 24th 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 \(st-andrews-cliftoncampville.staffs.sch.uk\)](#)





# CEO Letter Autumn 2

## CEO Letter Autumn 2 Christmas 2024



Welcome to my Autumn 2 CEO letter culminating at the end of a wonderful half term.

Our Remembrance services feel like a very long time ago, as does All Saints Ranton's celebration event which was so well attended by families, the community, Governors and Directors. Children had a blast and it was great to draw Ralph's bandanna competition. Here is the winner!



It was wonderful to see all our schools online for our Trust values worship on generosity. It was led brilliantly by our year 6 children at Mary Howard CE primary school and was enjoyed by all.



Richard Crosse and St Mary's choir have been so busy, they took part in the ENTRUST Music service Staffordshire Christmas concert at Lichfield Cathedral which was magnificent and they also sang at All Saints church with the Kings Bromley Village Harmony Choir. The church was full of all generations and we were treated to refreshments too. All the singing was beautiful.



I have been blessed to attend at least two Christmas events per school and Ralph and I have been made very welcome. They were all so magical and such special times for our staff, children and families.



From top left to right: Richard Crosse, St Marys, Anson, All Saints, The Howard, St Andrews and Mary Howard.

I hope you all have a safe and happy half term ready for the run up to Christmas!

Regards, Mrs Charlene Selkin and Ralph!

# Communication Update at our schools

## **New Office Staff:**

Mrs. Nikki Boag and Miss Sarah Regan will be managing the office.

They will be in the office for 5 hours each day.

## **Role Transition:**

I will no longer be the main communicator as I focus on my Executive Head role.

## **Communication Channels:**

### **Primary Tools:**

Dojo: For general communication with parents and staff.

Email: For formal communication.

### **Telephone:**

Reserved for pupil absences and emergencies only.

### **Communication Protocol:**

First Point of Contact: Office staff (Mrs. Boag and Miss Regan).

### **Next Steps:**

Class teachers for classroom-related queries.

Mrs. Orgill for matters related to Mary Howard.

Mr. Buckley for issues concerning St. Andrews.

Escalation: I will be involved in handling escalated matters.

This structured approach will ensure effective communication within the school community while allowing me to focus on my broader responsibilities. Thank you for your continued support as we implement these changes.

# Spelling Bee Announcement



Congratulations to Our Spelling Bee Winners!

We are thrilled to announce that the first round of our Spelling Bee was a tremendous success!

Congratulations to the winners from both schools:

## **Mary Howard Primary School Winners:**

Y1 & 2 winners– Evangeline and Holly– Runner up Adalie

Year 3 & 4 winners– Luke and Charlie– Runner up Isla M

Year 5 & 6 winners– Alfie and Henry– Runner up– Elodie

## **St. Andrews Winners:**

Y1 & 2 winners- Emma, Kaj and Josh– Runners up were Ophelia and Hugo

Year 3 & 4 winners- Alexandra and Arthur– Runners up were Freja and Rosa

Year 5 & 6 winner– Louisa– Runners up were Abigail, Albert and Ted A

Winners will receive their certificates during the Values worship this week.

A huge thank you to all participants for their hard work and enthusiasm. We are proud of each child who took part!

## **What's Next?**

Get ready for the next set of words for the Spring Spelling Bee! Stay tuned for more details on the upcoming rounds, and keep practising those spelling skills!

Let's continue to encourage our children to grow and flourish in their learning journey!

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

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

## 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](#)

# FOMH - Thank you





## Think Pharmacy First

Most pharmacies in England are now providing the NHS Pharmacy First service which allows pharmacists to provide advice and where appropriate, supply NHS medicines for the following conditions:

- Earache (aged 1 to 17 years)
- Impetigo (aged 1 year and over)
- Infected insect bites (aged 1 year and over)
- Shingles (aged 18 years and over)
- Sinusitis (aged 12 years and over)
- Sore throats (aged 5 years and over)
- Urinary tract infections (UTIs) in women (aged 16 to 64 years)

If you have symptoms that suggest you may have one of these conditions, you can walk into a pharmacy and be offered a consultation with a pharmacist in a private consultation room. Your GP surgery may also refer you to the service if you contact them but they believe it is appropriate for you to be seen by a pharmacist.

If you have symptoms that suggest you have one of the above conditions, why not give the Pharmacy First service a try?

For more information, visit [nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst](https://www.nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst)



## 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://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