

# Churchtown Chatter

Imagine ... Believe ... Achieve...

Newsletter 6

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Don't forget to follow us on:  
 <https://www.facebook.com/ChurchtownPrimarySchool> &  
 <https://twitter.com/churchtownsch>

We have had a lovely week in school, which has been very busy with lots of fabulous activities and learning taking place. Last week, we took the whole school, in three assembly groups, to St Cuthbert's Church for our Harvest assemblies. Thank you for your generous contributions to the food collection, which has been donated to Southport Food Bank.

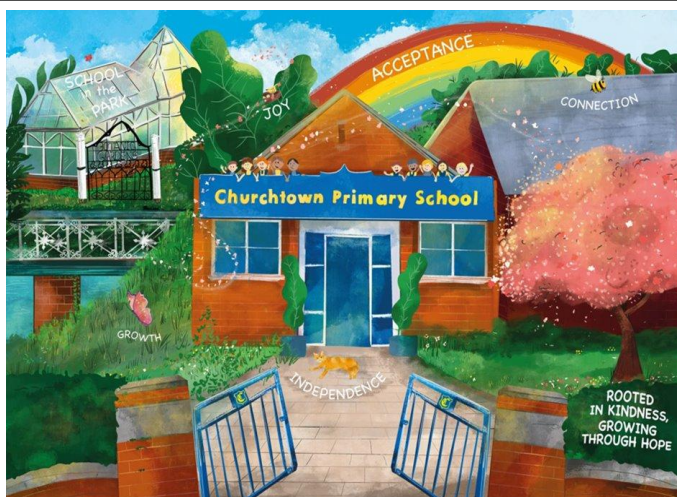
Today, our Year 6 children visited Stanley High School for a day of activities, including PE and Science. Meanwhile, in school, we have been learning about and acknowledging World Mental Health Day. The children took part in discussions and activities focused on the importance of looking after our mental health, being kind to ourselves and others, and recognising ways we can support our own wellbeing every day.

In Early Years, the children had lots of fun incorporating spa activities into their day, enjoying hand massages, foot spas, yoga, and relaxation time to help them feel calm and cared for.

We also had our second Open Day of the academic year, welcoming prospective families to tour our school. Our pupils helped with the tours and could almost run them themselves, confidently sharing everything Churchtown has to offer. It was lovely to hear them contributing and sharing their experiences with our visitors.

It has been a wonderful week of learning, fun, and wellbeing for all of our children.

**Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Payne!**



## Values

### • Independence

Being self-directed and self-determined — having the confidence to carry out tasks independently, take responsible actions, and be accountable for our choices, all while feeling safe and supported in our environment.

### • Connection

Being part of a happy, loving community where positive relationships are built through knowing, supporting, and respecting one another — where we feel valued, learn how to mend friendships, and create meaningful connections by being respectful to all.

### • Growth

Growth comes from facing challenges with resilience, knowing that it's okay to find things difficult — because with purpose, determination, and something to strive for, we learn, improve, and become stronger.

### • Acceptance

Embracing who we are and valuing others for who they are — celebrating diversity and creating a community where everyone feels they belong.

### • Joy

Grows through purposeful, active learning and a broad, balanced curriculum full of variety — creating space for play, shared experiences, and the simple recognition that making time for fun brings energy, connection, and balance to life.

## ATTENDANCE

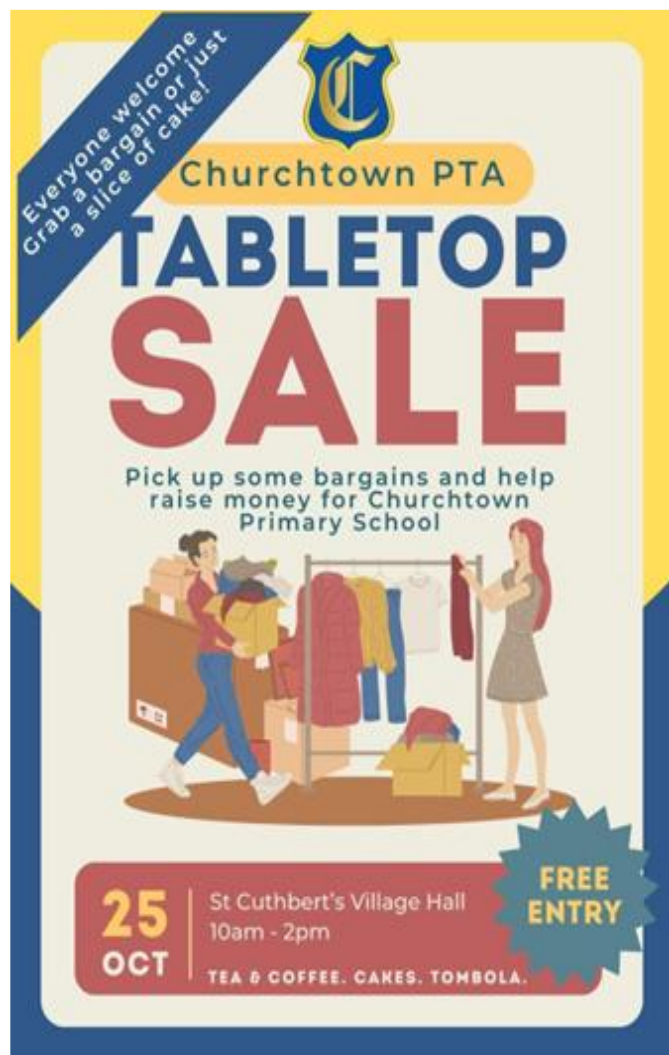
This week's attendance champions are:

**Y4 Pine for 99% attendance!**

The year group with the highest attendance this week is:

**Year 4!**





## Churchtown Primary School Open Mornings

We would like to invite prospective pupils and their families to our Open Mornings. This is a great opportunity to take a look around Churchtown Primary, meet our staff and current pupils. The Open Mornings will start at 9.30am prompt at the main school entrance (school office).

Booking for this event is essential as we have limited spaces for each Open Morning. To reserve your space, please visit our website:

<https://churchtown.org.uk/>

or contact our school office on **01704 508500** or email us at [office@churchtown.org.uk](mailto:office@churchtown.org.uk)

### Available dates are:

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



# Butterflies Holiday Club



INSET DAY – Holiday Club will be open on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October

October Half Term: Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October to Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> of October

**Please place your booking via the ARBOR APP**

**Please ensure that your ARBOR account is topped up prior to booking onto this service**



**Age:** Nursery (Buttercups) – Year 6 **Time:** 7:30am - 5:30pm **Location:** Dining Hall Entrance/Exit: Butterflies Doors

**Price:** £30.00

**Food:** Snack will be provided by school and a packed lunch is to be provided by parent/guardian







## CHRISTMAS DESIGNS 2025

It's that time of year when the children will be creating their special Christmas designs in school to be transferred onto a range of professionally printed Christmas cards, A3 poster calendars, tea towels, mugs, gift labels, tote bags and much more.

Your child will be sent home with their completed designs today.

Please complete the form on the reverse of your child's artwork and return it to school by **Friday 17th October** – you will not need to place an order at this stage. The P.T.A. will then forward the children's designs to Xmas4schools. Once they have received your form, they will send you a text and an email containing your order link, which you can follow to your child's ordering portal. From here, you can place your order and make payment.



### Arrangements for admission to secondary schools September 2026

For all children in Year 6, it is now time for you to apply for your child's place at a secondary school for Year 7, September 2026 entry.

Please click [here](#) to access a copy of the letter on our website titled: **'Secondary Admissions – September 2026'.**

Further information can also be found on:

<http://www.sefton.gov.uk/startingschool>

Sefton's online application for secondary schools is open from 1st September 2025 until the **national closing date of 31st October 2025** for you to submit your application.

**Apply Now**

**PARENT COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

We are looking for a Parent Councillor to join our Local Academy Council.

As a Parent Councillor, you will help guide school decisions, champion pupil success, and strengthen our community. Your valuable time will make a big impact!

If you are interested, please click the Apply Now button for further information.

01704 508 500

office@churchtown.org.uk



### INSET DAY REMINDER

**Please be reminded that School will be closed on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025 for an INSET Day.**

School will re-open on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

Butterflies Holiday Club and Snowdrops Nursery will be open on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025



COMPASSION ACTS

We would like to thank all of our families for your kind donations to our Harvest celebrations on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and for taking the time to think about others.





## Early years choking hazards food safety advice

For babies and young children, food can be a choking hazard, especially when they do not chew their food well or they try to swallow it whole.

Choking can happen with any foods, but 'firm foods', bones and small round foods that can easily get stuck in the throat present a higher risk. Therefore, care givers should follow these five essential steps:

1. Make sure food is **suitably prepared and served** for babies and children under 5 years old. For suitable foods, see <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>. Introduce babies to solid foods from around 6 months of age.
2. **Think about size, shape and texture of food.** Cut food into narrow batons, avoid round shapes and firm foods. Firm fruit & vegetables can be softened by cooking.
3. Ensure that babies and young children are **alert and seated safely upright** in a highchair or appropriately sized low chair whilst eating.
4. **Babies and young children should be supervised at all times** while eating. You will be able to identify the early signs of choking and prevent harm.
5. **Encourage babies and young children to chew food well.** Teach children how to chew and swallow food properly, and ensure they take their time during meals. This will reduce their risk of choking.

Care givers and parents should be familiar with how to respond to a choking incident in line with guidance on first aid for children:

**How to stop a child from choking:** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/>

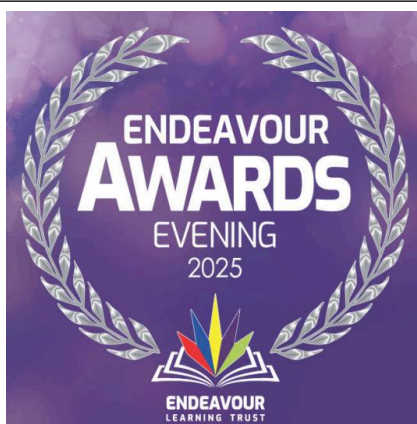
**How to resuscitate a child:** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>

## Early years food choking hazards

Below is a table of advice on key foods for care givers who are involved with preparing and serving food for babies and young children (under 5 years old)

Vegetable and fruits	Advice
Pips or stones in fruit	Always check beforehand and remove hard pips or stones from fruit.
Small fruits	Cut small round fruits like grapes, cherries, berries, strawberries and cherry tomatoes, into small pieces: cut lengthways and then again cut them in halves (quarters).
Large fruits and firm fruits	Cut large fruits like melon and firm fruits like apple into slices instead of small chunks. For very young children, consider grating or mashing firm fruits, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Vegetables	Cut vegetables like carrots, cucumber and celery into narrow batons. For very young children consider grating or mashing firm vegetables and legumes like butter beans, chickpeas and tofu, or softening them up by steaming or simmering.
Skin on fruit and vegetables	Consider removing the skin from fruit and vegetables, especially for very young children. Peeled fruit and vegetables can be swallowed more easily.
Cooking fruit and vegetables	Consider softening firm fruit and vegetables (such as carrots, broccoli, yam and apples) by steaming or simmering until soft. Serve cut into slices or narrow batons.
Meat and fish	Advice
Sausages and hot dogs	Cut sausages and hot dogs into short strips. Cut them in half and then lengthways or as thinly as possible. Peeling the skin off the sausages helps them to be swallowed more easily.
Meat or fish	Remove bones from meat or fish. Cut meat into strips as thinly as possible. Remove skin and fat from meat and fish. It will help the food pass smoothly down the throat.
Cheese	Advice
Grate or cut cheese	Grate or cut cheese into short strips. Cut lumps of cheese as narrow as possible.
Nuts and seeds	Advice
Chop or flake whole nuts	Chop or flake whole nuts, peanuts and seeds. Whole nuts should not be given to children under five years old.
Bread	Advice
White bread and other breads	White bread can form a ball shape with a dough-like texture at the back of a child's throat, if not chewed properly. Brown bread or toasted white bread are good alternatives. Cut bread, chapatis, naan bread and other breads into narrow strips.
Snacks and other foods	Advice
Popcorn	Do not give babies and young children popcorn.
Chewing gum and marshmallows	Do not give babies and young children chewing gum or marshmallows.
Peanut butter	Do not give babies and young children peanut butter on its own, only use as a spread.
Jelly cubes	Do not give babies and young children raw jelly cubes.
Boiled sweets and ice cubes	Do not give babies and young children boiled, hard, gooey, sticky or cough sweets, or ice cubes.
Raisins and other dried fruits	Do not give babies under the age of 1 whole raisins or dried fruits. Cut them into small pieces.

Make sure food is prepared appropriately for children under 5 years old, see: <https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning/>. It is also advisable that care givers are familiar with how to respond to a choking incident, see: How to stop a child from choking: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-stop-a-child-from-choking/> and How to resuscitate a child: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/first-aid-and-safety/first-aid/how-to-resuscitate-a-child/>



Endeavour Learning Trust held their annual Endeavour Awards Evening on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and what an unforgettable evening it was. It was an opportunity to get together with all the other schools in our Trust to recognize and celebrate the incredible staff and children who live our Values every day and make our schools truly special.

Congratulations to the following children who were nominated for an award:

**Pearle J** for Individuality  
**Zuzanna P** for Community  
**Hope G** for People Centred

Congratulations also to the following staff members who were nominated for an award:

**Mrs Watkinson** for Individuality  
**Mrs Straw** for Belonging  
**Mrs Shawcroft** for People Centred  
**Mr Bowen** for Community

We are delighted to announce that **Mrs Shawcroft** was the overall winner of the 'People Centred' award within Endeavour Learning Trust. This was recognition of Mrs Shawcroft's continued hard work and dedication to our pupils, their families and the wider school community.







**Be Active** is Sefton Council's half-term provision for physical activity at a range of centres across the borough. The programme offers different activities that are available to children aged 0-16 years old.

Take a look at their booklet for full details about their offer, including prices, suitability and how to book - [Be Active October 2025 Booklet](#) .

They are committed to ensuring that all their sessions are fully inclusive. If your child has any additional needs please speak to the team for advice on booking.

For more information contact the Active Sefton Team on 0151 288 6286 or email [active.sports@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:active.sports@sefton.gov.uk)



Did you know that there are now more ways in which children can earn credits towards Children's University in school. If your child takes part in any of these they are automatically credited by school and your child could graduate at Edge Hill University at the end of Year 2 and/or 6 (30 credits needed). If you have a Children's University passport your child could earn more credits for doing what they love outside school.



Churchtown after school clubs/activities



Melody Makers & Performing Arts



Bikeability tuition



Instrumental lessons



Robinwood residential



WEST LANCASHIRE  
SPORT PARTNERSHIP  
Sports activities



Please contact the school office to purchase a passport or if you have any questions.



Myfoto will be in school on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October & Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** for individual and sibling photographs.

**ALL children MUST wear their FULL school uniform on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October & Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October.**

Children who have P.E. on these days, please bring your trainers in a bag.



♥ Keeping Our School Community Safe ♥

We're delighted to share that our school has received a life-saving defibrillator, kindly donated by **Concept Hygiene Ltd**, a North West-based company.

This generous donation offers complete peace of mind and the utmost safety for our children, staff, and visitors. ♥

A huge thank you to **Concept Hygiene Ltd** for their amazing support and for helping us make our school an even safer place for everyone.



## After School Clubs for Autumn Term

Please see below for the after-school clubs that will be on offer for the Autumn Term. Further information will be shared on the Arbor app, when the clubs are available to be booked.

All clubs are £4 per session, excluding Melody Makers (Young Voices), Spanish, Hero Quest and Eco club. Melody Makers (Young Voices), Spanish and Eco Club are already full with pre-registered children.

AUTUMN TIMETABLE				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nurture Club (12:00-12:30)	Nurture Club (12:00-12:30)	Nurture Club (12:00-12:30)	Nurture Club (12:00-12:30)	Nurture Club (12:00-12:30)
	Starting Tuesday the 4th of November (7 Weeks)		Starting Thursday the 6th of November (7 Weeks)	
	Netball with Lynne Barnett for Year 4, 5 and 6 children MUGA (12noon – 1.00pm)	Chipmunks – Mrs Coysh (12:00-12:30) Tulips Class	Melody Makers with Mrs Watkinson (Years 1 - 6) Lunchtime	
	NETBALL COURT (20 children) LUNCHTIME		Willow Classroom Christmas Rehearsals	
The Lodge gate will be open for all clubs at 4.20pm				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Starting Monday the 3rd of November (7 Weeks)	Starting Tuesday the 4th of November (7 Weeks)	Starting Wednesday the 5th of November (7 Weeks)	Starting Thursday the 6th of November (7 Weeks)	
Tennis with Megan Hyland Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (20 Children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Playground/EYFS Hall EXIT: PLAYGROUND	BENCHBALL WLSP Years 3 & 4 (20 Children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Old Hall EXIT: PLAYGROUND	Gymnastics WLSP Years 1 & 2 (20 children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Old Hall EXIT: PLAYGROUND	DANCE WLSP Years 5 & 6 (20 children) 3.20pm-4.20pm Old Hall EXIT: PLAYGROUND	
	Starting Tuesday the 4th of November (7 Weeks)	Starting Wednesday the 5th of November (7 Weeks)	Thursday 6th November – Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December (6 Weeks)	
	Netball with Lynne Barnett YEAR 4, 5 AND 6 (20 Children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm NETBALL COURT EXIT: PLAYGROUND	Cheerleading with Mrs Bartley YEARS 2 - 4 (20 children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm EYFS HALL EXIT: PLAYGROUND	Eco Club with Mrs Stalker Years 5 & 6 (20 children - Already registered) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Robins Classroom EXIT: PLAYGROUND	
	Started 30th of September 2025	Starting Wednesday the 5th of November (7 Weeks)	Thursday 6th November – Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December (6 Weeks)	
	Melody Makers with Mrs Watkinson YOUNG VOICES All Registered 3.20pm – 4.20pm Music Room EXIT: MUGA DOOR	Performing Arts with Mrs Hibbert Years 3,4,5 and 6 (35 children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Music Room EXIT: MUGA DOOR	Hero Quest with Mr Bowen (Year 6) (12 Children) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Alder Classroom EXIT: PLAYGROUND	
	Starting Tuesday the 4th of November (6 Weeks)			
	Art Club with Mrs Shawcroft (Reception Children) (10 Children) 3.20pm - 4.20pm Buttercups Nursery EXIT: PLAYGROUND			
	Starting Tuesday the 4th of November (6 Weeks)			
	Spanish Club (Year 5 & 6) (18 Children - Already registered) 3.20pm – 4.20pm Rainbow Room EXIT: PLAYGROUND			

## SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025



Following the success of recent appeals, Churchtown Primary School has once again agreed to take part in the national Rotary Shoebox Scheme. A letter has today been shared on Arbor with further information. If you would like to be involved in this scheme, please complete the Microsoft form using the link below to register your interest. Please note that the boxes come with a £3 contribution which goes towards the cost of transporting them to their final destinations.

<https://forms.gle/YtUeRRjUgQ9tgxpG7> - please complete the expression of interest form, using the link above, by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025.



We have been made aware that several titles in the **Spy Dog, Spy Pups and Spy Cat series by Andrew Cope** contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, this link has been compromised and now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material, containing pornographic content with no age restrictions.

**We have removed copies of the book from our school library and classroom book corners.**

Above are images of some of the front covers in the series to help you identify the books should you have any at home. We advise that you remove them immediately. Should any be the property of school, please return them and we will dispose of them accordingly.



Date	Event
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Myfoto – individual/sibling photographs
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Myfoto – individual/sibling photographs
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Children's Christmas Card design sheets to be returned to school. More information to follow regarding the ordering process.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	Scholastic Book Fair – in the Old Hall during parents' evening
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	School closes at 2pm Parents Evening from 2.30pm
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	<b>***CANCELLED***</b> P.T.A. Mufti Day/optional fancy dress
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Y6 height & weight check
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Break up for half-term (normal times)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Scholastic Book Fair – after school in the Old Hall
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	INSET Day (Butterflies & Snowdrops will be open)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Back to school – rise and shine, school starts at ten to nine!
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Children's Book Week
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	9.30am - Churchtown Primary School Open Morning for prospective families
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Remembrance Day Service at The Monument, Lord Street
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Sefton School Aged Immunisation Service – Annual Flu Campaign – Snowdrops Nursery through to Y6
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2025	9.30am - Churchtown Primary School Open Morning for prospective families
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text in red is a new addition to the calendar</li> </ul>	



### **Nursery Snowdrops (open 51 weeks of the year) – closure dates (2025/2026)**

CLOSED – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (Christmas Holidays) – re- open Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December

CLOSED – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 (New Year's Day Bank Holiday)

CLOSED – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (Good Friday and Easter Monday Bank Holidays)

CLOSED – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (Early May Bank Holiday)

CLOSED – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (Spring Bank Holiday)

CLOSED – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026 (Summer Bank Holiday)



## **Butterflies Holiday Club.....**

**will be open to Churchtown Primary School children on**

Friday 24th October 2025 – INSET Day

Monday 27th to Friday 31st October 2025 – Half-Term Holidays

Monday 29th December to Friday 2nd January 2026 – Christmas

**CLOSED – Thursday 1st January 2026 (New Year's Day Bank Holiday)**

Monday 5th January 2026 – INSET Day

Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2025 – Half-Term Holiday

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026 – Easter Holidays

**CLOSED – Friday 3rd & Monday 6th April 2026 (Good Friday and Easter Monday Bank Holidays)**

**CLOSED – Monday 4th May 2026 (Early May Bank Holiday)**

**CLOSED – Monday 25th May 2026 (Spring Bank Holiday)**

Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th May 2026 – Half-Term Holiday

Monday 20th July 2026 – INSET Day

Tuesday 21st July to Friday 28th August 2026 – Summer Holidays

**CLOSED – Monday 31st August 2026 (Summer Bank Holiday)**

### **Butterflies Holiday Club**

**Age:** Nursery (Buttercups) – Y6

**Time:** 7.30-5.30 **Location:** Dining Hall

**Entrance/Exit:** Butterflies Door  
(previous F4K/BC entrance/exit)

**Price: £30.00**

**Food:** Snack provided school  
Packed lunch to be provided

**OPEN ALL INSET DAYS**