



Buttercups Newsletter



January 2026

This month's topic is **The World of Recycling** and the children have been having lots of fun with this.

Important Update

To ensure that **Buttercups** remains financially sustainable and that we can continue to offer the **highest quality care and education** for your children, we are currently reviewing the way in which we deliver our service.

As part of this review, we are proposing some changes to:

- how consumables are charged, and
- how government-funded hours are offered to families
- Relooking at our current management system and how we communicate with our families on a daily basis

We recognise that these are important matters, and we are keen to ensure that the approach we take works as well as possible for our families. Your views are very important to us.

We have developed **three possible options**, and we would like to invite you to **share your feedback and vote for the option that best fits your family's needs**. Full details of each option will be provided very soon so you can make an informed choice.

In addition, we will be discussing these options at the next **Parents' Forum**, where we welcome open discussion and questions. Your involvement will help us to make the most informed and balanced decision for our nursery community. The date of this meeting will be sent to all families once finalised.

Thank you for taking the time to support us in shaping the future of Buttercups. We truly value your voice and partnership.

Valentines Disco

The Buttercups Parents Forum are holding a disco Friday 13th February at 4.30pm - 6.00pm at North Petherton Community Centre. The cost is £3 per child. The forum are also looking for volunteers to help run the event. Please contact the office to let us know if you can help. We need to know numbers so that we can ascertain if the event can go ahead.

To purchase a ticket please come to the office. Apologies but we cannot take card payments.

Garden revamp

We are in the process of revamping our nature garden which consists of a mud kitchen and bug hunting area. We are looking to add a sensory garden alongside this, which will include a mud kitchen exploratory area, a bird watching platform and sensory stepping stones. If anyone has any materials or skills that would help us to do this please contact the office. We would be very grateful for any help or support.

World Book Day/Week

We will be celebrating World Book on Thursday 5th March by sharing lots of books and stories amongst many other fun activities. We have decided to extend this across the week from Monday 2nd March to Friday 6th March so that all of our children can take part. Please feel free to send your child in fancy dress or as their favourite book character. Please do not feel you have to go and buy anything special, we have lots of dressing up here in each room. If your child has a special or favourite book they would like to share we would love to share this with them and everyone else. Our staff team will also be dressing up across the week too!

Mother's Day Tea Party

We are pleased to invite you to our Mother's Day Tea Party, taking place on **Saturday 14th March 10:00am -11:30am.**

This is a **free event for all families who pay consumables.** (1Place per child) However, spaces must still be booked so that we can ensure we have enough food for everyone and can cater for any dietary requirements. Please complete the booking form by clicking on the link below **no later than Monday 2nd March.**

If you do not pay consumables and would still like to book a cream tea party place for your mum or carer, you are very welcome to do so. Please book directly at the office. The cost is **£15 per person**.

We look forward to celebrating with you.

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/ButtercupsNursery/MothersDayHighTeaAndCraftMorning>

Staff Changes

Shannon will be returning to her role as Deputy Manager here at Buttercups in February

Emma will be moving into the role of Senior Supportive Practitioner, working across the whole nursery but to start with, predominantly in our Dragonfly Room.

From Monday 23rd February, we will have several staff members working in different rooms on secondment throughout the spring term and possibly into the summer.

- **Jo** will be moving to the **Butterfly Room**
- **Lauren** will be moving to the **Grasshopper Room**
- **Meja** will be stepping into the role of **Acting Room Lead in the Grasshopper Room**

We have 2 new apprentice's joining us in February, Jessica and Reanna and they will both be working across all of the rooms across the nursery.

Parent Programme's 2026

As part of our Parent Programmes running throughout 2026 we were very excited to see everyone who turned up on Monday to the Dragonfly room pre school readiness evening. We really appreciate your cooperation when we hold these events and staff give up their own family time to be available and support you on your journeys. If you were unable to attend, we will be sharing the video of the evening with you in the next week or so! These up and coming evenings are all included in our monthly consumables charge.

Tuning into Kids

Would you like to learn how to:

- Be better at talking with your child?
- Be better at understanding your child?
- Help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- Help to prevent behaviour problems with your child
- Teach your child to deal with conflict

Why not sign up for our next Parent Programme of the year - 'Tuning into Kids' This is aimed at parents of children aged 3-12 years. This is a 6 week course starting Tuesday 24th February - 9.15am - 11.15am here at Buttercups. Places are very limited and if you would like to secure a spot please email senco@buttercupsnursery.uk.

Sickness and illness

We would like to take a moment to kindly remind families that our nursery is an early years setting focused on children's learning, development, and wellbeing.

Our staff are trained childcare professionals who support children's education, care, and emotional needs in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage. While we always aim to promote good health practices and keep children comfortable during the day, we are not a medical setting and cannot provide medical assessments, diagnoses, or treatment.

For the safety and wellbeing of all children and staff, we rely on parents and carers to ensure children are well enough to attend nursery. If your child is unwell, requires medical care, or needs close one-to-one medical supervision, we kindly ask that appropriate healthcare advice is sought and that children remain at home until they are fit to return.

We truly value our partnership with families and appreciate your understanding and support in helping us maintain a safe, happy, and development-focused environment for all children.

We are extremely proud of the high standards of cleanliness maintained throughout our nursery.

Cleanliness and hygiene are a top priority for us, and we take extensive measures to ensure our environment is safe, fresh, and welcoming for all children. Our rooms, toys, equipment, and shared areas are cleaned and sanitised regularly throughout the day using appropriate products, and strict hygiene routines are followed by both staff and children.

In addition to our daily cleaning routines, we use an **ozone cleaning machine each evening** to help refresh and sanitise our indoor environment. All carpets are waxed **on a weekly basis**, and this is increased to **daily cleaning where required**, ensuring flooring is kept to the highest possible standard.

We continually review and maintain our cleaning procedures to ensure they meet and often exceed recommended early years standards. This commitment allows us to provide an exceptionally clean and safe nursery environment, supporting children's health, comfort, and wellbeing.

Labelling



Please can we ask that you label ALL your child's clothing and items that they bring to nursery. Without this it's easy for things to go missing and is rather time consuming when trying to find items. We do have a lost property box and this can always be found outside the front door.

My Name Tags are one of many companies that offer stick on washable labels

<https://www.mynametags.com>

Fees

Please ensure that fees are paid on time. Payment of fees is due on the 1st of every month for the up-and-coming month. Payment of November fees for example is to be paid on 1st November. If fees are not paid on time, charges will be applied to your account as per our fees, policy, this also includes suspending the child's space.

Zero Tolerance Policy

At our nursery, we are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and positive environment for children, families, and staff.

We kindly remind all parents and carers that we expect respectful and appropriate behaviour at all times when communicating with, or visiting, the nursery. Our staff work hard to care for and support your children, and they have the right to carry out their roles without fear of intimidation, aggression, or abuse.

We operate a **zero-tolerance approach** towards any form of **violent, threatening, or aggressive behaviour**, including verbal abuse, intimidation, or physical actions directed

towards our staff, children, or anyone on the premises. Such behaviour will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Any incidents of this nature will be taken seriously and may result in appropriate action being taken, which could include restricted access to the nursery, involvement of external agencies, or termination of a child's place, where necessary.

We value positive partnerships with our families and appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe, respectful, and professional environment for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Childcare Funding

If your child is due to start with us soon and will be 9 months old please apply for your childcare funding if you are eligible - [Funding](#). Once you have the code we then need the consent form completed [here](#).

There is also lots of information on this [Website](#) regarding funding available and when to claim for your child.

A reminder that once you have your funding code, it is the parents responsibility to renew this code. We have hundreds of children claiming funding and we cannot remind everyone. HMRC should remind you but I would advise that when you get the code you then put it on your calendar as a reminder. If you don't renew your code you could potentially lose your funding for the next term.



Dates for the Diary

Friday 13th February - Valentines Disco 4.15pm - 5.15pm run by The Parent Forum

Tuesday 17th February - Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday)

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day (celebrating all week from Monday 2nd March - Friday 6th March)



Lunchbox Reminders for Parents & Carers

Helping our children grow, learn and thrive



What to Include Each Day

Try to include **at least 3 of these** in your child's lunchbox:

Fruit & Vegetables

Fresh fruit, cut grapes, carrot sticks, cucumber, cherry tomatoes

Starchy Foods (Energy)

Wholemeal bread, wraps, pitta, pasta, rice or crackers

Protein & Dairy

Cheese, yogurt, eggs, lean meat, fish, beans or hummus



Drinks

✓ Water

✓ Milk

 Please avoid:

- Fizzy drinks
 - Squash or juice drinks
-



Foods to Limit

- Sweets & chocolate
 - Crisps
- Cakes & biscuits

(Best saved for special occasions)

Allergy Reminder – Nut Free Setting

For the safety of all children:

- **Please do not bring any nuts** into the nursery
- **Do not include products containing nuts** (e.g. peanut butter, Nutella, nut bars)
- Always check food labels carefully

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe 

Please also be mindful of other common allergens in our setting:

- Milk & dairy products
- Eggs
- Sesame
- Soya
- Wheat & gluten
- Fish
- Shellfish

If your child brings any of these foods, please ensure items are clearly labelled and speak to a member of staff if you are unsure.

Why Healthy Lunches Matter

Healthy lunchboxes help children to:

-  Stay happy and settled
 -  Grow strong
-  Concentrate and learn

Thank You

Thank you for supporting your child's health and wellbeing.

If you have any questions or need ideas, please speak to a member of staff.

**Tip: Please remember to cut grapes lengthways and label
all lunchboxes.**

North Petherton Community Larder

**Contributions/surplus food
welcome drop-off location Small
Hall at the Community Centre
during library opening hours**



How can you help?

- ANYONE in the local community can contribute items into the larder, reducing food waste, encouraging community goodwill and positive impact on the environment
 - Local businesses can contribute excess stock
 - Local allotment owners, gardeners and farmers can contribute excess into the larder
- We will donate anything to our local Bridgwater Foodbank if not suitable for our service.

Contact Details Email: NPCLarder@hotmail.com Phone: 07817487573