

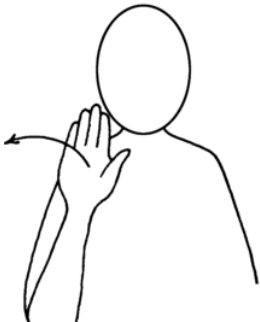


Love each other and know we are loved (John 13:34-35)

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending Friday 4th September 2026

Makaton Sign of the Week

Sign	Meaning
	Hello

Attendance

Please see the attendance percentage data for the school and each class this week.

Whole School	Nursery	Raindrops	Stream	River	Estuary	Ocean
98.3%	100%	96.7%	100%	100%	93.3%	100%

Key Dates

Changes to the calendar are **highlighted in red.**

SCHOOL DATES		
Autumn Term 2026		
1 st September – 23 rd October		
3rd Sept.	Welcome back to school, Children!	Whole School
8 th Sept	International Literacy Day – Focus <i>"Literacy for people, the planet and prosperity"</i> . Children to bring a book on the topic "planet" to share in school	Whole School
9 th Sept.	5pm – 6pm – Reception & Year 1 Parents Phonics Workshop	Rec & Y1 Parents
14 th – 20 th Sept.	Coding Week. Activities in school	
14 th – 20 th Sept	Recycling Week	
14 th Sept.	9am-10am Mastering Number Workshop	Reception Parents
15 th Sept.	International Day of Democracy. Children vote in school for new Committee Members	Whole School
16 th Sept.	5pm – 6pm Year 6 Meeting	Year 6 Parents
22 nd Sept.	Prayer Day Church of St Andrew and St Mary, Conover	Whole School
22 nd Sept.	500 Words – Live Lesson	
23 rd Sept.	Individual and Sibling Photographs, Chris Maddox Photography	Whole School
1 st Oct	Black History Month Begins	
1 st Oct	International Music Day	
1 st Oct.	National Poetry Day	
1 st – 2 nd Oct	Bikeability	Year 6
4 th -10 th Oct.	World Space Week	
5 th Oct.	World Teacher's Day – celebration of our wonderful teachers in school	
6 th Oct.	2pm – 3pm Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents	
9 th Oct.	Reception Baseline Complete	
20 th + 21 st Oct.	Parents Evening	Whole School

21 st Oct.	9:30am – Harvest Service Church of St Andrew + St Mary, Condover	Whole School + Parents
22 nd Oct	Halloween School Disco	Whole School
23rd Oct.	Last Day in School	Whole School

Parent Notices

A message from Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay

What a short but utterly fantastic first week (or week-ish!) back it has been!

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome our children and families back to school and to see our classrooms, corridors, hall, field and playground buzzing with energy and excitement once again. There is always a special magic at the start of a new academic year, and this week has certainly been no exception.

How lucky we are to work with such wonderful children. From the very first morning, children arrived through the school gates with huge smiles on their faces, hand in hand with friends and a spring in their step. Although six weeks can feel like a long time, for both the children and staff it was as though we had never been apart.

One of the greatest joys of the week has been watching the children play together once again. It has been a delight to see friendships rekindled, new friendships formed, and children of all ages enjoying each other's company. The kindness, confidence and sense of community shown by our pupils have been wonderful to see.

We have also been incredibly impressed by how quickly the children have settled back into school life. They have embraced new routines and learning environments, welcomed new children and staff into our school community, and approached every opportunity with positivity, resilience and a genuine eagerness to learn.

And oh, the stories of summer! Whether they enjoyed family adventures, visits to new places, special celebrations, time with loved ones or simply the chance to

relax at home, the children have returned with so many wonderful tales to share. Their enthusiasm has brought smiles to our faces and sparked countless lovely conversations throughout the week.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for the warm messages we have received as we begin the new school year. We wish all our families a wonderful weekend.

A warm welcome....

Firstly, a very warm welcome to all our new Reception children who have started with us this week! It has been wonderful to see them settling into school, exploring their new surroundings and beginning to get to know their teachers and classmates.

We are so proud of how well they have done during their first few days and look forward to watching them grow, learn and flourish as part of our school family.

We would also like to say a big thank you to our Reception families for helping make the start of school such a positive experience. We are very excited for the year ahead!

We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to **Mr Charlie Ward** and **Mrs Olivia Bound**, who have recently joined our school.

Mr Ward joins our Condoover Family in the role of Teaching Assistant, and has made a fantastic start to the term, getting to know the children and supporting learning across the school. His enthusiasm, positive attitude and commitment to helping children thrive shines through, and we are delighted to have Mr Ward as part of our team.

Mrs Bound will be working with us part-time in two important roles. Alongside supporting teaching and learning as a Teaching Assistant, she will also be taking on the new role of Family Learning Mentor.

Mrs Bound joins us with a wealth of experience as a Teaching Assistant, alongside extensive knowledge of Forest School and outdoor learning. Her warm, caring and nurturing approach, combined with her passion for supporting

children to grow in confidence and reach their full potential, make her a wonderful addition to our school community.

The Family Learning Mentor role is an exciting new development for Condoval and is one that will evolve throughout the year as we continue to develop the support we offer our children and families. At its heart, the role is focused on building positive relationships and providing support to children and families, helping to remove barriers to learning, promote wellbeing and ensure that every child feels happy, safe and able to thrive.

We are absolutely delighted to have both Mr Ward and Mrs Bound join our team and look forward to seeing the positive difference they will make to the lives of our children and families in the months and years ahead. Please join us in giving them both a very warm Condoval welcome (and a cheery wave at the gate)!

A note from Nursery...

We have had a wonderful first few days back at nursery, and it has been lovely to welcome all our returning children and families, as well as some new faces to our nursery.

Over the coming weeks, we will be focusing on building friendships, nurturing creativity and helping the children settle into their new routines. Our first topic, **'Marvellous Me'**, will give the children lots of opportunities to celebrate who they are, explore what makes them special and get to know one another.

Free School Meal Changes

We recently shared updated guidance about the upcoming changes to Free School Meal eligibility, which will take effect from September 2026.

From September 2026, the Department for Education is expanding the eligibility criteria so that all children from households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to a Free School Meal.

Applications are now open, and we strongly encourage all eligible households to apply. With the expanded criteria, even more families will be able to benefit from Free School Meals.

Please find the link to apply below:

<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals>

Uniform

We would like to let parents and carers know that DecoStitch is now our sole approved school uniform provider. DecoStitch has recently updated its website and school uniform range to include our new school logo. The updated logo now incorporates the letters "CE" to reflect our status as a Church of England school.

Please be assured that uniform items featuring the previous logo remain perfectly acceptable and can continue to be worn. We recognise that many pupils already have uniform with the existing logo, and we expect to see both versions in use for some time to come.

Uniform can be ordered directly from the DecoStitch school shop here:

Deco Stitch – Condoover Primary School Uniform Shop

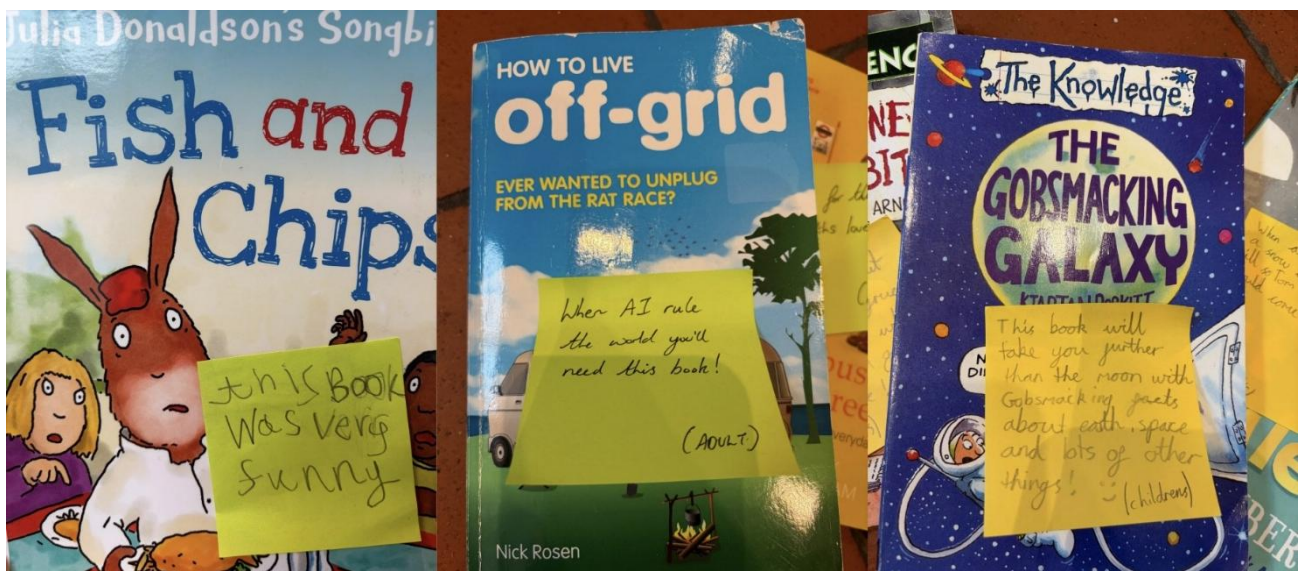
<https://www.decostitch.co.uk/products/school--club---other-shops/school---college-shops/condover-primary-school>



Book Swap

As part of our Eco plan here at school to eliminate unnecessary waste, we would like to invite our wider Condover school community to donate any books they no longer read to our book swap. There will be a labelled cubby hole in the reception area for you to leave your donations, please separate adult and children's literature. Every Friday at pickup (from the 26th June), the book swap baskets will be available near the gate (weather permitting) ready for anyone to swap their books.

To help encourage others to choose your book, why not pop a little post it note review on the front, if you have time!



The Year of Reading

Reading is one of the most powerful habits a child can develop. Just a few minutes of shared reading each day strengthens vocabulary, builds confidence, and opens the door to new ideas and worlds. Whether it's a bedtime story, a chapter before dinner, or a quiet moment at the weekend, these small routines make a lasting difference.

We encourage you to spend time reading with your child or talking about the books they enjoy. Your involvement helps them see reading not as a task, but as something to look forward to. The children have brought home their reading diaries, where you can record these shared moments.

Thank you for supporting a love of books at home. It truly matters.

Reading in Everyday Life

Recipes, signs, schedules and instructions all involve reading.

At home: Read everyday text together during routines.

Recommended read: *The Secret Zoo* — adventure and curiosity combined.

Flourishing Moments

We know that many of our children partake in lots of exciting activities outside of school. We love to hear about them, and all the amazing things that our children achieve outside of our school hours. Please do send in your flourishing moments so that we can share in these proud moments too.

Please email a photo, with a description of the achievement to admin@condover.dhmat.org.uk

A Huge Achievement for Albie!

We would like to give a special shoutout to Albie in River Class, who recently took part in the BMX British Championships in Manchester!

Albie earned the fantastic opportunity to compete after qualifying through the Midlands Region, where he ranked 18th in his region. He then spent the weekend racing against some of the best BMX riders from across the country at the British Championships.

What an incredible achievement! We are so proud of Albie for his hard work, determination and commitment to his sport. Well done, Albie!



Condover Stars Shine in Matilda!

Six of our Condover Little Stars wowed audiences at the Walker Theatre this summer with their fantastic performances in Matilda!

Sienna C, Sienna W, Elliot L, Phoebe, Lottie and Bethany all took to the stage for four performances, showcasing their confidence, talent and enthusiasm.

They certainly proved that sometimes, you have to be a little bit naughty!

A huge well done to all the children — we are incredibly proud of you!





Parking

We politely ask all parents who need to drive to school, to remember to park **legally, considerately and safely** at school drop off and pick up times. This will ease congestion around the school and help make the area around our school a safer place for our children. Alternatively, when possible, please walk to school or park further away this will help to keep our school street a safer place as well as having health benefits. We all want our children to be safe and by respecting the space outside school we can do this together.

Unfortunately, we are aware that safe and considerate parking is not always happening.

There is an increasing number of cars stopping on the yellow lines and parking in areas that should be kept clear for pedestrians and emergency access. Similarly there have been incidents where local residents have been unable to leave their properties due to parked cars blocking driveways; this has meant that residents have been late for appointments which is, understandably, unacceptable.

Ensuring the safety of our children is our highest priority. When cars block pathways, park on corners, or stop directly outside of houses, it creates

significant risk for pupils who are crossing the road. Please help us to keep everyone safe by:

- Avoiding parking on yellow zig-zags or double yellow lines
- Not blocking driveways or access points
- Driving slowly and patiently near the school site

We fully appreciate how difficult parking in a small village can be, especially when combined with how busy the start and end of the school day can be. However, by working together and showing consideration for one another, we can ensure a safer and calmer environment for our children, school community, and wider local community.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and for helping us keep our school and village community safe.

Free School Meals

All **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** children are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM).

We recently shared an update from Shropshire Council with regards to FSM eligibility from September 2026. If you require further information, please do get in contact.

Policies

We have been reviewing and updating several of our school policies to ensure they remain current, effective, and fully aligned with statutory guidance. This is part of our regular cycle of school improvement and helps us maintain the highest standards for our pupils. These are now available on our school website. Thank you for your continued support as we work to keep our school community safe, consistent, and well-informed.

Local Events and Information

DORRINGTON YOUTH CLUB

Friday 4 September 2026
at 5.30 – 7.30pm

Youth Club includes
Fun Activities, Crafts, Ball &
Board Games, and Food
At Dorrington Village Hall
Entrance - £1.50
All ages (9-16) welcome
See you there!



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information
contact:

Vicky Tansley

rth@dhmat.org.uk
or
v.tansley@dhmat.org.uk

Contact

Please send all emails to: **admin@condover.dhmat.org.uk**

Telephone: **01743 872108**

**Condover CE Primary School is proud to be part of
Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust (DHMAT)**



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