



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

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending Friday 18th September 2026

Makaton Sign of the Week

Sign	Meaning
	Name

Attendance

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

Whole School	Nursery	Raindrops	Stream	River	Estuary	Ocean
96.3%	86.1%	97.7%	98%	100%	92%	94.7%

Key Dates

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

SCHOOL DATES		
Autumn Term 1 2026		
1 st September – 23 rd October		
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, Conover	Whole School + Parents
22 nd Oct	Halloween School Disco	Whole School
23rd Oct	Last Day in School	Whole School
	Autumn Half Term – Have a wonderful break!	
2nd Nov	Return from Half Term	Whole School
2 nd Nov	Flu Immunisations	
5 th Nov	Guy Fawkes Day/ Bonfire Night Safety talk in school (Safety Committee)	
8 th Nov.	Diwali	

Celebrating our Achievements!

This week the following awards were given:

Condoover Award		
Respectful	Responsible	Ready
		
Class	Pupil	Award
Raindrops	Freddie	For bringing so much enthusiasm and excitement for learning to the classroom every day. You 'wowed' us when you represented 20 by accurately drawing counters during your discovery time.
Stream	Albie	For being ready to learn in all lessons.
River	Arabella	For showing outstanding imagination and creativity in music, bringing 'Night on a Bare Mountain' to life through wonderful storytelling and expressing acting.
Estuary	Grace	For showing an exceptional readiness to learn all week and for being kind and helpful to all.
Ocean	Douglas	For showing curiosity and resilience in all of your subjects.



Congratulations to all children who received an award this week!



Class Overviews

Raindrops	This week the children have been learning the traditional tale The Little Red Hen, recalling key events, characters and repeated phrases. In Maths, our Year 1 children have been working hard on finding one more and one less with numbers to 10; they created number staircases to help develop their understanding. Our first Welly Wednesday was a great success! The children used all their senses to explore the woodland and worked collaboratively to create beautiful artwork using natural materials. A fantastic week!
Stream	In maths Stream have been learning about tens and ones up to 20. They have been finding one more and less than a number. At home could you roll 2 dice and ask them to find one more or one less

	than a number. Could you write a number and ask them how many tens and ones are in them - e.g. 19 has 1 ten and 9 ones. It has been coding week in school, and the children have been computers- listening to instructions. They have also been debugging (finding errors) in code which other people have written.
River	A busy week in River Class... getting to grips with our numbers up to 1000 in maths, and journeying through the woods with Hansel and Gretel in English. The children have been adding to their descriptive writing toolbox, choosing powerful and well-chosen words to bring their writing to life. A little time travel back to the Stone Age, followed by some truly beautiful line drawings in art. International Literacy Day was a hit – showing and sharing books from home and spending time searching for facts and info to knock our Rivery socks off!
Estuary	We have had a lovely week in Estuary. In English, we enjoyed learning more of our model text and thinking like the characters to imagine what speech they would use in each scene. We also thought about how the characters would feel and compared this to a similar story, "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig", which we were very excited to read. In Maths, we explored place value further, learning how to partition and represent numbers up to 10,000 using a range of resources, such as Base 10, counters and part-whole models. In Science, we learnt more about the bones in our bodies and constructed skeletons using careful measuring to ensure accuracy. In D.T., we loved creating the base of our helmets using papier-mâché and are excited to improve our structures next week. In History, we learnt about the lives of apprentices in Tudor Britain and interviewed Miss Pritchard, who acted as a Tudor apprentice. We then discussed whether we would have wanted to work as an apprentice during the Tudor era and shared our reasons. As part of Coding Week, we also enjoyed taking part in some fun coding activities and developing our problem-solving skills.
Ocean	Ocean Class have been working incredibly hard this week. In English, we have been exploring Fowler's Yard and learning how to imitate the author's style. The children have begun writing suspenseful paragraphs, carefully building tension without revealing the danger straight away. In Maths, we have been focusing on presenting our calculations clearly using the column addition method and developing confidence when adding any two numbers together.

We have also thoroughly enjoyed our comprehension learning this week, where we have been reading about and discovering interesting facts about Roald Dahl. The class have been fascinated by his life and achievements and have engaged enthusiastically with the texts.

Well done, Ocean Class, for all your hard work this week!

Parent Notices

A message from Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay

What a wonderful week we have had in school!

Our children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Recycling Week, learning about the importance of looking after our planet and making sustainable choices. It has been lovely to hear the children enthusiastically singing **"Reduce, Reuse, Recycle"** around school while exploring ways that we can all help protect the environment. As part of this learning, children have also been enjoying the story **"Somebody Crunched Colin"**, which has sparked some excellent conversations about pollution, waste and the impact our actions can have on the world around us. It has been fantastic to see such thoughtful engagement from all year groups, and also across the year groups.

We would also like to extend our thanks to all of our Year 6 parents and carers who attended this week's parent meeting. We greatly appreciate your support as we work together to ensure our oldest pupils have a successful and memorable final year at primary school.

Looking ahead, the children have begun to think about our upcoming **Harvest Celebrations** and the importance of helping those in our local community. From next week, a donation box will be placed on the school gate each day for contributions to our local food bank. We are incredibly grateful for any donations you are able to make and know that they will make a real difference to families in need.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay



HARVEST FESTIVAL

DONATIONS NEEDED

Help us make a difference this Harvest!

We are collecting non-perishable items for our Harvest Donation.



IDEAS FOR DONATIONS

-  Tinned vegetables (e.g. peas, carrots, tomatoes)
-  Tinned fish (e.g. tuna, sardines)
-  Pasta sauces
-  Pasta & rice
-  Cereal
-  Soup
-  Jam & spreads
-  Tea & coffee
-  Biscuits
-  Long life milk
-  Tinned fruit
-  Other non-perishable items



Place your donated items in the **donation box** which will be at the school gate on drop off and pick up each day.

— ♥ Thank you for your kindness and support! ♥ —

A note from Nursery....

As part of our marvellous me topic, we have been exploring emotions, using a variety of books, resources and discussions to help us understand how our feelings happen and can change. We have enjoyed lots of role play and imaginative play, giving us opportunities to explore different emotions and express ourselves. We have also had lots of fun exploring our autumn-themed tuff tray and getting creative at the playdough table this week!

ECO NEWS

A huge congratulations to **Evie, Liston, Louie, Poppy, Tobias, Maggie, Noah, Ada, Archie** and **Orla** for being voted in as our new eco-committee members this year! Our first meeting was held this Wednesday, where the children were able to introduce themselves and find out our focus for this term: Marine Plastics.

The children have made a start on creating a new eye-catching display for our school to raise awareness of the plastic problem in our oceans. They used recycled magazines and cardboard to create some super marine creatures and a backdrop.

Parent Workshop

A huge thank you to the parents of our Reception children who attended the Mastering Number Workshop on Monday. It was great to have so many of you attend; the children loved having you in school. We hope the children have enjoyed playing the games at home!

School Photographs – Reminder – Wednesday 23rd September

A friendly reminder to all families that our individual and sibling photographs are scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, 23rd September**. Please ensure your children arrive wearing complete school uniform.
Thank you for your cooperation!

Important Changes to Wraparound Care Costs

We would like to let families know about a change to our wraparound care charges.

From **1st January 2027**, we will no longer be offering a sibling discount for wraparound care.

We understand that changes to costs can be a concern for families, and this decision has not been taken lightly. The change is necessary to help us meet the increasing costs of providing a safe, high-quality wraparound care service and to ensure that the provision remains sustainable for the future.

We are committed to keeping our charges as reasonable as possible while continuing to provide a reliable and welcoming service for our children and families. We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

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

KS1 Multi-Sports – Mondays

We still have lots of spaces available for our KS1 Multi-Sports Club on Mondays!

The club runs from 3.15pm – 4.15pm and is £3 per week. The club which is hosted by Shrewsbury Town is a fantastic opportunity for children to get active, have fun and try out a range of different sports in a friendly and supportive environment.

If your child would like to take part, please book their place by emailing Melanie Short in the school office admin@condover.dhmat.org.uk

Please note that we need a minimum of 5 children for the club to run, so please book as soon as possible!

We'd love to see lots of our KS1 children getting involved!

Who's Who at Our School

We know that starting a new school year can sometimes mean meeting lots of new faces, so we thought it would be helpful to introduce you to the key members of our school team. Our "Who's Who" section provides a quick introduction to our staff and their roles, helping parents and carers to know who is who and who to speak to if they have a question or need some support.

We are very proud of our dedicated team and the important role each member plays in supporting our children and making our school a happy, safe and welcoming place to learn.

Executive Headteacher Becky Elvins (DDSL)		
Executive Deputy Headteacher Hannah Clay (DSL)		
School Administrator Melanie Short		
SEND Coordinator Steph Reid	Family Learning Mentor Olivia Bound	ELSA Anita Foxall
Site Staff Russell Davis	Kitchen Jackie Haynes Jane Lewis	BSC / ASC Sharon Corke Sharlene Hess Karen Coffey
Year Group	Class Teacher	Support Staff
Reception + Year 1 (Raindrops)	Louisa Ockenden	Anita Foxall Charlie Ward Sharon Corke James Harris Olivia Bound
Year 1 + Year 2 (Stream)	Ewan Evans	
Year 3 (River)	Rozzie Case	
Year 4 (Estuary)	Georgina Pritchard	
Year 5 + 6 (Ocean)	Toby Bearne	

Vacancies

If you are interested in working with us, or know someone who may be interested, please take a look at our current vacancies across Condover and St Edward's. We would love to hear from you! If you require further information, please e-mail admin@condover.dhmat.org.uk

Condover CE Primary School - Current Vacancies

Cleaning Assistant

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145275/EDV-2026-CCPS-43341>

Nursery Assistant

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145275/EDV-2026-CCPS-05749>

Teaching Assistant

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145275/EDV-2026-CCPS-41577>

St Edward's CE Primary School - Current Vacancies

Class Teacher (Year R, 1 & 2)

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145300/EDV-2026-SECPS-92572>

Administrator

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145300/EDV-2026-SECPS-65602>

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 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>

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 and Listening

Listening to stories supports language and comprehension.

At home: Try audiobooks during travel time.

Recommended read: How to Train Your Dragon (audiobook/print) — beloved, engaging narrative.

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!



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>

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.

Is my child too ill for school?



Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	Cold sores Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels. Conjunctivitis Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly. Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP. Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly. Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.	Impetigo They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school. Ringworm See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment. Scarlet fever They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics. Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	Ear infection If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away. Measles They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system. Vomiting & diarrhoea Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

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.

Local Events and Information



KCDC DANCE CLUB!

WHERE?
Condover Primary School

WHEN?
Tuesdays
3.15pm - 4.15pm

WHAT?
Contemporary, Jazz & Street Dance

COST?
£5 weekly

TO ORGANISE YOUR PLACE, CONTACT KATIE
kcdancecentre@gmail.com

Tap Ballet Contemporary Modern Jazz Freestyle

Weekly dance classes held in:
Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury & Arddleen

Elegance DANCE School

Ages 3-18 years
Examinations & Shows

Member of **IDTA**

www.elegancedanceschool.co.uk 07875446330

Plus...
'Parent & Toddler' Classes for 2-3yrs!

Understanding Your Child
From Toddler to Teen

"I met others going through the same things. It really helped me feel less alone."
"The group boosted my confidence as a parent."

Join our friendly, relaxed group!

Parenting can be full of ups, downs, big feelings and lots of learning — for both you and your child! Come and join us as we chat about what's going on for you and your family. Together we'll make sense of tricky moments and share simple ideas that can make life calmer and more positive.

Upcoming Sessions (once a week over 10 weeks, excl. half terms and bank holidays)

- 21st September 2026 from 9.15 to 11.15am at Brown Clee Primary School, Bridgnorth (WV16 6SS)
- 21st September 2026 from 9.00 to 11.00am at St Giles Primary School, Shrewsbury (SY2 5NL)
- 22nd September 2026 from 12.45pm to 2.45pm at Sundorne Infants School, Shrewsbury (SY1 4QN)
- 23rd September 2026 from 9.15 to 11.15am at Coleham Primary, Shrewsbury (SY3 7EN)
- 23rd September 2026 from 1.15 to 3.15pm at St Laurence Primary School, Ludlow (SY8 1TP)
- 24th September 2026 from 1.00 to 3.00pm at Bishops Castle Primary School (SY9 5PA)
- 25th September 2026 from 12.30 to 2.30pm Online via MS Teams

What We'll Talk About

- Communicating and building connection with your child
- Routines like sleep and bedtime and any other routines you have as a family
- Understanding behaviour and big emotions
- Child development and how you can support it

Want to Join Us?

Email: parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk
Call: 01743 250950
Visit: [The Parenting Team | Shropshire Council](https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/parenting-team)

Prefer flexible online learning?

Try our free online learning pathways at
[Becoming Togetherness - Togetherness](https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/becoming-togetherness)

Understanding Your Child
0 – 5 years

"I met others going through the same things. It really helped me feel less alone."
"The group boosted my confidence as a parent."

Join our friendly, relaxed group!

Parenting can be full of ups, downs, big feelings and lots of learning — for both you and your child! Your child's early years are full of change and transition, such as starting nursery or school and moving into the next phase of development. In our weekly sessions we will explore ways how you can support your child through these transitions and other tricky moments. Join us and other parents and carers to share simple ideas that can make life calmer and more positive.

Upcoming Session

- starts Monday 21st September, 12.30-2.30pm at The Lantern, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NG

the group meets once a week over 10 weeks, excl. half terms and bank holidays with the last session being on Monday 30th November 2026.

What We'll Talk About

- Transition periods in your family's life
- Communicating and building connection with your child
- Routines like sleep and bedtime and any other routines you have as a family
- Understanding behaviour and big emotions
- Child development and how you can support it

Want to Join Us?

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Prefer flexible online learning?

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PGCE Pathway

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Are you interested in a career in teaching?

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www.worcs.ac.uk

Would you like to
find out more?

For further
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
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