Diocese of Hereford Multi-Academy Trust

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LOVE FORGIVENESS TRUST

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

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending Friday 25th September 2026

Makaton Sign of the Week

Sign	Meaning
	Rain

Attendance

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

Whole School	Nursery	Raindrops	Stream	River	Estuary	Ocean
98.1%	95.2%	99.7%	97.3%	98.7%	97.2%	97.5%

Key Dates

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

SCHOOL DATES		
Autumn Term 1 2026 1st September – 23rd October		
1st Oct	Black History Month Begins	
1st Oct	International Music Day	
1st Oct.	National Poetry Day	
1st – 2nd Oct	Bikeability	Year 6
4th -10th Oct	World Space Week	
5th Oct	World Teacher's Day – celebration of our wonderful teachers in school	
6th Oct	2pm – 3pm Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents	
9th Oct	Reception Baseline Complete	
20th + 21st Oct.	Parents Evening	Whole School
21st Oct	9:30am – Harvest Service Church of St Andrew + St Mary, Condover	Whole School + Parents
22nd 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
2nd Nov	Flu Immunisations	
5th Nov	Guy Fawkes Day/ Bonfire Night Safety talk in school (Safety Committee)	
8th Nov	Diwali	
9th – 20th Nov	UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) Eco Committee Assembly	
11th Nov	Remembrance Service Church of St Andrew & St Mary, Condover	Whole School
12th Nov	Parent Workshop – Maths	Parents
13th Nov	Children in Need - Fundraising	Whole School

Celebrating our Achievements!

This week the following awards were given:

Condover Award		
Respectful	**Responsible**	**Ready**

Class	Pupil	Award
Raindrops	Evie M	For brilliant story telling of The Little Red Hen! She speaks clearly, confidently and uses all the actions!
Stream	Madison	For having such creative similes ideas in her writing.
River	Ted	For showing tremendous effort when working on metaphors in English. And for lighting up our classroom with his personality, humour, and warmth every day.
Estuary	Harvey	For being a responsible member of the class and helping others when they were upset or hurt.
Ocean	Beatrice	For showing great creativity in writing a suspense story.

Congratulations to all children who received an award this week!

Class Overviews

Raindrops	This week the children have drawn their own story maps of The Little Red Hen, carefully sequencing the key events and retelling the story in their own words. They have also created masks, which they used to bring the characters to life when performing on our class stage! As part of our Marvellous Me learning, we have become scientists, exploring the human lifecycle. The children have discussed how humans grow over time, noticing what they can do now compared to when they were a baby.
Stream	It has been another busy and exciting week in Stream Class! We have started creating our own stories based on Little Red Riding Hood. The children have been busy developing their ideas and using their imaginations to bring their stories to life. Why not ask your child to tell you their story so far? They might even impress you by writing a few sentences about it at home! In Maths, we have been comparing numbers, deciding which number is more, fewer or equal, and using the symbols q, G and =. We have also been using number lines and practising estimating where different numbers belong.

	Why not have a go at this fun game together at home? 🎮 Placing Numbers on a Number Line – Mathsframe We had a lovely time at church for our Prayer Day. It was wonderful to see how engaged the children were, and they listened beautifully throughout the day. We were very proud of them! Well done, Stream Class, for another fantastic week.
River	River Class have enjoyed another busy week of learning. In History, we have been exploring Skara Brae and looking at archaeological evidence to deepen our understanding of the past. In English, our work on metaphors has produced some wonderfully imaginative – and occasionally rather bizarre – descriptions, with creativity pouring onto the page. We are also thoroughly enjoying French, building confidence as we practise speaking together – River Class commence vraiment à avoir le français dans la peau… et Miss Case aussi! Our music lesson provided the opportunity to experiment with sound, texture, pitch and dynamics and compose our own soundscapes based on Mugorsky's 'Night on a Bare Mountain' - the results being truly impressive. It has been lovely to see such curiosity and creativity across the curriculum this week.
Estuary	In Maths, we have been looking at number lines up to 10,000, focusing on identifying intervals and finding mid-points. We found this quite tricky, so it would be really helpful if we could continue practising this at home. In English, we have been looking at The True Story of the Three Little Pigs and thinking about how we can box up the text to identify the key parts of the story. In Science, we continued learning about muscles and bones and explored how muscles contract and relax to help us move. In History, we learnt about the different jobs Victorian children had and how their lives were different from ours.
Ocean	This week, Ocean Class have been busy putting their own creative twists on Fowler's Yard as we begin rewriting the story. The children have worked hard to imitate the author's style whilst developing their own ideas, characters and settings to make their writing unique and engaging. In maths, we have been tackling addition and subtraction problems involving more than one step. The children have shown great resilience, carefully applying different strategies to solve increasingly challenging questions. In science, we have continued our learning about the Solar System and have been fascinated by discovering more about the planets and their moons. Did you know that Saturn has an incredible 293 moons? This fact certainly sparked lots of curiosity and discussion in our classroom!

	Well done, Ocean Class, for another fantastic week of learning. Keep up the great work!

Parent Notices

A message from Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay

As we reach the end of another wonderful week, we have been reminded once again of what a special school community we are so fortunate to be part of.

This week, we recognised International Day of Peace, spending time thinking about how each of us can make a positive difference to the world around us. The children explored what it means to be a peace builder through acts of kindness, friendship and understanding. It has been lovely to see so many children demonstrating these values in school and supporting one another with such care and consideration. Some children have even made their own Peace Builder Booklets with ideas of how they can make a positive impact in our community - what a fabulous idea!

A particular highlight this week was our Prayer Day at St Andrew and St Mary's Church, Condover. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the wide range of activities and opportunities for reflection throughout the day. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the wonderful CREWE team for all of their hard work, enthusiasm and energy in making the day so engaging and memorable for the children.

We are excited to share with you that we will soon be introducing Seesaw, a new communication platform designed to strengthen the connection between home and school. For our Nursery and Reception Families, this will replace Tapestry as our Communication Tool. We are looking forward to sharing more information with you in the coming weeks and are confident that it will provide another valuable way to celebrate children's learning and keep families informed.

Finally, a gentle reminder that our Harvest donation box will be available on the school gate each day. We would be incredibly grateful for any donations of non-perishable food items to support the local foodbank - please see our poster further down in our newsletter! Every item donated will help families within our community, and we thank you for your continued generosity and kindness.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. We hope you enjoy a restful weekend with your families and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday.

A note from Nursery….

This week in Nursery, we have been enjoying owl and nature inspired activities based around our story Owl Babies, including our first visit to the woods this term, where we spotted signs of the changing season and took our owl puppet on a fun game of hide and seek, we also created feather filled owl role play masks!

In Maths, we have been focusing on big and small through practical, playful and creative activities.

The Friends of Condover – AGM

A friendly reminder that the Friends of Condover are holding their **AGM** on **Monday 5th October** at **6.30pm**.

Details how to register have been sent out in an e-mail.

Please do come along and show your 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**

Communication

We are currently trialling a new way of communicating with parents and carers. Rather than sending emails via the school website, we will now be sending them through our management information system, **Arbor**.

We hope this will help ensure that all parents and carers receive important school communications promptly and reliably.

Please make sure that your contact details in Arbor are up to date and that notifications are enabled where possible.

Thank you for your support as we trial this new approach.

Important Changes to Wraparound Care Costs

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.

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!

Football Star!

What a fantastic achievement for Harvey! On Friday evening, he proudly took home a medal at training with his new team, Meole Brace Juniors Under 9 Eagles.

A brilliant start with his new team and a moment to be proud of. Well done, Harvey! Keep up the great work!

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.

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

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

No vacancies

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.

Building Stamina

Longer attention spans develop gradually.

At home: Encourage quiet reading time without distractions.

Recommended read: *Glassborn* — rich fantasy adventure.

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 – Condover 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?

UK Government NHS

Does your child have a high temperature (38ºC 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.	**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.	**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.	**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.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	**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.	**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.	**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.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	**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.	**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).
	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.	**Chickenpox** Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	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.		

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, unaceptable.

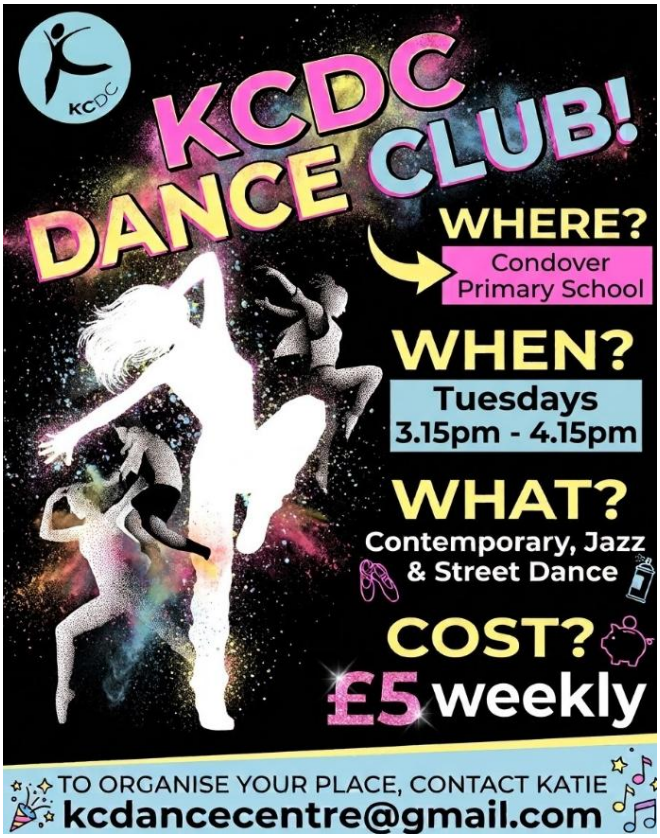
Ensuring the safety of our children is our highest priority. When cars block pathways, park on corners, or stop directly outside of houses, it creates significant risk for pupils who are crossing the road. Please help us to keep everyone safe by:

- 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



FLAMES NETBALL

Flames Netball Club are recruiting!

If you are school years 4 to 11 and want to play netball, Flames would love to hear from you!

Flames train on Friday evenings (term time only) at Church Stretton Leisure Centre, all abilities welcome

For more information, please visit flamesnetball.co.uk and fill out a contact form to register your interest

hello@flamesnetball.co.uk

Diocese of Hereford Multi-Academy Trust

PGCE Pathway

Start your teaching career with us

Are you interested in a career in teaching?

Come and join our Regional Training Hub Plus

In partnership with the University of Worcester

www.worcs.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY of WORCESTER

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 Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust (DHMAT)

Diocese of Hereford Multi-Academy Trust

A FAMILY OF SCHOOLS FLOURISHING TOGETHER

GRACE SERVICE FAMILY

Company Registration No: 08762217