

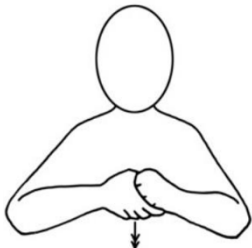


Love each other and know we are loved (John 13:34-35)

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending Friday 9th October 2026

Makaton Sign of the Week

Sign	Meaning
	Friend

Attendance

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

Whole School	Nursery	Raindrops	Stream	River	Estuary	Ocean
97.5%	100%	97.7%	98.5%	95.3%	96.7%	98%

Key Dates

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

SCHOOL DATES		
Autumn Term 1 2026		
1 st September – 23 rd October		
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
	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	
9 th – 20 th Nov	UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) Eco Committee Assembly	
11 th Nov.	Remembrance Service Church of St Andrew & St Mary, Condover	Whole School
12 th Nov	Parent Workshop – Maths	Parents
13 th 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	Matilda	For brilliant participation during class and group learning; you demonstrate enthusiasm, thoughtfulness and confidence. Well done!
Stream	Elliot	For improving his handwriting and taking extra care in his layout of his work.
River	Bonnie	For her exceptional contribution to everything and everyone. For matching her brilliant heart with her brilliant brain. For striving for excellence in her own learning whilst always finding the time to help, support, encourage and love others!
Estuary	Ada	For showing great creativity in English when innovating the model text to create her own version.
Ocean	Henry	For showing creativity in Art and writing



Congratulations to all children who received an award this week!



Class Overviews

Raindrops	Raindrops Class have been busy planning their own versions of The Little Red Hen, carefully choosing which characters will feature in their stories. They are excited to share their creative innovations next week, either verbally or, for those who are ready, through their writing. In Geography, we have been exploring our immediate environment and learning how to create maps. We have enjoyed making 'messy maps' of our classroom and Condover using blocks and loose parts, before having a go at drawing maps of our playground.
Stream	In English, we have been finishing our shared write based on Little Red Riding Hood. There has been a big focus on using adjectives (describing words) to make their interesting more writing. At home, could they describe different objects to you or different characters in story. Eg the shiny, beautiful and incredible crown. In Maths, we have been focusing on addition and using this to add numbers within 20. Could they tell you a story eg First there were 5

	<p>teddies on the sofa. Then 8 more teddies got on. Now there are 13 teddies on the sofa.</p> <p>For Space week, children created rockets and hopefully had lots of fun at home showing them to you. They showed good determination as they were quite fiddly to make.</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend.</p>
River	<p>From our metacarpals and phalanges, our têtes to our pieds, and all the way into space, River Class have adventured through their week with their usual energy and enthusiasm. We have been inspired by mathematician Katherine Johnson, whose brilliant calculations helped make space travel possible, and learned about life aboard the International Space Station with astronaut, Chris Hadfield. Just a week of River Class reaching for the stars - as usual!</p>
Estuary	<p>This week in Estuary, we have been very busy!</p> <p>In English, we have started to plan and write our own versions of The Three Little Pigs, with stories featuring big, bad cheetahs, pigs, bears and many more imaginative characters! We have really enjoyed putting our own twists on the traditional tale. We are excited to finish our pieces of writing next week and share our wonderful stories with the class.</p> <p>In maths, we have been busy learning how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. We found this quite tricky at first, but we came up with some handy rules to help us remember what to do. We learnt that if the digit we are looking at is 5 or above, we round it to the next multiple and if it is less than 5, we round to the previous multiple. We would benefit from practising this skill a little more so that we can become even more confident!</p> <p>In science, we were introduced to a familiar cartoon character who tried to convince us that there was only one nutrient group! We decided that we needed to prove him wrong, so we researched the seven nutrient groups and explored why we need a variety of nutrients as part of a healthy, balanced diet.</p> <p>Finally, in celebration of National Space Week, we decided to embrace our artistic sides! We created our own beautiful galaxy paintings and were incredibly proud of the colourful and creative results.</p>
Ocean	<p>This week, Ocean Class have been busy writing their own suspense stories and have worked hard to develop tension and excitement within their writing.</p> <p>In maths, we have been learning how to multiply 4-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, as well as exploring methods for multiplying by 2-digit numbers. The children have shown great determination when tackling these more challenging calculations.</p> <p>As part of Black History Month, we have begun learning about Katherine Johnson and her remarkable contributions to space exploration. The class have enjoyed reading about her achievements and discussing the impact she had on history.</p> <p>In art, we have had great success creating fantastic artwork inspired by the planets, the universe, and influential Black figures. The children have demonstrated creativity and care, producing work they can be very proud of.</p>

Parent Notices

A message from Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay

We would like to start by thanking our whole school community for the kindness, compassion and support shown following the loss of our dear colleague, Mrs Jo Jackson. It has been a difficult time for us all. Jo embodied the very heart of our school and Trust values. Through every interaction, she demonstrated Grace, Service and Love, giving so much of herself to our children, families and staff. Her warmth, dedication and unwavering care touched the lives of so many, and her legacy will continue to be felt throughout our school community. Your thoughtful messages and care have meant so much. Our sincere thanks go to our parents and carers, our Governors, and Father Gareth for the comfort, guidance and support they have provided throughout the week. We offer our sincerest gratitude to you all.

Jo's funeral will take place on Monday 26th October at 12pm noon at Pitchford Church for those wishign to attend.

Our thoughts and heartfelt condolences are with Jo's family, friends and all those who are grieving at this difficult time.

This week has been another rather busy one, with our wonderful teachers and teaching assistants jam-packing every minute with fun, learning and memorable expeirences for our children!

This week started off with a bang as our children recognised the "FAAAAANTASTIC" Team we have here at school! World Teachers' Day and World Teaching Assistants' Day was a chance to celebrate and acknowledge our incredible staff team through a whole school assembly, positivity notes passed from children to adults, and a few treats for the staff to enjoy too. Every day, our Team go above and beyond to nurture, inspire and support our children, and we are fortunate and proud to have such dedicated professionals working in our school.

The children have continued their learning on Black History Month, thoroughly enjoying taking part in Live Assembly and being inspired by the stories, achievements and contributions they explored. This learning has sparked some wonderful artwork across the school! We were also delighted for pupils in Years 5+6 to take part in the Shrewsbury Town Black History Month event, which gave them another valuable opportunity to celebrate diversity, culture and achievement. A huge thank you to Mr Bearne and Mrs Short for organising this experience for our children!

We are, as always, exceptionally proud of all our fabulous learners and everything they have achieved this week!

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend!

A note from Nursery....

This week in Nursery, we have been learning about community and friendships through our book of the week, Farmer Duck. We enjoyed taking part in lots of teamwork activities and acts of kindness, the children were very proud to receive awards celebrating their achievements. In Maths, we focused on recognising shapes and took our learning outdoors to the woods, where we spotted shapes in the environment and created our own using autumn treasures we found.

Uniform Reminder

Just a reminder that all children should be wearing full school uniform each day, including the correct school shoes.

Please note that trainers are not part of the school uniform and should not be worn to school, unless your child has PE or Forest School that day, when the appropriate footwear can be worn.

Water Bottle Reminder

Just a reminder that children should only have water in their water bottles during the school day and do not contain juice, squash, flavoured drinks etc

Thank you for your support.

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

A Fantastic Swimming Achievement for Layla!

A huge well done to Layla, who completed her 20-metre swimming certificate on Saturday!

Completing 20 metres is a wonderful achievement and a brilliant milestone!

Well done, Layla! Keep swimming, keep smiling and keep believing in yourself!



Archie's Rugby Success!

Archie was awarded Player of the Week at Rugby last Sunday after Captaining his team. He scored a Hat Trick of tries and the coaches said he's the best Captain they've had with excellent communication skills and lots of encouragement for his team. Well done Archie!



ECO News

Over the last few weeks, the Eco Committee members have been focusing on marine plastic and waste in general. Creating an eye catching display utilising recycled materials, they have incorporated facts about plastic and our world and the devastating impact our waste is having on our streams, rivers, estuaries, seas & oceans.

Last week the committee carried out a waste bin and recycling bin audit of each classroom to find out if the school community are using the bins correctly. Donning special protective gloves, the children sorted through each bin and documented their findings. Each Eco Committee member now has a special role as waste/recycling ambassadors, hopefully helping their classmates to select the correct bin for their rubbish or recycling. The wider school community can help too by showing their children where the recycling bins are at home and which materials can go in which bin.

This week the committee surveyed the school community on their lunchboxes: how much plastic/foil/paper they contained; what elements were recyclable; and whether reusable containers were being utilised. Watch this space for the Eco Committee's zero waste lunchbox recommendations coming soon.



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	

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.

Readers Make Choices

Choosing books builds ownership and motivation.

At home: Let your child decide what and when to read.

Recommended read: Varjak Paw — a gripping 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 – Condovery 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, considerably 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.

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 Condoover 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>

St Edward's CE Primary School

No vacancies

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



SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Dance Camp

Choose your camp:
Monday 26th October
Year 5 & 6
Tuesday 27th October
Year 7 & 8

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• £35 per day
• All welcome

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Limited places
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CROSS HOUSES BIG CHRISTMAS FAIR

SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 10.00AM-3.30PM
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HOLIDAY CLUBS

SHREWSBURY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30
CROUD MEADOW, OTELEY ROAD, SHREWSBURY (SY2 6ST)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL ADMIN@FOUNDATIONSTFC.CO.UK
OR CALL 01743 289177 (OPTION 6)

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October Half Term Activity

BONES

MONDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Explore the fascinating world of bones!
Investigate owl pellets to discover what owls eat, find out what mammoth bones can tell us, and compare them with the bones of other animals.

Ages 4-11 years. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

2 - 3.30PM **BOOK ONLINE**

£5 PER CHILD

01588 676 060
School Road, Craven Arms SY7 9RS.
Grow Cook Learn, a registered charity: 1158795
www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk
info@shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk

Places limited!

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

ARTS & CRAFTS CAMP

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CHOOSE YOUR CAMP:

Monday 26th October - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 27th October - Year 5 & 6

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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)**



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