Diocese of Hereford Multi-Academy Trust

Station Road, Condover, Shrewsbury SY5 7AA
Telephone: 01743 872108
Email: admin@condover.dhmat.org.uk
Web: www.condoverschool.co.uk

LOVE FORGIVENESS TRUST

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

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending Friday 23rd October 2026

Makaton Sign of the Week

Sign	Meaning
	**Cold**

Attendance

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

Whole School	Nursery	Raindrops	Stream	River	Estuary	Ocean
93.8%	88.9%	96.7%	88.5%	100%	96.7%	89.7%

Key Dates

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

SCHOOL DATES		
Autumn Term 1 2026 1st September – 23rd October		
	Autumn Half Term – Have a wonderful break!	
	Autumn Term 2 2026 2nd November – 18th December	
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)	
5th Nov	Year 1 Phonics Parent Workshop - 2:45-3:15pm	Year 1 Parents
8th Nov.	Diwali	Whole School
9th – 20th Nov	UN Climate Change Conference (COP31) Eco Committee Assembly	
11th Nov.	Remembrance Service	
12th Nov	Parent Workshop – Maths	Parents
12th Nov	Open Afternoon 2pm – 3pm	Prospective Parents
13th Nov	Children in Need - Fundraising	Whole School
15th – 21st Nov	Road Safety Week	
16th – 20th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week Safety Committee	
24th Nov.	Advent Experience for Children Church of St Andrew & St Mary, Condover	Whole School
26th Nov.	Youth Awareness Day	
1st Dec	Advent Begins	
8th Dec.	Trust Advent Service Hereford Cathedral, Hereford	TBC
10th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day	Whole School
16th Dec	0930 – 1030 Christmas Service Church of St Andrew and St Mary, Condover	Whole School + Parents
18th Dec.	**Last Day in School**	Whole School

Celebrating our Achievements!

This week the following awards were given:

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

Class	Pupil	Award
Raindrops	Florence	For her superb attention to detail, making sure her work is the very best she can make it. Your hard work and determination have been noticed in English, Maths and Art this week.
Stream	Izzy	For showing creative ideas in writing her own story.
River	Pippa	For her resilience, enthusiasm and unwavering effort. Pippa tackles every challenge with positivity and imagination, showing great determination and a fantastic attitude towards learning.
Estuary	Erin	For showing diligence and attention to detail in maths when learning how to do additions with multiple exchanges.
Ocean	Leo	For always trying your absolute hardest in every lesson and helping others when they need it.

Congratulations to all children who received an award this week!

Class Overviews

Raindrops	I think you'd all agree that Raindrops performance for the Harvest Service was fantastic! They were all so brave getting up on stage in front of an audience and they sang beautifully. In addition to Harvest, the children have been enjoying the build-up to Halloween by getting creative, creating skeletons and cauldrons. It has been a very successful first half term in Raindrops and we are very proud of how much progress the children have already made.
Stream	Thank you for all your support this half term. Have a lovely week and look forward to seeing you all very soon. Many thanks Mr Evans.
River	It's been another busy week in River Class, punctuated by song practices, the Harvest Service, parent's evenings, and culminating with the

	Halloween disco and the school being blanketed in chocolate, cakes and biscuits. River Class has spent much of the week learning about health, nutrition, and balanced diets, though I doubt this will have had an impact on their enthusiasm to clear the tables, fill their plates, and devour everything in sight. Or mine. Our Comprehension text this week has focused on the inspirational gymnast Simone Biles and this has led the children to reflect on her powerful message that mental health and happiness are far more important than medals, trophies or success. It sparked some thoughtful discussions about resilience, wellbeing and looking after ourselves both in and out of school. Equally impressive conversations followed in RE, as the children have been exploring Hinduism, and exploring key beliefs and stories and considering how Hindus understand the relationship between Brahman, the world, and human life. In maths, we have started to gather momentum with our times tables. We're aiming to improve our speed and accuracy; I'm hoping a little extra practice over the half term will enable River Class to head towards Christmas armed with multiplication facts and jingling with mathematical confidence!
Estuary	We have once again had a busy week in Estuary, and we have had so much fun! We have been working hard to prepare for the Harvest Festival and were so proud to perform our song for you. In Maths, we have been developing our subtraction skills by learning how to make exchanges. Although we found this tricky at first, lots of practice has helped us grow in confidence. In English, we have been looking closely at The Praying Mantis and identifying the tools the author uses, such as technical vocabulary and subheadings, to organise ideas and engage the reader. In Science and History, we enjoyed creating eye-catching posters to demonstrate our learning about movement and nutrition and to show how children's lives have changed over time. We hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and enjoy having a rest.
Ocean	This week, Ocean Class have been busy finishing their balanced arguments on a topic of their choice. Some of the most popular questions included Should zoos be banned? and Should schools ban school uniform? The children worked hard to present both sides of their argument before reaching a conclusion. In Maths, we have been learning how to plot coordinates. The children then applied this knowledge in a fun and practical way by playing Battleships, using their coordinate skills to locate and sink ships.

We have also been creating some fabulous double-page spreads for our Geography topic, How Do We Use Our Oceans?, and our Science topic, Earth and Space. The children have demonstrated their knowledge and understanding in a variety of creative ways and have shown great pride in their work.

Finally, another huge well done to everyone for the Harvest Performance. The children absolutely smashed it and represented Ocean Class brilliantly. We are very proud of all their hard work and enthusiasm. Good job, Ocean Class!

Parent Notices

A message from Miss Elvins and Mrs Clay

As we reach the end of another half term, it is hard to believe just how much we have experienced together in such a short time. It has certainly been a busy few weeks, but there has also been so much to celebrate! We would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful children, dedicated staff, supportive parents and carers, and committed governors for everything you do. The strength, kindness and encouragement within our school community are what make Condover such a special place to learn, grow and belong.

Last night's Halloween Disco was a fantastic success, filled with fun, laughter and excitement. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces enjoying the evening together. A huge thank you goes to the Friends of Condover School for all their hard work in organising such a brilliant event and for the countless ways they support our school throughout the year. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do, and we are already looking forward to the next fabulous event they host for school!

This week saw us gather together for our first church service of the year, our Harvest Celebration, and what a lovely occasion it was. The children's singing was, quite simply, beautiful, and it was heartwarming to see so many parents and carers joining us to celebrate. Our sincere thanks go to Father Gareth for welcoming us to St Andrew and St Mary's Church, to our staff for their hard work behind the scenes, to the children for their wonderful performance, and to all our families for your continued encouragement and support. Moments like these remind us just how fortunate we are to be part of such a caring and connected community.

As half term begins, we hope every family has the opportunity to enjoy some well-deserved rest and time together. Whether you are heading off on an autumn adventure, spending time with loved ones, or simply enjoying a slower pace, we hope the break brings plenty of happiness, relaxation and special moments.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support this half term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November for another exciting term.

Take care and enjoy the break!

A note from Nursery….

Our book focus, Room on the Broom, has inspired lots of imaginative role play, arts and crafts, potion making and singing activities in Nursery. In maths, we have been enjoying a variety of our favourite counting songs, using props and resources to support our learning. Have a fabulous half-term break full of pumpkins and pinecones!

Flu Immunisations

A reminder that the Flu Vaccination Programme will take place in school on **2nd November.**

Please note that the programme is managed directly by the Immunisation Team. Parents and carers will be contacted by the team with all relevant information, including details of the consent and non-consent process, as well as who to contact with any questions regarding the vaccination.

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**

Seesaw

You will have received an email from the school office regarding Seesaw, along with an invitation to sign up and access your child's account. If you have not received your invitation, please contact the school office as soon as possible so that we can assist you.

Children In Need

We are incredibly excited about our Children in Need fundraiser this year! It's fantastic to see that so many children have already signed up, and some are even receiving donations already. Thank you for your wonderful 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.

Message From The Friends of Condover School



Flourishing Moments

Freddie in Raindrops Class completed his 5m badge in swimming this week both on his back and front. He was so proud. Well done Freddie!



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

Teaching Assistant

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

St Edward's CE Primary School

After School Club Assistant

https://mynewterm.com/jobs/145300/EDV-2026-SECPS-96074

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 colspan="2">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>

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 During Busy Weeks

All reading counts—even short moments.

At home: One page, one label, or one sign still matters.

Recommended read: Captain Superlap — quick & fun

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.

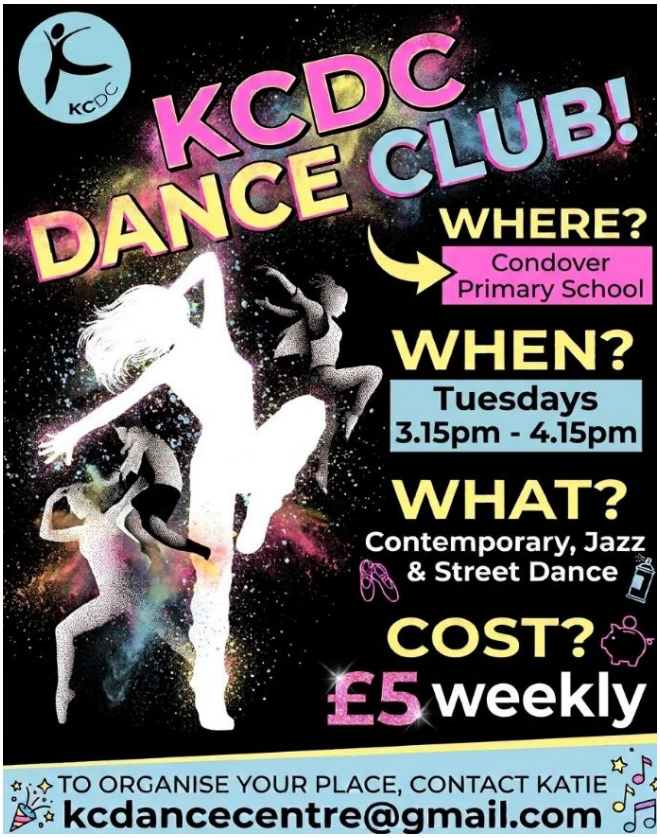
Ensuring the safety of our children is our highest priority. When cars block pathways, park on corners, or stop directly outside of houses, it creates significant risk for pupils who are crossing the road. Please help us to keep everyone safe by:

- 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

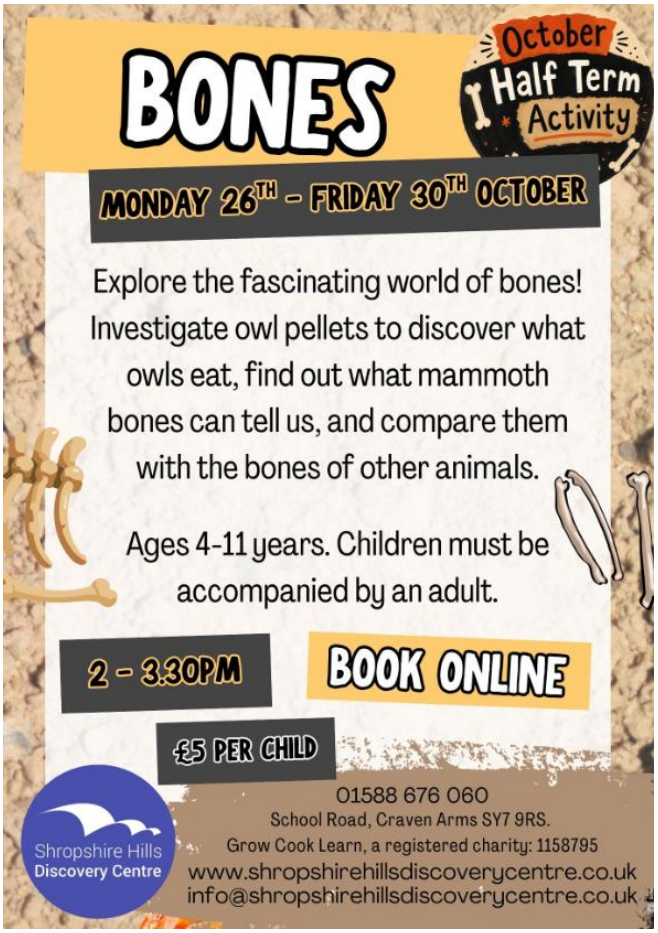


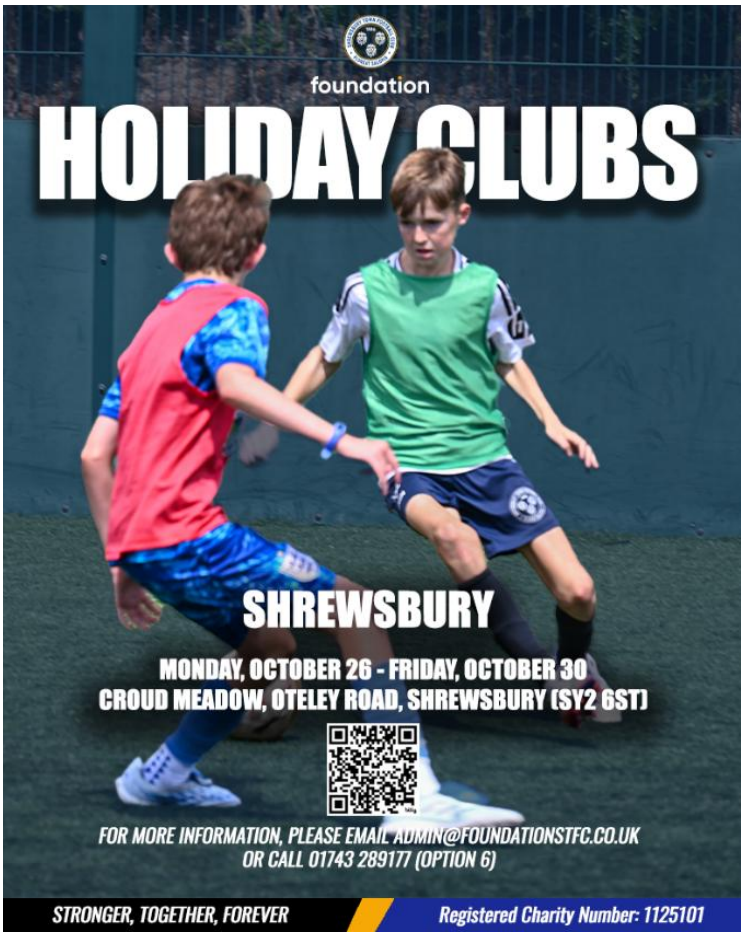







HALLOWEEN PARTY
STARTING AT
14:30
Music by
PAUL
IN THE TUDOR ROOM
FOLLOWED BY
KIDS SPOOKY TRAIL
AT 16:00
ON THE GROUNDS OF THE HOME
FANCY DRESS IS ENCOURAGED!
BE AS SPOOKY AS YOU CAN BE...


BONES
October Half Term Activity
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
Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre
01588 676 060
School Road, Craven Arms SY7 9RS.
Grow Cook Learn, a registered charity: 1158795
www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk
info@shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk


foundation
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)
STRONGER, TOGETHER, FOREVER
Registered Charity Number: 1125101


Places limited!
SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL
ARTS & CRAFTS CAMP
PAINT, GLUE, CUT AND CREATE!
CHOOSE YOUR CAMP:
Monday 26th October - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 27th October - Year 5 & 6
£35 per day
All welcome
SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER
SCAN HERE
Shrewsbury High School, 32 Town Walls, Shrewsbury SY1 1TN


Tap Ballet Contemporary Modern Jazz Freestyle
Weekly dance classes held in:
Bayston Hill,
Shrewsbury
&
Arddleen
Elegance DANCE School
Ages 3-18 years
Examinations & Shows
Plus...
'Parent & Toddler' Classes for 2-3yrs!
Member of IDTA
www.elegancedanceschool.co.uk
07875446330





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