

John Ray Times

Our Core Values: Hope, Perseverance, Trust, Courage, Respect, Responsibility

Monday 6th March 2023

Phone: 01376 324107 Email: jrcontact@compassps.uk Website: www.johnray.compassps.uk



@johnrayjuniors



@changespjohnrayjuniors

For uniform orders visit: www.gooddies.co.uk

For information on Food Bank vouchers email: mkeegan@compassps.uk

For second hand uniform requests email: rcottee@compassps.uk

Breakfast club queries email: hwiltshire@compassps.uk

School dinner menus are on our website: W/C 13.03.23 [Week 1](#) , W/C 20.03.23 [Week 2](#), 06.03.23 [Week 3](#)

Boys' Football



On Tuesday 28th February our boys' football team took part in a league match against Beckers Green Primary. With hat tricks scored by Jenson, Charlie and Finley and a following goal from Connor we won 10-0. We are very proud of the team who always show great teamwork and commitment to every game. We would like to extend a big thank you to 'The Fume Cupboard Company' for sponsoring two new kits for our girls and boys football team as well as jumpers and coats for staff.

Cross Country

Last week a group of 32 children represented JRJ in the Braintree schools' cross-country competition. They all tried their best on what was a chilly day and a challenging course and we had quite a few top 10 finishers. Special congratulations to Amalie 6CB, Freya R 6CB, Poyraz 6E and Amelia K 4C who have all qualified for round 2 and our Y4 boys' team who are now through to the finals.

Coronation Celebrations

We are busy making plans to celebrate the King's coronation and would like to invite the children to dress in red, white and blue or dress as a queen or king for the day on Friday 5th May. Children in Y5 should bring their PE kits in a separate bag.

Message from the PTA

We are delighted to announce that the Junior school raised a fantastic £312.50 for the sponsored acts of kindness event over half term.

We have really loved reading through all of the forms and seeing all of the extra ways everyone has thought to bring kindness to the community. I've listed some of these below and added some photos sent to us.

- Offering chocolates to random people
- Playing games with residents of an old people's home
- Making your bed every day
- Singing songs to siblings when they were sick
- Writing letters to cousins in other countries

If you raised £100 or just 50p by spreading your kindness, thank you so much for getting involved in this and taking it to your hearts. It all helps.



Easter Experience

Children in Year 3 will be taking part in an Easter Experience workshop at St Michael's Church during the week commencing 20th March. This takes place during the school day and children will be walking to and from the church so should come to school in trainers or suitable shoes for walking. Permission is not needed as it is covered under the local visit consent. Classes will be visiting the church on the following days:

Monday 20th March: 3P

Tuesday 21st March: 3A

Wednesday 22nd March: 3B

Thursday 23rd March: 3U

Red Nose Day – Friday 17th March

To join in with Red Nose Day on Friday 17th March, children are able to wear non-uniform and / or wear a red nose. The suggested contribution is £1.

Y5 Road safety walks

These will take place on 20th and 23rd March. Each Y5 class will participate in a presentation in the classroom followed by a practical session outside where they will learn about road safety. Please ensure all children have a coat in school on these days.

Spring term learning conferences

Learning conferences are due to take place on **Tuesday 21st** and **Thursday 23rd March** and can be booked using the My Child At School (MCAS) app. Bookings will open at noon on Wednesday 1st March and will close at noon on Friday 17th March. Children are also expected to attend the learning conference with their parents. Learning conference appointments are available from 3:45 -7pm on Tuesday 21st March and 3:45 – 5:30pm on Thursday 23rd March.

If you have already attended a One Plan meeting or Annual Review for your child this term, you do not need to attend learning conferences. If you are not sure, please email class teachers.

French at JRJ

Please rehearse these sounds at home to increase your child's knowledge of phonemes (smallest units of sound) and letter strings using knowledge learnt from 'Phonics' sections of our French lessons.

6

Six

(like 'ee' in 'see')



Musique

(like 'eek' in 'week')

5

Cinq

(like 'an' in 'clang')



Famille

(like 'eeyeh' in 'yes')

SEND Roadshow

Parent/Carer SEND Roadshows run in each quadrant in Essex on a termly basis. These events are an opportunity for families to drop-in (no booking is required) to speak to professionals from a range of organisations including representatives from the SEND Quadrant Teams, Health and social care, as well as SENDIASS, Preparing for Adulthood, the Youth Service and the Multi-Schools Council. We also have local charities/organisations represented including Essex Family Forum and Families in Focus.

The events have grown this term and are running all day. They are taking place in collaboration with SENDIASS who will be running bookable workshops for parents and carers to attend during the day should they wish. Further information about these will be available via the Essex Local Offer Facebook page in the coming weeks.

Please see the dates below:

Mid Essex: Tuesday 14 March – The Hamptons, Great Baddow – 9.30am-3pm

NE Essex: Tuesday 28 March – Colchester Stadium – 9.30am-3pm

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Don't forget we would love to hear about any children who have been awarded badges or certificates for activities they do outside of school. Please email class teachers with your child's achievements.

Well done to:

Dominic in 3U, Deniz in 6R, Fearne-Dolly in 6E, Alfie in 5B and Jasper in 4WY who were all awarded player of the match at the weekend for their football teams.



Well done to:

Gian in 5B who has achieved level 4 in swimming.

Ollie in 6B who won a rugby medal.

Heidi in 5B who won a trampolining competition.

Stars of the Week

Each week, class teachers will choose a member of their class to be star of the week. Children who are chosen will have their name added in this section of the newsletter.

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 3A: Jack P | 4A: Arthur | 5B: Amelia | 6CB: Rachel |
| 3B: Sophia | 4C: Konnie | 5C: Vinnie | 6B: Ollie |
| 3P: Ayden | 4S: Jeanne | 5G: Nancie | 6E: Riley |
| 3U: Joe | 4WY: Sydnee | 5T: Milli | 6R: Arijus |

PE Days

Children need to come into school on PE days in their PE kit. Children will need an outdoor PE kit i.e., black tracksuit bottoms (or shorts in warmer weather), white T-shirt and a black fleece / tracksuit top. **This half term there has been a change to 6R, 6E and 6B's PE day. Please see below.**

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 3A, 3U, 3P | Tuesday and Thursday |
| 3B | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| 4S, 4C, 4A | Monday and Wednesday |
| 4WY | Wednesday and Thursday |
| Year 5 | Tuesday and Friday |
| 6R, 6E, 6B | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| 6CB | Wednesday and Thursday |

Please remember that children must remove earrings to participate in PE lessons. Taping over earrings is not permitted.

PE kit is black joggers / shorts and a black hoodie or sweatshirt with a white T shirt along with trainers.

We expect that children will either wear one of the black John Ray logo hoodies from our supplier or a plain black hoodie/sweatshirt and plain black joggers on the two days a week that your child has PE.

CASHBACK WHEN SHOPPING ONLINE

The Friends of JRI and JRJ have created a cash back account through **Easy Fundraising**. This is a fantastic way to raise much needed extra funds to support both schools.

The link below can be used for you to register:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/47ha4n/>

Once registered, for ease, you can download the app. Every time you shop from the app, across over 4000 online retailers, our schools earn cash back. It's free to join and includes top names like EBay, Argos, Iceland and John

Lewis. You can share this link with friends and family members too. A letter with more information can be found on our [website](#).

Safeguarding

Are you worried about a child?

As a school, we consider safeguarding to be a priority. We welcome parents and carers talking openly to us about their concerns for the safeguarding of children and families. **Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.** If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the school office. Please ask to speak to Karen Harrison, Rachel Cottee or Meriel Keegan and specify that you have a safeguarding concern.

If you are worried about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free on [0808 800 5000](tel:0808 800 5000). If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call [Childline](tel:0800 1111) at any time on [0800 1111](tel:0800 1111)

National Online Safety: What parents / carers need to know about NGL



NGL is another of those 'bolt-on' apps which is designed to work alongside a major social media network. In this instance, the 'host' platforms are Instagram and Twitter – with NGL (meaning, as you may have surmised, 'Not Gonna Lie') inviting a user's friends and followers to ask them questions anonymously. An intriguing novelty, perhaps – but also not without risk.

Human nature being what it is, some people take the smokescreen of online anonymity as an excuse to behave in ways that they certainly wouldn't if their identity were visible. The idea of exposing young social media users to anonymous messages is one which understandably concerns many parents: our #WakeUpWednesday guide brings you the facts about NGL. This free online safety guide looks at NGL – an anonymous messaging app.

This guide will highlight a number of potential risks including oversharing, cyber-bullying and potentially costly subscription fees.

The guide can be found at the bottom of the newsletter and also on the National Online safety website under guides.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

CLASS TEACHERS' EMAIL ADDRESSES

We understand that for many people email is a quick and efficient way of communicating and we are therefore happy to provide class teachers' email addresses. Although email is a quick and easy way for parents to communicate with staff, matters that require urgent attention should be communicated via the school office. Staff are not expected to respond to emails after 5pm, during weekends/holidays or when off work due to sickness. A parental agreement relating to email communication with teachers is available from the school office.

| | |
|--|--|
| Year 3 | Year 4 |
| 3A- jadams@compassps.uk | 4A- zahsan@compassps.uk |
| 3B- bball@compassps.uk | 4C – mcheema@compassps.uk |
| 3P- sphillips@compassps.uk | 4S- solney@compassps.uk |
| 3U- ktoomey-underhill@compassps.uk | 4WY- awilson1@compassps.uk or syoung@compassps.uk |
| Year 5 | Year 6 |
| 5B- hbreeze@compassps.uk | 6B- jbird@compassps.uk |
| 5C - dcasey@compassps.uk | 6CB- hcollier-brown@compassps.uk |
| 5G- ngibson@compassps.uk | 6E- cellis@compassps.uk |
| 5T- abear@compassps.uk | 6R – rroberts@compassps.uk |

Please contact class teacher in the first instance to resolve any issues. Should you feel you need to escalate the issue, please contact:

Miss Cottee (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y5 or Y6 – rcottee@compassps.uk

Mrs Breen (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y3 or Y4 – kbreen@compassps.uk

RECENT LETTERS – ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

All communication will be sent through Bromcom. Please ensure that you have given us a current email address. Issues with Bromcom communication should be emailed to jrcontact@compassps.uk

24.02.23 Braintree Museum trip – Year 4

27.02.23 NEU strike action

27.02.23 Spring term learning conferences

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (new dates added in red)

| Spring Term | Summer Term |
|--|--|
| 17.03.23 Red Nose Day (<i>Children can wear a red nose and / or non-uniform in exchange for a donation</i>) | 17.04.23 Start of term for children |
| 20.03.23 3P to walk to St Michaels Church for Easter Experience (<i>This will take place during the school day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking</i>) | 20.04.23 Y5 Introduction to Islam: visitor to school. Approx cost £9.60 per child (more details to follow) |
| 20.03.23 Two Y5 classes to have Y5 road safety training (<i>Please ensure all children have a coat in school</i>) | 21.04.23 Y5 Introduction to Islam: visitor to school. Approx cost £9.60 per child (more details to follow) |
| 21.03.23 3A to walk to St Michaels Church for Easter Experience (<i>This will take place during the school day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking</i>) | 24.04.23 After school clubs start |
| 21.03.23 Learning conferences (3:45-7pm) for children not on SEN register | 05.05.23 Coronation celebration. Children are invited to wear red/white/ blue or dress as a queen or king for the day. (<i>Y5 to bring PE kits in a separate bag</i>). |
| 22.03.23 3B to walk to St Michaels Church for Easter Experience (<i>This will take place during the school</i>) | 08.05.23 Bank holiday |
| | 08.05.23 SATS week (<i>Y6 only- Tues: English grammar, punctuation and spelling, Wed: reading, Thurs: maths papers 1 and 2, Fri: maths paper 3</i>) |
| | 09.05.23 & 11.05.23 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register |
| | 29.05.23 Half term |
| | 05.06.23 Non-pupil day |

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| <p><i>day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking)</i></p> <p>23.03.23 3U to walk to St Michaels Church for Easter Experience <i>(This will take place during the school day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking)</i></p> <p>23.03.23 Two Y5 classes to have Y5 road safety training <i>(Please ensure all children have a coat in school)</i></p> <p>23.03.23 Learning conferences <i>(3:45-5:30pm)</i> for children not on SEN register</p> <p>27.03.23 3:30-4:00 Y4 parents invited into school for an art gallery</p> <p>27.03.23 Last week for clubs (note change of date)</p> <p>28.03.23 3:30-4:00 5G & 5C parents invited into class for music performance</p> <p>30.03.23 Y5 and Y6 to walk to St Michael's church for Easter service. (This is a pupil and staff only service & will take place during the school day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking)</p> <p>30.03.23 3:30-4:00 5T & 5B parents invited into class for music performance</p> <p>30.03.22 Y3 and Y4 Orientation day <i>(This takes place outside and on our school site as part of the geography curriculum. Children will need trainers and a warm / waterproof coat-approx cost £1.50 per pupil)</i></p> <p>31.03.22 Y5 and Y6 Orientation day <i>(This takes place outside and on our school site as part of the geography curriculum. Children will need trainers and a warm / waterproof coat-approx cost £1.50 per pupil)</i></p> <p>31.03.23 Last day of term</p> | <p>05.06.23 Multiplication check starts for 3 weeks <i>(Y4 only)</i></p> <p>06.06.23 Children return to school</p> <p>14.06.23-16.06.23 Mersea residential <i>(Y6 only)</i></p> <p>23.06.23 Summer Fete after school</p> <p>03.07.23 3:30 – 4:00 Y6 parents invited into class for a geography afternoon</p> <p>10.07.23 Last week for clubs</p> <p>11.07.23 Annual reports sent out</p> <p>13.07.23 Children to spend time with their new teacher</p> <p>13.07.23 Open afternoon drop in for current parents <i>from 2:30 – 4pm</i></p> <p>18.07.23 Sports day and parent picnic <i>(parents invited from 11:45)</i></p> <p>19.07.23 6CB and 6R Y6 production to parents 1:30 and 4:30</p> <p>20.07.23 6E and 6B Y6 production to parents 1:30 and 4:30</p> <p>21.07.23 Last day of term</p> |
|--|--|

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

NGL

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NGL (which stands for 'Not Gonna Lie') is an app through which users share a link to their Instagram story or Twitter account, inviting their followers to give anonymous feedback. The app includes some prewritten questions (such as 'if you could change anything about me, what would it be?'), plus the option to ask followers to simply 'send me anonymous messages'. All replies go into the user's NGL inbox, with the sender remaining anonymous - although subscribers to the app can receive hints about who each message was from.

ANONYMITY AND OVERSHARING

Anonymous messaging gives rise to the 'online disinhibition effect', which causes users to feel detached from their words and actions in the digital world. This can make young people in particular (as they tend to act more impulsively online) far more likely to disclose personal information on the internet, as well as making ill-advised confessions or revealing their fears and insecurities.

PROTECTION FOR BULLIES

Having their identity hidden makes bullies feel safe from repercussions, so anonymous chat sites are a major avenue for cyberbullying. NGL claims to use AI to filter out insulting terms, but our expert sent a range of such phrases (starting with 'cow' and 'ugly', and becoming progressively more offensive) to a 'dummy' account. All of these trial messages were delivered to the recipient's inbox.

COSTLY SUBSCRIPTIONS

NGL offers a subscription where - for a weekly fee - users can unlock hints about who's been messaging them, including the sender's approximate location and which device they used. Young people will naturally be extremely curious about who sent which message (especially if they have a lot of Instagram or Twitter followers) and may be unable to resist spending money to find out.

INFLATED ENGAGEMENT

1K

In June 2022, NGL had to revise its terms of service, informing users if a message was sent by the app's developers as opposed to genuine followers. It emerged that, previously, NGL's makers had attempted to boost engagement with the app (as well as enticing users to pay for subscriptions) by sending fake anonymous messages from bots. This update was rolled out very quietly by the team.

QUESTIONABLE SUPPORT

NGL does have a 'report this message' button for users to flag upsetting content. After sending a message, however, an automated reply arrives stating "... NGL is 100% anonymous and we have no way of knowing the identity of the user and would not be able to find out, even if we tried." This did not fill our expert with confidence that the app can address bad behaviour adequately.

ACCIDENTALLY GOING VIRAL

The messages on NGL itself are anonymous, but users can share these messages via their Instagram story or Twitter feed - enabling all their followers (or anyone, if their accounts are set to 'public') to see them. If a young person has disclosed something embarrassing or identifiable on NGL without realising, this information has the potential to be re-shared very quickly to a far wider audience.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DEALING WITH NEGATIVITY

Blocking another user on NGL will prevent them sending anonymous messages to your child in the short term - although a determined abuser could get around that obstacle simply by setting up a new Instagram account. If your child continually receives negative messages that upset them, it might be worth encouraging them to consider whether they really need to use the app at all.

BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES

To avoid your child running up an eye-watering bill through an NGL subscription (or indeed any kind of costly in-app purchases), go into the settings on whatever devices they use to go online and either disable the ability to make purchases or protect that function with a password. If those options aren't available, it's prudent to ensure there aren't any payment methods linked to their account.

EXPLAIN ANONYMOUS APPS

We understand that a conversation with your child about the risks of anonymous messaging may seem difficult to initiate (especially if you aren't that comfortable with using social media yourself). It is vital, however, that young people understand that, for some people, having their identity obscured online can make them feel more powerful and less accountable for their actions.

THINK BEFORE SENDING

Regardless of whether a messaging app is anonymous or not, it's a good idea to regularly talk to your child about how it's wise to think through what they're sharing before they post it. Emphasise that nothing is truly private once it's online. If the post is something your child might hesitate to say to someone face to face, then it's probably not the sort of thing they should be writing online either.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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