

# John Ray Times

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

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Phone: 01376 324107

Email: [jrcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:jrcontact@compassps.uk)

Website: [www.johnray.compassps.uk](http://www.johnray.compassps.uk)



@johnrayjuniors



@ facebook.com/johnraycompassps

For uniform orders visit: [www.gooddies.co.uk](http://www.gooddies.co.uk)

For information on Food Bank vouchers email: [mkeegan@compassps.uk](mailto:mkeegan@compassps.uk)

For second hand uniform requests email: [rcottee@compassps.uk](mailto:rcottee@compassps.uk)

Breakfast club queries email: [hwiltshire@compassps.uk](mailto:hwiltshire@compassps.uk)

School dinner menus are on our website: W/C 25.09.23 [Week 1](#) 02.10.23 [Week 2](#) 18.09.23 [Week 3](#)

## Zones of Regulation

The **ZONES** of Regulation



## School Attendance Difficulties



## Supporting Anxiety



## **Spotlight on learning**

**Each week we will share some of the learning that has been happening in each year group and how the children have been impressing the adults in school.**

### **Year 3**

The year three staff are so pleased with how well the children have settled into the juniors and the learning behaviours they are showing. They are showing curiosity in their history topic about the Iron age and are excited about their learning about rocks. This week, year three have been on a rock walk around the site to find different types of rocks and they have then discussed them in class.

### **Year 4**

Year four children have been asking lots of questions about volcanoes and are beginning to write about them this week. They are excited about beginning their research about Leonardo da Vinci and Michaelangelo in art and have recalled lots of their learning from last year about Picasso.

They have shown excellent fluency in maths whilst identifying numbers on a number line and counting in thousands.

### **Year 5**

Year five are very settled and have loved taking part in drama activities related to the book 'Wonder' that they have been reading together. Now they are embarking on their first writing sequence. In history they have begun to engage in their topic of Ancient Islam and the children have had lots of questions.

### **Year 6**

Year six are reading 'Kidnap on the California Comet' and have been exploring the descriptive writing and vocabulary within it ready for their own descriptive writing. They are showing loads of enthusiasm and are very focussed. During French lessons, the children have shown excellent recall of their year five learning which has wowed the year six adults.

### **The whole school**

All classes have begun their lessons on My Happy Mind this week. The children have been learning about the different parts of the brain and how they work together. All children have their journals and have enjoyed beginning to complete them.

## **Year 6 Residential Meeting – 25.09.23 at 5pm**

We will be holding a meeting for all Y6 parents on 25<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm to provide information on the Y6 residential taking place in June. Y6 children are also welcome. Please wait at the front of the school as entry will be through the white hall doors.

### **One Plan meetings**

One Plan meetings will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> September and 3<sup>rd</sup> October for children who are currently on the SEN register. Details of how to book an appointment have been sent today.

### **Pastoral Support Morning**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023, the pastoral team including Mrs Childs, Mrs Keegan, our learning mentors, and our Nurture staff would like to invite you and your family to come in for a drink and a biscuit in our Nurture room. This is an opportunity for you to come in and catch up with the staff and access any support or signposting you may need.

It will be from 8.45am - 9.30am and you can gain access from the back gate at 8.45am.

### **Year 3 Times Table workshop**

Y3 parents are invited to take part in a times table workshop in classrooms on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September from the start of the day until 9:15. Please enter the school with your child between 8:35 and 8:45 or via the school office if you need to arrive after 8:45. We look forward to seeing you.

### **Open afternoon 27.09.23 from 2:30- 4pm**

We look forward to welcoming all our current parents for our open afternoon on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Parents can come along at anytime from 2:30 until 4pm. Please enter through the white hall doors at the front of the school if arriving before 3:10. If you need to leave to collect an infant child, your junior child will be able to leave early with you. If you are coming along after school, please go to the playground to collect your child as normal and then walk back round to the white hall doors to enter the school.

### **Individual photos 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Individual photos for children will take place in school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Children who have PE on a Thursday (Year 3 and Year 5) will need to come into school in school uniform and bring their PE kits in a separate bag.

### **Reading Diaries**

Unfortunately, our delivery of reading diaries has been delayed and we have been unable to distribute our diaries. We will get these to the children as soon as possible.

### **Lockdown drill**

Today, we had a planned lockdown drill to ensure all children were aware of the procedure. Children were told that there could be an occasion where we have to lock down the building due to a swarm of bees on the playground or a vicious dog on site. The children were very sensible and the building was secure when the checks were made.

### **Secondary School Applications**

Applications for secondary school places for September 2024 for children in Year 6 open on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. Information can be found on the Essex County Council website: [Secondary school places | Essex County Council](#)

Secondary school open mornings and evenings



**SATURDAY 7TH  
OCTOBER 2023**

## **OPEN MORNING**

**9.30am-12.30pm**

Come and sample the Alec Hunter experience! Visit all our department areas, try some activities and find out more about learning in our school. Headteacher Mr Lawn will be holding presentations at 9.45am and 11am to welcome prospective parents and students to Alec Hunter Academy.

We are also holding daily Parent Tours from Monday 9th October to Friday 20th October 2023 starting at 9am and finishing at 11am. A member of the Leadership Group will show you around the school whilst our students are at work. Please call the school office to book a place on these tours on 01376 321813.



## **Open** Notley High School **Morning**

for our Year 7 intake in 2024

**Saturday 23 September**  
**9.30am - 12.30pm**

☎ 01376 556300

🌐 [www.notleyhigh.com](http://www.notleyhigh.com)



## **TABOR ACADEMY OPEN EVENING**



**Thursday 28th September 2023 4.30pm-7.00pm**

**[mail@taboracademy.co.uk](mailto:mail@taboracademy.co.uk)/01376 323 701**







The Ramsey Academy,  
Halstead

# Open Evening

*Aspiration • Diversity • Endeavour*

'Achieving Excellence Together'

Thursday 28 September 2023  
from 6.30 – 8.30pm

Headteacher's talks at 6.30pm & 7.30pm

"A good school where all leaders and managers have high ambitions for the students, ensuring every student has the opportunity to achieve as well as they can" - Ofsted

TRUST RESPECT EQUITY EXCELLENCE

## HONYWOOD



A traditional and progressive education: building character for an exceptional future

"Pupils feel and are safe."



"Pupils enjoy learning at Honywood School.  
They are polite and respectful."

Come along to our **Open Evening** on the 5th October from 5:30pm

Visit us on one of our tours at 9:00am and 10:30am w/c 25th September to 13th October

Email [schooloffice@honywoodschool.com](mailto:schooloffice@honywoodschool.com) or telephone on 01376 561231

Booking for our Open Evening presentations is via Eventbrite with limited places. Book early to avoid disappointment:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/honywood-school-open-evening-headteacher-presentations->

Ofsted December 2022:

"Lessons are calm and purposeful with the focus firmly on learning."

### 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:  Amelia K in 5C took part in a tennis tournament at the weekend and has now been selected to train with Essex County. Summer in 4O spent time raising money for The Air Ambulance this weekend. Oriana in 5C scored 2 goals this weekend. Albie in 5B scored his first goal this weekend. Oliver in 6E won his football match at the weekend.	Well done to:  Charlie in 5C won a rugby tournament with his team and shared his trophy.  Raif in 5A, Xavier in 4CB, Freddie in 4WM, Zak in 4O, Jake in 5C and George in 6R all achieved player of the match this weekend. Six players of the match in total!
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### 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: Emma	4CB: Alfie	5A: Phoebe	6B: Ellis
3B: Selasem	4O: Amelia	5B: Jett	6E: Milli
3P: Mason	4W: Seren	5C: Berat	6R: Finley
3U: Seyi	4WM: Alexis	5G: Taylor	

### 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.

Year 3	Tuesday and Thursday
4O, 4WM, 4W	Monday and Wednesday
4CB	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 5	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6	Wednesday and Friday

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.easypundraising.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 **0800 800 5000**. If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call **Childline** at any time on **0800 1111**



### National Online Safety: Top Tips for Setting Boundaries around Gaming

Behind video-sharing platforms (like YouTube) and streaming TV shows and movies, gaming is the third most popular online activity for children in the UK. In fact, according to recent data from Ofcom, an overwhelming 89% of children aged 3 to 17 play video games. Of those, more than one in five (22%) talk to other players online who they don't know outside the game.

The risk of contact from strangers is just one of the reasons that many parents are concerned about their child's gaming: increased screen time, inappropriate content and in-game spending also figure among the most frequent fears. Agreeing on some rules around your child's gaming activities can certainly help, and the guide below has some useful tips for establishing these boundaries.

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

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://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 or on our website under the communication tab.

Year 3	Year 4
3A- <a href="mailto:jadams@compassps.uk">jadams@compassps.uk</a>	4W- <a href="mailto:zwatson@compassps.uk">zwatson@compassps.uk</a>
3B- <a href="mailto:bball@compassps.uk">bball@compassps.uk</a>	4CB - <a href="mailto:hcollier-brown@compassps.uk">hcollier-brown@compassps.uk</a>
3P- <a href="mailto:sphillips@compassps.uk">sphillips@compassps.uk</a>	4O - <a href="mailto:solney@compassps.uk">solney@compassps.uk</a>
3U- <a href="mailto:ktoomey-underhill@compassps.uk">ktoomey-underhill@compassps.uk</a>	4WM- <a href="mailto:awilson1@compassps.uk">awilson1@compassps.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:nmoshtagh-kahnamoi@compassps.uk">nmoshtagh-kahnamoi@compassps.uk</a>
Year 5	Year 6
5B- <a href="mailto:hbreeze@compassps.uk">hbreeze@compassps.uk</a>	6B- <a href="mailto:jbird@compassps.uk">jbird@compassps.uk</a>
5C - <a href="mailto:dcasey@compassps.uk">dcasey@compassps.uk</a>	6E-cellis@compassps.uk
5G- <a href="mailto:ngibson@compassps.uk">ngibson@compassps.uk</a>	6R – <a href="mailto:rroberts@compassps.uk">rroberts@compassps.uk</a>
5A- <a href="mailto:abear@compassps.uk">abear@compassps.uk</a>	

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](mailto:rcottee@compassps.uk)

**Mrs Breen (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y3 or Y4 –** [kbreen@compassps.uk](mailto: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 [tojrcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:tojrcontact@compassps.uk)

12.09.23 CYO lunchtime club (Y3 only)

### Dates for the academic year 2023-2024 (new dates added in red)

Please find below the list of dates for next academic year. Term dates 2023-4 are on our [website](#).

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
12.09.23 Secondary school applications open (Y6 only)	04.01.24 Start of term for children	15.04.24 Start of term for children
21.09.23 Year 3 times tables parent workshop 8.30am	08.01.24 After school clubs start	22.04.24 After school clubs start
25.09.23 Year 6 Mersea residential meeting 5pm	15.01.23 Reading workshop for 4CB and 4W parents 2:30pm	23.04.24 Year 6 maths workshop for parents 3.30pm
	16.01.23 Reading workshop for 4CB and 4W parents 2:30pm	25.04.24 & 30.04.24 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register

<p>27.09.23 Open afternoon drop in for current parents <i>from 2:30 – 4pm</i></p> <p>28.09.23 Individual photos (children who have PE on this day should come into school in school uniform and bring PE kits in a separate bag)</p> <p>28.09.23 &amp; 03.10.23 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register</p> <p><b>02.10.23 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>3.10.23 5G and 5B Reading Café for parents 8.45am</p> <p>4.10.23 5A and 5C Reading Café for parents 8.45am</p> <p>16.10.23 Year 6 science workshop for parents 2.30pm</p> <p>17.10.23 Maths workshop for parents of 4CB and 4WM 8:45am</p> <p>19.10.23 Maths workshop for parents of 4O and 4W 8:45am</p> <p>23.10.23 Half Term week</p> <p>30.10.23 Non-pupil day</p> <p>31.10.23 Children return to school</p> <p>31.10.23 Secondary school applications close (<i>Y6 only</i>)</p> <p><b>4.11.23 Open morning 9.30-11.30am (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)</b></p> <p>14.11.23 Learning conferences (3:45-7pm) <i>for children not on SEN register</i></p> <p>16.11.23 Learning conferences (3:45-5:30pm) <i>for children not on SEN register</i></p> <p>17.11.23 Children in Need (<i>non-uniform: children can wear spots / stripes in return for a donation</i>)</p> <p><b>20.11.23 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>21.11.23 Last week for clubs</p> <p>08.12.23 Non-pupil day</p> <p>12.12.23 Christmas dinner day for years 4 and 6</p> <p>13.12.23 Christmas dinner day for years 3 and 5</p> <p>15.12.23 Year 3 writing workshop for parents 2.30pm</p> <p>15.12.23 Y3 and Y4 to walk to St Michael's church for Christmas service. (This is a pupil and staff only service &amp; will take place during the school day - children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking)</p> <p>20.12.23 Last day of term</p>	<p>17.01.24 Year 6 reading workshop for parents 8.35am</p> <p><b>22.01.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>25.01.24 &amp; 30.01.24 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register</p> <p>5.02.24 Children's mental health week</p> <p>5.2.24 5G and 5B Maths workshop for parents 2.30pm</p> <p>6.2.24 5A and 5C Maths workshop for parents 2.30pm</p> <p>08.02.24 In class photos (<i>All children should come to school in school uniform and bring PE kits in a separate bag if it is a PE day</i>)</p> <p>13.02.24 Safer Internet Day</p> <p>19.02.24 Half term</p> <p>26.02.24 Children return to school</p> <p>07.03.24 World book day (<i>Dress as a book character or bring in a prop from a book</i>)</p> <p>11.03.24 Science week</p> <p><b>11.03.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>15.03.24 Sports Relief (<i>Children can wear sportswear or non-uniform in exchange for a donation</i>)</p> <p>18.03.24 Last week for clubs</p> <p>19.03.24 Learning conferences (3:45-7pm) <i>for children not on SEN register</i></p> <p>21.03.24 Learning conferences (3:45-5:30pm) <i>for children not on SEN register</i></p> <p>28.03.24 Y5 and Y6 to walk to St Michael's church for Easter service. (This is a pupil and staff only service &amp; will take place during the school day- children should come to school in trainers / suitable shoes for walking)</p> <p>28.03.24 Last day of term</p>	<p><b>29.04.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>13.05.24 SATS week (<i>Y6 only</i>)</p> <p>20.05.24 Year 6 Mersea residential meeting 5pm</p> <p>21.05.24 Year 3 plants workshop for parents 3.30pm</p> <p>23.05.24 Sports day and parent picnic (<i>parents invited from 11:45</i>)</p> <p>27.05.24 Half term</p> <p>03.06.24 Non-pupil day</p> <p>03.06.24 <a href="#">Multiplication check</a> starts for 3 weeks (<i>Y4 only</i>)</p> <p>04.06.24 Children return to school</p> <p>06.06.24 Reserve Sports day in case of poor weather</p> <p>12.06.24-14.06.24 Mersea residential (<i>Y6 only</i>)</p> <p>17.6.24 5G and 5B Science workshop for parents 3.30pm</p> <p>17.06.23 Y4 history workshop from 3:30pm</p> <p>18.6.24 5A and 5C Science workshop for parents 3.30pm</p> <p>27.06.24 Class photos (children who have PE on this day should come into school in school uniform and bring PE kits in a separate bag)</p> <p><b>01.07.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral Support Morning</b></p> <p>01.07.24 Last week for clubs</p> <p>10.07.24 Annual reports sent out</p> <p>11.07.24 Children to spend time with their new teacher</p> <p>11.07.24 Open afternoon drop in for current parents <i>from 2:30 – 4pm</i></p> <p>16.07.24 Y6 production to parents 1:30 and 4:30pm</p> <p>23.07.24 Last day of term</p>
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# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

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CENSORED

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undenably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting pools or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upcombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



Source: <https://hipat.app/about/privacy.html>

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