



John Ray Times

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

Monday 16th October 2023

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

9johnr

@johnrayjuniors

f

@ facebook.com/johnraycompassps

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 16.10.23 Week 1 (after half term, we return to week 1)

30.10.2023 Winter week 1 06.11.23 Week 2 13.11.23 Week 3



School Attendance Difficulties





My Happy Mind Parent App

To access these materials just go to https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources and enter your name, email and authentication code emailed to you in the letter sent on 22.09.23.

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 3 children are loving their new PE unit of work called 'Fitness frenzy'. They have learnt some new warm up games and the children are good at following the rules and playing as a team. They are very competitive but fair with each other. The staff have been discussing the cardiovascular system with the children and relating this to how their bodies feel during their PE sessions.

Science lessons this week have focussed on the formation of fossils and how they change position when compressed. There was lots of fun with children on the floor pretending to be fossils. After these activities, they were able to use the vocabulary associated with the process effectively.

The children have been really motivated by the Times Tables Rockstars year group battle. Almost every child in the year group has taken part. As soon as they see another class is doing well, they are keen to battle to beat them!

Year 4- Year 4 have been exchanging using the column method for subtraction. There have been lots of practical sessions using equipment. This will be shared with parents in the drop-in sessions next week. During art lessons, the children have made some lovely creations based on Rennaissance art.

Year 5- Year 5's RE lessons have been brilliant. The children are enjoying discussions about philosophy and are really engaged. The history lessons comparing old Baghdad and modern Baghdad have sparked interest in the children and produced some excellent discussion and work in books.

Year 6- The year 6 children are engaging brilliantly with their history lessons about Greek gods and the impact religion had on Ancient Greece.

Nurture- The focus in Nurture this week has been kindness. Children have taken part in activities involving problem solving and different scenarios about how to be a kind friend and a good John Rayer.

Harvest Food Bank appeal

A sad statistic! The demand for food parcels at Braintree Area Foodbank has increased by 66% from last year. As we did last year, we will be collecting donations to hand over to Braintree Foodbank. We would love to receive your donations any time before Friday 20th October.





Children in Need

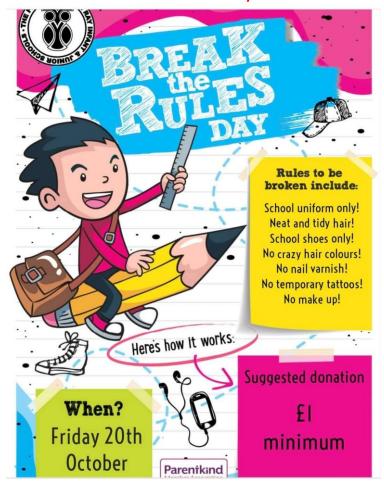


We will be raising money for Children in Need on Friday 17th November. Children can come to school wearing non-school uniform (spots / stripes if possible) in return for a donation. Children who have PE on a Friday may either come in wearing sports clothes or can bring PE kit to change into.

Y4 maths workshop

Year 4 parents are invited into a maths workshop next week in the classrooms at the start of the day. Please enter the school with your child and sign in at the classrooms. The workshop for 4CB and 4WM will take place on 17.10.23 and 4O and 4W will be on 19.10.23.

PTA
Break the rules day



Non-Pupil Day

Please remember that Monday 30th October is a non-pupil day. Children return to school on Tuesday 31st October.

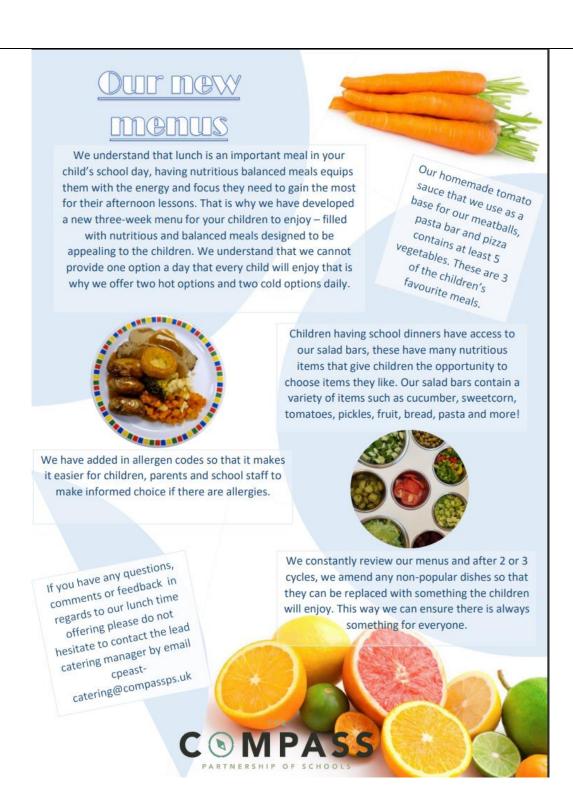
SEND Roadshow

Are you the parent/carer or family member of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? Do you have questions about accessing support in your area or questions about SEND support available in Essex through Health, Education and Social Care? Would you like to link up with other parents in your area? If you do, please come along and see us at the Roadshow. There will be representatives from Essex Family Forum, SENDIASS, health, social care as well as representatives from the education teams, SEND Navigation Leads and local support groups. The roadshow is a drop-in event with no need to book.

Mid Essex: Witham Public Hall, Witham on Wednesday 18th October from 9:00am to 12:30pm

New Dinner Menus

We will be returning to school after half term to our new winter menus.



Please see the links below for our menus.

Week 1, Week 2, Week 3

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:

All of these children who were awarded player of the match for their football teams – Alfie in 6B, Blake in 5C,

Tae in 6E, Charlie in 6B and Jan in 4O

Play of the week for Theo in 40

Caitlin in 5G came first in an international Karate

competition

Vinnie in 5G won his rugby match

Well done to:

The following children for their Karate competition

successes:

Scarlett in 4WM – silver
Jack in 4CB – bronze
Lucy in 5B – bronze
Tilly in 6B – 4th place

Harriet in 4CB – 4th place

Mia in 5G – gold Antoni in 5C – gold Lily-Rose in 5C – silver Megan in 6B - bronze

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: Bessie	4CB: Harry	5A: Florence	6B: Krystal
3B: Yasmin	40: Logan	5B: Angel	6E: Joseph S
3P: Henry	4W: Scarlett	5C: Amelia K	6R: Malachi
3U: Pheobe	4WM: Freddie	5G: Alana	

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	
40, 4WM, 4W	Monday and Wednesday	
4CB	Tuesday and Wednesday	
Year 5	Tuesday and Thursday	
6B, 6R	Wednesday and Friday	
6E	Monday and Wednesday	

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. If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call Childline at any time on 0800 1111



National Online Safety: Supporting children to deal with upsetting content

In this guide, you'll find tips on ways to sensitively address upsetting news content that children may have seen online

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 or on our website under the communication tab.

is available from the school office of on our website ander the communication tab.				
Year 3	Year 4			
3A- <u>jadams@compassps.uk</u>	4W- zwatson@compassps.uk			
3B- bball@compassps.uk	4CB - hcollier-brown@compassps.uk			
3P- sphillips@compassps.uk	40 - solney@compassps.uk			
3U- ktoomey-underhill@compassps.uk	4WM- awilson1@compassps.uk or			
	nmoshtagh-kahnamoi@compassps.uk			
Year 5	Year 6			
5B- hbreeze@compassps.uk	6B- jbird@compassps.uk			
5C - dcasey@compassps.uk	6E- <u>cellis@compassps.uk</u>			
5G- ngibson@compassps.uk	6R – <u>rroberts@compassps.uk</u>			
5A- <u>abear@compassps.uk</u>				

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 ircontact@compassps.uk

12.09.23 CYO lunchtime club (Y3 only)

22.09.23 My Happy Mind Parent information

10.10.23 WonderDome (Y5 only)

10.10.23 Leavers Hoodies (Y6 only)

10.10.23 Flu Consent for Vaccine (All)

10.10.23 Bikeabilty confirmed groups and dates for children whose forms are received

Dates for the academic	year 2023-2024	(new dates added in red)
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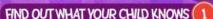
Please find below the list of dates for next academic year. Term dates 2023-4 are on our website.

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Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
12.09.23 Secondary school applications	04.01.24 Start of term for children	15.04.24 Start of term for children
open (Y6 only)	08.01.24 After school clubs start	22.04.24 After school clubs start
17.10.23 Maths workshop for parents of	15.01.23 Reading workshop for 4CB	23.04.24 Year 6 maths workshop for
4CB and 4WM 8:45am	and 4W parents 2:30pm	parents 3.30pm
19.10.23 Maths workshop for parents of	16.01.23 Reading workshop for 4CB	25.04.24 & 30.04.24 One Plan
4O and 4W 8:45am	and 4W parents 2:30pm	meetings for children on SEN register
20.10.23 PTA event – Break the rules day		25.04.24 West Stow trip for Y4
(details to follow)	17.01.24 Year 6 reading workshop for	1
		29.04.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral
23.10.23 Half Term week	22.01.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral	Support Morning
	Support Morning	
30.10.23 Non-pupil day		13.05.24 SATS week (Y6 only)
31.10.23 Children return to school	meetings for children on SEN register	
31.10.23 Secondary school applications		meeting 5pm
close (Y6 only)	5.02.24 Children's mental health	21.05.24 Year 3 plants workshop for
4.11.23 Open morning 9.30-11.30am	week	parents 3.30pm
(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)	5.2.24 5G and 5B Maths workshop for	1
14.11.23 Learning conferences (3:45-7pm)	parents 2.30pm	(parents invited from 11:45)
for children not on SEN register	6.2.24 5A and 5C Maths workshop for	27.05.24 Half term
16.11.23 Learning conferences (3:45-	parents 2.30pm	
5:30pm) for children not on SEN register	08.02.24 In class photos (All children	03.06.24 Non-pupil day
17.11.23 Children in Need (non– uniform:	should come to school in school	03.06.24 <u>Multiplication check</u> starts
children can wear spots / stripes in return	uniform and bring PE kits in a	for 3 weeks (Y4 only)
for a donation)	separate bag if it is a PE day)	04.06.24 Children return to school
17.11.23 Y5 Wonderdome visit (This takes	-	06.06.24 Reserve Sports day in case of
place in school)	19.02.24 Half term	poor weather
20.11.23 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral	26.02.24 Children return to school	12.06.24-14.06.24 Mersea residential
Support Morning 20.11.23 Last week for clubs		(Y6 only)
	07.03.24 World book day (Dress as a	17.6.24 5G and 5B Science workshop
01.12.23 Non uniform day in exchange for a gift for the PTA gift shop	book character or bring in a prop from	1 .
07.12.23 PTA gift shop	a book) 11.03.24 Science week	17.06.23 Y4 history workshop from 3:30pm
08.12.23 Non-pupil day	11.03.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral	1
12.12.23 Christmas dinner day for years 4		for parents 3.30pm
and 6	15.03.24 Sports Relief (<i>Children can</i>	27.06.24 Class photos (children who
13.12.23 Christmas dinner day for years 3	wear sportswear or non-uniform in	have PE on this day should come into
and 5	exchange for a donation)	school in school uniform and bring PE
15.12.23 Year 3 writing workshop for	18.03.24 Last week for clubs	kits in a separate bag)
parents 2.30pm	19.03.24 Learning conferences (3:45-	in a separate bagy
15.12.23 Y3 and Y4 to walk to St Michael's		01.07.24 - 8.45am - 9.30am - Pastoral
church for Christmas service. (This is a		Support Morning
pupil and staff only service & will take	5:30pm) for children not on SEN	01.07.24 Last week for clubs
place during the school day - children	register	10.07.24 Annual reports sent out
should come to school in trainers / suitable	1	11.07.24 Children to spend time with
shoes for walking)	Michael's church for Easter service.	their new teacher
	(This is a pupil and staff only service &	
20.12.23 Last day of term		current parents from 2:30 – 4pm
,	children should come to school in	16.07.24 Y6 production to parents
	trainers / suitable shoes for walking)	1:30 and 4:30pm
	28.03.24 Last day of term	23.07.24 Last day of term
		

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to the war in Ukraine and the conflict in Israel, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.



There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.

RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.

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KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.

EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.

MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they re scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.

CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and componies to fight bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.

SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.

TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once: instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.

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ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.

FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.

BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.

IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.

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Baby & Toddler Group



St Michaels Church House Tuesdays: 1.15pm-2.45pm (School term time only)

Story, Songs, Refreshments, Craft and lots of Toys!

All Pre School Children Welcome



SPORTS FC THEMED

>>> 23rd Oct - 26th Oct





BRAINTREE

23rd & 24th October



CHELMSFORD

25th & 26th October



DUNMOW

23rd & 24th October



EPPING

25th & 26th October

Join our EA Sports FC themed Holiday Course this October 2023!



Football fun at a safe, secure outdoor venue



State of the art facilities & equipment



Tournaments, challenges & games



FA/UEFA qualified & ex-pro coaches

USE CODE SIB20 WHEN SIGNING UP WITH A SIBLING FOR 20% OFF

OFSTED APPROVED & TRUSTED BY PARENT/CARERS FOR 9 YEARS

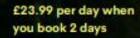
Drop off between 8:30am 9:30am until 3pm - 3:30pm





Ethan absolutely loved the football camp, all the coaches were super friendly, encouraging and all round nice people. I will definitely be booking the summer camp."

- 2023 5* Google Review





BOOK HERE





Bring your flyer to your chosen Holiday Course to be entered into a raffle and a chance to win a prize!

Player name



discount!

ADDITIONAL DATE ADDED DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND FRIDAY 27TH OF OCTOBER

spaces - be quick!





Mr Mills will be leading Multi Sports Camps to keep your children active throughout the day which will involve Football, Dodgeball, Soft Archery, Cricket, Hockey, Tennis and many more! Children need pack lunch and water bottle.

@ John Ray Infant School, Notley Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 1HL - All schools welcome

