

John Ray Times

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

2nd December 2024

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



@johnrayjuniors,



@ facebook.com/[johnraycompassps](https://www.facebook.com/johnraycompassps)

Online learning links

 <p>Accelerated Reader</p>	 <p>TTRockstars</p> <p>Nessy</p>	 <p>Century Tech</p>
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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:
 16/12/2024 [Week 1](#), 02/12/2024 [Week 2](#), 09/12/24 [Week 3](#).

Zones of Regulation

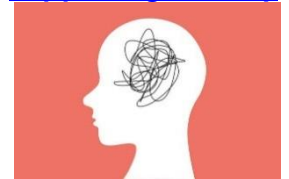
The ZONES of Regulation

Blue Zone	Green Zone	Yellow Zone	Red Zone
Calm	Happy	Worried	Overjoyed/Elated
Relaxed	Focused	Frustrated	Excited
Tired	Calm	Silly	Awful
Sick	Proud	Excited	Terrified

School Attendance Difficulties



Supporting Anxiety



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 23.09.24.

Spring Term After-School Clubs

This week, you should expect to receive a letter with details of our after-school clubs for the Spring Term. You will be able to book on the MyChildAtSchool App from 6pm on Friday 6th December and up to midday on 11th December. Next term our clubs will run from w/c 13th January and the last club will be during w/c 24th March.

Spotlight on learning – times tables

By the end of Year 4, children need to know their times tables up to 12 x 12. By learning these times tables rapidly and out of order, children are better equipped to deal with the demands of the maths curriculum in Years 5 and 6. Times tables help many different aspects of maths, including short and long multiplication, fractions and percentages, ratio and algebra so knowing these facts fluently makes this learning easier. In Year 4, children take a multiplication check where their times tables knowledge is tested. To support children with their times tables learning and prepare children for this, we use TTRockstars (Garage and Soundcheck). All children in the school have log in details for this. Please speak to your children's class teacher if your child need support accessing this at home.

PTA gift shop Thursday 5th December

Please remember that children will get the opportunity to visit the gift shop on Thursday 5th December. Children will be able to buy a gift for £1.00.

Tuck Shop

After Christmas, our tuck shop will only be open on Fridays. Items cost 30p.

SEN Local Offer

Our SEN Local Offer is amended and published at the end of each academic year. It has the information on provision and processes across the school and the SENCo contact details: [John Ray Junior School - SEND Local Offer \(compassps.uk\)](#).

SEND Local Offer Newsletter

There are lots of activities and events for children with SEND on the Essex Local Offer and from the Local Offer website – sign up here to read more: [Stay up to date with the Essex Local Offer newsletter | Essex Local Offer.](#)

This includes our New POP Essex website and location: [POP Essex • SEN Stay & Play And Respite In Braintree, Essex \(pop-essex.org\)](#).

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.

Football player of the match: Owen 4T, Alexander 5W, Seth 3W, Max 4J, Noah 5B, Addison 5B, Freddie 5E, Sydney 4B, Ayan 6R, Erik 3D



Dancing: Cassie 4J bronze medal and 2nd place, Vinnie 5K 1st place, Mia 5K dancer of the week

Swimming: Cassie 4J – 2nd place, Jack level 7

Brownies: Ellie-Rose and Amelie 4T brownie badges

Running: Xavier 5K 10km run

Rugby: Grace 3C – 2 tries, Max 4J captain's armband

Gymnastics: Taylor 3C medals, Harriet 5K level 5

Karate: Max 5B orange stripe

Witham carnival: Darcey 4J 1st place



Well done to these children who completed level 2 bikeability: Antoni 6L, Taylor 6R, Raife 6O, Jasper 6R, Tyler 6G, Freya 6O, Berat 6L

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. Our first stars of the week will be awarded on Friday.

3C: Grace	4B: Roman	5B: Dylan	6G: Poppy
3D: Samuel	4CB: Callum	5E: Treasure	6L: Ronnie
3P: Michael	4J: Michael	5K: Rita	6O: Daniel
3W: Julia	4T: Ralph	5W: The whole class	6R: Sydnee

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.

We are noticing more children coming to school on PE days in wear that is not PE uniform. Please ensure that children have a plain white T-shirt and black shorts or tracksuit bottoms. We may ask children to change into any spare PE that we have in school if they do not come to school dressed appropriately.

Monday	Y3, 6L, 6G
Tuesday	Y3, Y5, 6R
Wednesday	Y4, Y6
Thursday	Y5, 6O
Friday	Y4

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: What parents and carers need to know about Snapchat

As one of the most popular messaging apps available, Snapchat sees an enormous amount of usage across the globe – with a significant number of those utilising the platform being under 18. For that reason, it's important to understand the potential risks to younger users when spending time on this app.

Of course, it can be difficult to identify every hazard associated with the platform, let alone what can be done to mitigate these concerns. Our guide lays out the key online safety risks of Snapchat, as well as how to safeguard young people while they use the app.

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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Year 3</p> <p>3C: cwaspe1@compassps.uk 3D: dcasey@compassps.uk 3P: sphillips@compassps.uk 3W: zwatson@compassps.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Year 4</p> <p>4B: jbird@compassps.uk 4CB: hcollier-brown@compassps.uk 4J: jbrennan@compassps.uk 4T: tbeeson@compassps.uk, kbreen@compassps.uk</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Year 5</p> <p>5B: hbreeze@compassps.uk 5E: cellis@compassps.uk 5K: kbrighton@compassps.uk 5W: awilson1@compassps.uk,rcottee@compassps.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Year 6</p> <p>6G: ngibson@compassps.uk 6L: jlarbalestier@compassps.uk 6O: cosullivan@compassps.uk 6R: rroberts@compassps.uk</p>

Please contact class teachers 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 INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS – 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](mailto:jrcontact@compassps.uk)

- 20/09/24 Layer Marney Towers trip – (Y3 only)
- 20/09/24 Young Voices tickets & T-shirt letter (YV club children only)

23.09.24 My Happy Mind (Y4.5 and 6 only)
 23.09.24 One Plan Autumn Meetings (Invited children only)
 15.10.24 Autumn Term Learning Conferences
 15.10.24 SEND Pentathlon Expression of interest (invited children only)
 21.10.24 Flu Immunisations (all year groups) – consent required
 12.11.24 Letter from UKHSA and ECC: Circulation of measles
 19.11.24 Adverse weather plan
 27.11.24 Alec Hunter Taster Sessions for Year 5 Pupils (Y5 only)

Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 (new dates in red)

[Please see the website for the term dates](#)

Autumn Term 2024	Spring Term 2025	Summer Term 2025
05.12.24 Gift shop (children can visit the gift shop and buy a gift for £1) 17.12.24 Christmas dinner day for years 4 and 6 18.12.24 Christmas dinner day for years 3 and 5 19.12.24 Christmas Service at school 20.12.24 Last day of term	07.01.25 Start of term for children 13.01.25 After school clubs start 21.01.25 & 22.01.25 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register 5.02.25 Children’s mental health week 6.02.25 In class individual 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>) 11.02.25 Safer Internet Day 17.02.25 Half term 24.02.25 Children return to school 06.03.25 World book day (<i>Dress as a book character or bring in a prop from a book</i>) 21.03.25 Comic Relief (<i>Children can wear sportswear or non-uniform in exchange for a donation</i>) 24.03.25 Last week for clubs 11.03.25 Learning conferences (3:45-6.30pm) for children not on SEN register 12.03.25 Learning conferences (3:45-5:30pm) for children not on SEN register 3.04.25 Easter service at school 04.04.25 Last day of term	22.04.25 Start of term for children 28.04.25 After school clubs start 12.05.25 SATS week (<i>Y6 only</i>) 13.05.25 & 14.05.25 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register 20.05.25 Year 6 Mersea residential meeting 5pm 22.05.25 Sports day and parent picnic (<i>parents invited from 11:45</i>) 26.05.25 Half term 02.06.25 <u>Multiplication check</u> starts for 3 weeks (<i>Y4 only</i>) 02.06.25 Children return to school 05.06.25 Reserve Sports day in case of poor weather 11.06.25-13.06.25 Mersea residential (<i>Y6 only</i>) 25.06.25 Class photos (children who have PE on this day should come into school in school uniform and bring PE kits in a separate bag) 27.06.25 Summer fete (Please note change of date) 07.07.25 Last week for clubs 08.07.25 Children to spend time with their new teacher 10.07.25 Annual reports sent out 15.07.24 Y6 production to parents 1:45 and 4:30pm 6L and 6G 16.07.25 Open afternoon drop in for current parents <i>from 3:30pm – 4.30pm</i> 17.07.25 Y6 production to parents 1:45 and 4:30pm 6O and 6R 18.07.25 Last day of term

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK
97
DAYS

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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THE HILARIOUS ADVENTURES OF...



ROBIN HOOD

Written & Directed by Luke Coldham

WITHAM PUBLIC HALL
20th - 29th Dec 2024

20 th	7pm	24 th	11am & 3pm
21 st	11am & 3pm	27 th	3pm & 7pm
22 nd	11am & 3pm	28 th	11am & 3pm
23 rd	3pm & 7pm	29 th	2pm

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THE HILARIOUS ADVENTURES OF...

ROBIN HOOD

The Essex Group are delighted to transport you all to Nottingham Forest for their 14th consecutive Panto at the Witham Public Hall, Robin Hood. This classic fairytale promises to be a fantastic fun show for the whole family: full of laughter, dazzling costumes and toe tapping tunes. Bringing together a stellar cast of local actors who will delight audiences with a brand new hilarious script by local Essex Panto legend Luke Coldham.

DATES / TIMES / PRICES

Fri	20 TH	-	-	7pm
Sat	21 ST	11am	3pm	-
Sun	22 ND	11am	3pm	-
Mon	23 RD	-	3pm	7pm
Tues	24 TH	11am	3pm	-
Wed	25 TH	No Show		
Thur	26 TH	No Show		
Fri	27 TH	-	3pm	7pm
Sat	28 TH	11am	3pm	-
Sun	29 TH	-	2pm	-

TICKET PRICES:

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ADULTS	£17
CHILD/OAP	£15
FAMILY X4	£58

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BOOK NOW!



BOOK NOW:

[TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/ESSEXGROUP](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/essexgroup)

HOW TO FIND US

We are located in the centre of Witham close to rail and bus links. There is a large public car park opposite (charges apply) and limited on-street parking in Collingwood Road, including a disabled bay immediately in front of the building. There are further disabled parking spaces in the public car park. The Public Hall has disabled access to all public areas with the exception of the balcony.



Witham Public Hall, Collingwood Rd, Witham CM8 2DY

