

# John Ray Times

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

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

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@johnrayjuniors



@facebook.com/johnraycompassps

## Online learning links



[Accelerated Reader](#)



[CENTURY  
Century Tech](#)



[TTRockstars](#)



[Nessy](#)

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:

03.03.25 [Week 3](#) , 10.03.2025 [Week 1](#) , 17.03.25 [week 2](#)

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, we have changed our dessert to pancakes

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, we have a special 'World Book Day' Menu. Please click [here](#) to view the menu.

Tuck shop items are on sale at breaktime on a Friday for 30p

### [Zones of Regulation](#)

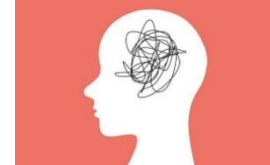
The ZONES of Regulation



### [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.

### Comic Relief Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March



We invite children to come to school in non uniform or sportswear on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March in exchange for a donation. Children can hand in donations (suggested £1) during registration.

### **Learning conferences**

Learning conferences for children not on the SEN register take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Please make a booking through the MCAS app.

### **World Book Day**



World Book Day takes place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. We would like to invite children to dress up as a book character or bring in a prop related to a book. This BBC article has ideas for simple costumes:

[World Book Day: How to make a last-minute costume - BBC Newsround](#)

This year, our Ecoteam have suggested that we send out digital vouchers to try to reduce waste and help the environment. Vouchers can be downloaded [here](#). If you would like a printed copy, please contact the school office.

### **Sports for Champions**

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, we will be taking part in the Sports for Champions programme which involves a visit from a GB athlete. The athlete will meet the children, deliver an assembly and involve the children in mini events. This is a sponsored event; the children are encouraged to collect sponsors to support the charity. Please see the video below which has been shared with children in assembly.

[Sports For Champions I PRIMARY DVD](#)

Sponsorship forms were sent home before half term.

### **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.

Well done to;

Footballer players' of the match: Jenson 5W, Albie 6O, Spencer 5W, Amir 5E, Harrison 5B, Theo 4B, Zac 4CB, Bailey 4J, Logan 4B, Jenson 6G, Jeanne 6L,

Football semi-finalists: Tyler 6G, Freddie 5W, Joe 5W, Jenson 5W, Younes 6O, Jasper 6R, Victor 6R, Ayan 6R, Khaleel 6O

Dancing: Vinnie 5K gold medal for solo dance

Karate: William 4B - 3<sup>rd</sup> place in a competition

Swimming: Leo 3W – 400m

Carnival Princess: Darcy 4J- 1<sup>st</sup> place in the personality competition, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Court competition

Cubs: Nora 5B – cub of the month

Brownies: Ellie Rose 4J & Amelie 4T- Brownie sleepover

Cycling: Xavier

Volleyball: Amelia K 6L – Place in Chelmsford Girls' volleyball team

### 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.

<b>3C: Paris</b>	<b>4B: Alice</b>	<b>5B: Noah</b>	<b>6G: Archie</b>
<b>3D:</b>	<b>4CB:</b>	<b>5E: Cai</b>	<b>6L: Orianna</b>
<b>3P: Julia</b>	<b>4J: Henley</b>	<b>5K: Hallie</b>	<b>6O: Charlie</b>
<b>3W: Suzie</b>	<b>4T: Max</b>	<b>5W: Jenson</b>	<b>6R: Jett</b>

### 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, Y6

Tuesday: Y5, 6L, 6G, 6R

Wednesday: Y4, 5B

Thursday: Y3, 4B, 5E, 5K, 6O

Friday: 4J, 4CB, 4T, 5W

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 Marvel Rivals

Marvel Rivals is a highly popular multiplayer shooter that pits iconic superheroes against formidable villains. The game is free –to play on PC and current-generation consoles but does feature microtransactions that allow players to spend real money on cosmetic items for their characters.

While Marvel Rivals has been deemed suitable for children aged 12 and over, there are several risks associated with the title that parents and educators should be aware of. This free guide offers more information on these safety concerns and lets you know how to ensure that children playing the game can have a fun and age-appropriate experience.

[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. **Please note: Miss O'Sullivan now has a new email address.**

Year 3	Year 4
3C: <a href="mailto:cwaspe1@compassps.uk">cwaspe1@compassps.uk</a> 3D: <a href="mailto:dcasey@compassps.uk">dcasey@compassps.uk</a> 3P: <a href="mailto:sphillips@compassps.uk">sphillips@compassps.uk</a> 3W: <a href="mailto:zwatson@compassps.uk">zwatson@compassps.uk</a>	4B: <a href="mailto:aoxley@compassps.uk">aoxley@compassps.uk</a> 4CB: <a href="mailto:hcollier-brown@compassps.uk">hcollier-brown@compassps.uk</a> 4J: <a href="mailto:jbrennan@compassps.uk">jbrennan@compassps.uk</a> 4T: <a href="mailto:tbeeson@compassps.uk">tbeeson@compassps.uk</a> , <a href="mailto:kbreen@compassps.uk">kbreen@compassps.uk</a>
Year 5	Year 6
5B: <a href="mailto:hbreeze@compassps.uk">hbreeze@compassps.uk</a> 5E: <a href="mailto:cellis@compassps.uk">cellis@compassps.uk</a> 5K: <a href="mailto:kbrighton@compassps.uk">kbrighton@compassps.uk</a> 5W: <a href="mailto:awilson1@compassps.uk">awilson1@compassps.uk</a> , <a href="mailto:rcottee@compassps.uk">rcottee@compassps.uk</a>	6G: <a href="mailto:ngibson@compassps.uk">ngibson@compassps.uk</a> 6L: <a href="mailto:jarbalestier@compassps.uk">jarbalestier@compassps.uk</a> 6O: <a href="mailto:cosullivan1@compassps.uk">cosullivan1@compassps.uk</a> 6R: <a href="mailto:rroberts@compassps.uk">rroberts@compassps.uk</a>

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](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 INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS – MANY OF OUR LETTERS ARE 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)

- 12.11.24 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)
- 06.01.25 HappyDays School Photography Subscriptions (All) - deadline to sign up 20.01.25
- 06.01.25 National Child Measurement Programme (Y6 only)
- 08.01.25 Hemisphere pupil survey (Y5 and Y6 only)
- 09.01.25 Support Sessions for Families (All)
- 14.01.25 Teaching arrangements for 4B (4B only)
- 22.01.25 KEGS Open Day Events (Y5 boys only)
- 27.01.25 Y5 day trip- letter to express interest
- 29.01.25 Leavers Hoodies (Y6 only)

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

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

**Spring Term 2025**

- 06.03.25 World book day (*Dress as a book character or bring in a prop from a book*)
- 07.03.25 Sports for Champions day (everyone to come dressed in PE kit)
- 21.03.25 Comic Relief (*Children can wear sportswear or non-uniform in exchange for a donation*)
- 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

**Summer Term 2025**

- 22.04.25 Start of term for children
- 28.04.25 After school clubs start
- 12.05.25 SATS week (Y6 only)
- 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 (*parents invited from 11:45*)
  
- 26.05.25 Half term
  
- 02.06.25 Multiplication check starts for 3 weeks (Y4 only)
- 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 (Y6 only)
- 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 *from 3:30pm – 4.30pm*
- 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 MARVEL RIVALS



ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

### IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

### IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a £10 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict whom your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

### VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendos and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

### FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Hela, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

### MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



### DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.



### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor at the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.

