

John Ray Times

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

12th May 2025

Phone: 01376 324107

Email: jcontact@compassps.uk

Website: www.johnray.compassps.uk



@johnrayjuniors



@

facebook.com/johnraycompassps

Online learning links



[Accelerated Reader](#)



[Century Tech](#)



[TTRockstars](#)



[Nessy](#)

For uniform orders visit: [Absolute Embroidery](#), or visit the shop at Panfield Lane

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:

12.05.25 week 1, 19.05.25 Week 2 05.05.25 Week 3

On Thursday 8th May 2025, we have a special VE Day 80th Anniversary. Please click [here](#) to view the menu

On Thursday 15th May 2025, we have a special Mexican day. Please click [here](#) to view the menu.

[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.

Hats and sun cream

Now that we are having some sunnier weather, please ensure children have a named hat in school and apply sun cream before coming to school. All children should also have a named water bottle in school.

Sports Day –22nd May

We are looking forward to seeing you at our sports day next week. All children should come to school wearing their PE kit. Please check the letter sent home on 2nd May for further details including timings.

A copy of the letter can also be found on the [website](#).

Mersea residential meeting – 20th May 5pm

A meeting will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 20th May at 5pm to provide more information regarding the Y6 residential. Please enter using the white hall doors facing on to Notley Road. Y6 children are welcome to attend.

Special menu: Mexican Census Day Menu (15th May)



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 \(pop-essex.org\)](#).

Summer term SEN road show dates:

Tuesday 17 June at POP Essex Braintree, Mid
Thursday 19 June at Greensward Academy, Hockley, South
Tuesday 24 June at Tiptree Community Hall, North East
Thursday 26 June at Zinc Arts Centre Ongar, West

One Plans

One Plan meeting dates for children on the SEN register have changed to the following:

17.06.25 all classes.

18.06.25 3C & 5W only.

19.06.25 All classes except 3C & 5W.

To book your child's One Plan, please use your MCAS App and select 'parent's evening'.

If you need help to book, please contact the school office.

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: Freddie 4J

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.

3C:	4B:	5B: Max	6G:
3D: Emily	4CB: Sabrina	5E: Blessed	6L: Amelia K
3P: The whole class	4J: Jason	5K: Jayden	6O: Emily
3W: Lexie	4T: Rithu	5W: Spencer	6R:

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](tel:08088005000). If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call [Childline](#) at any time on [0800 1111](tel:08001111)



National Online Safety: What parents and carers need to know about search engines

Search engines are a routine part of everyday life, giving instant access to billions of web pages; however, this also increases the risk of children encountering harmful, untrustworthy, or illegal content.

The guide – also available in podcast format – offers parents and educators quickfire information about the risks of search engines and practical steps that can be taken to safeguard children online.

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: cwaspe1@compassps.uk 3D: dcasey@compassps.uk 3P: sphillips@compassps.uk 3W: zwatson@compassps.uk	4B: wnicolls@compassps.uk 4CB: hcollier-brown@compassps.uk 4J: jbrennan@compassps.uk 4T: tbeeson@compassps.uk, kbreen@compassps.uk
Year 5	Year 6
5B: hbreeze@compassps.uk 5E: cellis@compassps.uk 5K: kbrighton@compassps.uk 5W: awilson1@compassps.uk, rcottee@compassps.uk	6G: ngibson@compassps.uk 6L: jlarbalestier@compassps.uk 6O: cosullivan1@compassps.uk 6R: rroberts@compassps.uk

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

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

Mrs Breen (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y3 or Y4 – 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 [to jrcontact@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)

22.04.25 Ofsted report publication

02.05.25 Sports Day

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

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

Class photos have changed from 25th June to 2nd of July

One Plan meetings have changed from 13.05.25 & 14.05.25 to 17.06.25 all classes & 19.06.25 All Classes except 3C & 5K. 18.06.25 3C & 5K only.

Summer Term 2025

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. All children to wear PE kit please

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)

17.06.25 - One Plan meetings for children on SEN register – All classes

18.06.25 - One Plan meetings for children on SEN register – 3C & 5K only

19.06.25 - One Plan meetings for children on SEN register – All classes except 3C & 5W

27.06.25 Summer fete (Please note change of date)

02.07.25 Mrs Baker's singing club to Notley Family of Schools music event at White Court during school time-just for children, no audience.

02.07.25 Class photos (children who have PE on this day should come into school in school uniform and

bring PE kits in a separate bag)

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

11.07.25 Y6 leavers' disco

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 SEARCH ENGINES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Search engines are an integral part of everyday life – with Google alone processing around 100,000 searches every second. Search engines use algorithms to predict which results will be useful to us, though this can expose children to inappropriate content, misinformation and even scams. This guide explains the risks associated with search engines and offers practical advice to help safeguard young users online.

MANIPULATED SEARCH RESULTS

Although search engines take site reputation into account, trustworthiness isn't the main factor. Instead, they use algorithms that can be gamed via tactics like search engine optimisation (SEO), which is big business. As a result, users may encounter misleading content and low-quality commercial products that appear more credible than they actually are.

MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

Search engines index billions of web pages – and not all of them are factual or safe. Children might stumble across false information or even deliberate disinformation, especially when searching for trending topics or controversial issues.

ENGINES BEYOND GOOGLE

Even if Google's SafeSearch is enabled, children may use lesser-known search engines that don't have similar protections. Some of these alternatives are less effective at blocking unsavoury content – sometimes by design – making it easier for children to encounter harmful or explicit material. Parental controls may also struggle to detect and block these sites.

ILLEGAL CONTENT CAN SURFACE

Search engines are designed to retrieve content based on keywords – not to judge whether that content is lawful. As a result, even illegal or harmful material can appear in search results. Children might assume that anything found through search engines must be safe, just because they're so widely used. This misunderstanding can lead to accidental exposure to seriously inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT EXPOSURE

Although parental controls like Google's SafeSearch exist, they aren't foolproof, and search engines may bypass them. Young users may still see inappropriate images or content, especially in image searches, even though they may not be able to click on the results. Some niche search engines lack even basic filtering, posing further risks.

UNRELIABLE AI SUMMARIES

Some search engines now offer AI-generated answers at the top of results. While these can be helpful as webpage summaries, they're not always accurate. There have been instances where AI summaries have presented false or even dangerous information, reinforcing the need for critical thinking.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS

While no parental controls tool is perfect, this software can help reduce the likelihood of inappropriate content appearing in search results. Use tools like Google Family Link to set search restrictions and monitor your child's browsing activity.

IDENTIFY AND AVOID ADVERTS

One of the ways search engines generate revenue is by showing adverts to their users. Sponsored search results are labelled, but they're not always easy to spot and can sometimes be malicious. Show your child how to distinguish between paid ads and organic search results – explain why some ads might be misleading or unsafe.

QUESTION AI-GENERATED CONTENT

While AI content is generated quickly and often appears legitimate, teach children that, just because an AI summary is well presented, it doesn't mean it's accurate. Encourage them to review the sources behind AI summaries and check the information with reputable sites or fact-checkers.

PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Encourage children to question the motivation behind online content and develop critical thinking, as not all sites can be trusted. Some deliberately misinform users in order to sell products or promote misinformation. Developing a critical mindset is one of the best defences against these tactics.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



The National College®

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BIKE AND RUN EVENTS 2025

The minimum
distance to cycle
and run is 1km.

In partnership with British Triathlon

When?

Saturday 5th April 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 3rd May 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 7th June 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 5th July 9:30am - 11am
Saturday 2nd Aug 9:30am - 11am

Who?

For families and suitable for age 6+ who want to participate in non-competitive cycling and running.

Equipment?

Participants only need to bring their own bikes for the family session. Adults only session can use our spin bikes. Participants need to wear suitable footwear.

Where?

At Braintree Sport and Health Club
Panfield Lane, Braintree, Essex
CM71FF

Attend two sessions before 5th July to be entered into the prize draw, the lucky winner will receive an amazing goodie bag packed with fitness treats worth over £100, plus a £50 Halfords voucher!



Braintree
District Council

fusion

Super Star Sport – May Half-Term Holiday Camps

Looking for something fun and active for the kids this May half-term?

Super Star Sport are running their popular **Holiday Camps from Tuesday 27th to Friday 30th May**, packed with exciting activities like Ninja Warrior challenges, Olympic Sports Day, water games, and more!

It's the perfect way to keep children **fit, healthy, active and smiling** over the break.

👉 **Book your child's place here:** <https://super-star-sport-uk-2.classforkids.io/camp/291>

The poster features a vibrant background with children playing soccer on a grassy field. A woman in a purple jacket is shown in a circular inset, smiling. The text is set against a purple and white background with sports-related icons like soccer balls and a goal. The overall design is bright and energetic, appealing to parents and children alike.

SUPER STAR SPORT

MAY HALF-TERM CAMP

Notley Green Primary School

Venue: Notley Green Primary School,
Blickling Rd, Braintree, CM77 7ZJ

Tue 27th May - Fri 29th May

FULL DAY: £27 per day £98 for the week Year 1 - 7 9AM - 3PM	HALF DAY: £16 per day Reception
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To Book:
Visit www.superstarsport.co.uk 'Book Now'
For more information call 01992 766 707

SCAN HERE



MAY CAMP ITINERARY 2025 | WEEK 1

Monday 26th May – Bank Holiday (No Camp)
 Tuesday 27th May – Friday 30th May

Times: 09:00 – 15:00
 Price: £27 per day | £98 for the full week

	TUE 27 th MAY OLYMPIC SPORTS DAY	WED 28 th MAY NINJA WARRIOR DAY	THU 29 th MAY WATER SPORTS DAY	FRI 30 th MAY DRESS-UP PARTY DAY
09:00-09:30	Registration and arrival activities	Registration and arrival activities	Registration and arrival activities	Registration and arrival activities
09:30-10:30	Activity 1: Gymnastics / Football / Multisports	Obstacle Courses & Ninja Skills	Multi Sports (Soft Archery, Speed & Agility Games)	Activity 1: Multisports
10:30-10:45	Break time	Break time	Break time	Break time
10:45-11:45	Activity 2: Basketball / Tennis	Ninja Warrior Games	Dodgeball	Activity 2: Football / Camp Games
11:45-12:15	STEM Activity: Olympic Lego Building	STEM Activity: Piñata Challenge	STEM Activity: Water Relay Game	STEM Activity: Design Your Superhero Mask
12:15-13:15	Lunch and half-day booking collection	Lunch and half-day booking collection	Lunch and half-day booking collection	Lunch and half-day booking collection
13:15-14:00	Activity 3: Rounders	Ninja Dodgeball	Water Dodgeball (with safe water balloons!)	Activity 3: Party Games & Competitions
14:00-14:45	Team games and tournaments	Team Games: Dodgeball	Age-appropriate water fight	Dance Off & Celebration
14:45-15:00	Review and home time	Review and home time	Review and home time	Review and home time

Early Bird Discount code for flyers and schedule please **XCF216**
 Expires: Sat 26 Apr 2025, 11:59pm

Code Club

Braintree Library
Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm

- Do you have a favourite computer game?
- Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games?
- Learn how to make cool games, animations and websites!



Suitable for ages 9-13

For further information contact
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628
or visit libraries.essex.gov.uk/events



Essex County Council



Empower Yourself with Essential First Aid Skills


Join our **FREE** Family First Aid sessions to gain the knowledge and confidence to handle common emergencies. Ensure your loved ones are safe with practical skills.


Course Highlights

Everyday first aid techniques, Confidence to act swiftly

Why Attend?

Empower yourself, Connect with local parents and carers, Ensure your family's safety

 When: Book now for sessions taking place March to July 2025

 Where: Chelmsford, Colchester, or Witham

Don't miss out—sign up today!

Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'Family First Aid' in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY &
FAMILY LEARNING

