

John Ray Times

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

17th November 2025

Phone: 01376 324107

Email: jrcontact@compassps.uk

Website: www.johnray.compassps.uk



@ facebook.com/johnraycompassps

Online learning links

[Accelerated Reader](#)

[Century Tech](#)

[TT Rockstars](#)

[Nessy](#)

Links for permission for children in Y5 and Y6 to bring in a mobile phone: [Request to bring in a mobile phone](#)

Links for permission for children in Y5 and Y6 to walk home alone: [Permission to walk home alone](#)

For uniform orders visit: [Absolute Embroidery](#) or visit the shop at 286 Broad Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 5NW

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:

New Autumn/Winter Menus:

We're excited to launch our new Autumn/Winter menus this term!

You can view the updated menus below, and they're also available on our school website.

17.11.25 [Week 3](#), 24.11.25 [Week 1](#), 01.12.25 [Week 2](#)

To view the Chartwells Parent Information Leaflet, please [click here](#).

The cost for a school meal is now £2.50 and is payable on your MCAS App. If you think that your child may be entitled to free school meals, please contact Mrs Wiltshire in the school office.

[Zones of Regulation](#)

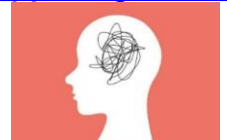
The ZONES of Regulation



[School Attendance Difficulties](#)



[Supporting Anxiety](#)



My Happy Mind Parent App

To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> We will send out a separate letter with the access code to enable you to access these at home.

Year 3 farm visitors

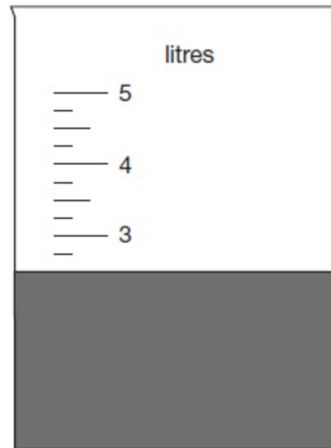
To support their learning about Charlotte's Web and to provide inspiration for their writing. Y3 enjoyed spending time with some very special visitors.



Year 6 SATs question of the week

Here is a question worth 1 mark from the Reasoning paper.

Jack pours some dark paint into a container.



In litres, how much paint is in the container?

🎄 Non-Uniform Day & Christmas Gift Sale.


On Friday 28th November, children can come to school in non-uniform in exchange for bringing an unwrapped gift as a donation.

Then, on Thursday 4th December, children can bring £1.00 to buy a special present from our PTA Christmas Gift Sale.

See the poster below for full details and suggested donations.



School Meal Taster Session – Thursday 4th December 2025 – 3.15pm - 4.00pm



School Meals Taster Session

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Chartwells Compass Team will be holding an exciting School Meal Taster Session on the 4th of December. Food will be served in the school dining room from 3:15pm to 4pm. We would love to welcome you to sample our delicious food from our new Autumn/Winter Menu.

We will be serving a selection of dishes for you to try.
Fresh Bread.
&
Desert of the Day.

You will have the opportunity to ask questions to our operations managers and executive chef regarding the menu.
We welcome any feedback you may wish to pass onto us.
Look forward to seeing you there!

 **Chartwells**
So much more than a school food

John Ray Infant and John Ray Junior Schools: Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number

Specific Proposal John Ray Junior and John Ray Infant Schools, along with our Trust, propose to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 120 to 90 with effect from September 2027. For pupils who already have a place at John Ray Infants and in other year groups, there will be no change.

It is important to consider the views of our parents and the wider community. The consultation will run until 3rd December 2025. All stakeholders are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal to: PAN Consultation: C/O Alderwood Primary School Rainham Close, Eltham London, SE9 2JB Email: contact@compassps.uk. Please [click here](#) to view a full copy of the letter sent to parents 22/10/25

Children in need

The children looked wonderful on Friday in their spots and stripes.
Thank you for your generous donations to Children in Need — as a school, we raised an impressive £286.07.

Scroogical – Pantomime



We are all looking forward to watching the pantomime next week. If you have not yet made your donation, please do so via the MCAS app.

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

SEND- PINS project (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools)

Next week on 24.11.25 we are hosting a parent meeting for PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools). This takes place in the JRJ hall at 2pm and will finish at 3pm. This is an informal opportunity to share your views and what is working well. Bookings are not needed so please feel free just to come along.



Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities



SPACE

SPACE offers free support to families of children and young people with SEND.

Delivered by peer educators – all parents and carers with lived experience.

Get support your way:

-  **in person** – meet us at Local Offer roadshows, coffee mornings, and community events
-  **by phone** – talk one-to-one with a peer educator
-  **online** – join webinars on key topics, led by peer educators
-  **on the SPACE website** – find helpful info and guidance anytime



Book your place for an online session, or a phone call today!
parent-send-support.essex.gov.uk



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.

Swimming: Harley (3P) stage 5

Football: Players of the match- Kerim (3C), Sidney (5E), Theo (5E), Daniil (5E), Ben (4B), Max (5C), Summer (5W), Jaxon (4B), Dominic (6R), Jenson (6R), Jacob (6R)

Swimming: Vinnie (6L) stage 6

Scouting: Matilda (4J) Chief scout's bronze award

Martial Arts: Karate- Finley (4CB) blue belt, Jack (6L) blue belt, Willow (4T) orange stripe, Carter (4B) orange stripe; Kungfu- Quinn (6G) green sash

Scratch Club: Willow (4T) and Carter (4B) have both completed module 1

Bikeability: Tate, Scarlett, Jan, Melody, Mia, Sophie, Summer, Isaac,



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. The first stars of the week will be chosen this week,

3B: Rose	4B: Elana and Cody	5B: Jack	6G: Jazlyn
3C: Claudia	4CB: Louie	5C: The whole class	6L: Nicholas
3P: Alex	4J: The whole class	5E: Blaize	6O: Stacey
3W: Harvey	4T: Maddie	5W: Nathan	6R:

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.

PE days for each class are:

Monday: 4B, 4CB, 3W, 6G

Tuesday: Y5, 3P, 3B, 3C

Wednesday: Y4, 6R, 6O, 6L

Thursday: Y3, 5B, 5E, 5C

Friday: Y6, 4J, 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](tel:08001111) at any time on [0800 1111](tel:08001111).



National Online Safety: What parents and carers need to know about Tracking devices

Tracking devices like AirTags and SmartTags were designed to help people find lost belongings, but they've also opened the door to worrying forms of misuse. Their compact size and subtle design make them easy to hide, which can lead to the unwanted tracking of people without their knowledge.

From stalking and bullying to potential misuse by peers. These gadgets bring a range of risks that trusted adults must stay aware of.

This guide examines the growing popularity of Bluetooth trackers, the most common ways they're being misused, and how to spot signs that a child may be affected. With practical tips on detecting hidden devices, using the right apps, and starting important conversations, it's a vital read for parents, carers and educators looking to stay ahead of a fast-moving issue.

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 3B: dbanks@compassps.uk 3P: sphillips@compassps.uk 3W: zwatson@compassps.uk	4B: pwatts@compassps.uk, jbird@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 5C: dcasey@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 – rcottee@compassps.uk Mrs Breen (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y3 or Y4 – kbreen@compassps.uk	
<u>RECENT LETTERS INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS – MANY OF OUR LETTERS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE</u>	
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	
18.07.25 School meal cost (all year groups) 06.10.25 Gemma's Farm Visit (Y3 only) 14.10.25 Autumn Term Learning Conference 15.10.25 Scroogical pantomime (all year groups) 22.10.25 Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number	
Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 (new dates in red) Please see the website for the term dates	

Academic diary dates for 2025-26		
Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
24.11.25 School panto 24.11.25 PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) meeting In JRJ hall 2pm-3pm No booking necessary 24.11.25 last week for after school clubs 28.11.25 Non Uniform day – gift donations 04.12.25 PTA gift shop – children to bring £1.00 to buy a gift for someone special. 04.12.25 School meal taster session 3.15pm - 4pm 15.12.25 SEN tea and chat 16.12.25 Y4 and Y6 Christmas dinner day (children in Y4 / 6 are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper and / or accessory)	05.01.26 Non Pupil day 06.01.26 Children return to school 12.01.26 After school clubs start 22.01.26 Young Voices at the O2 03.02.26 SEND tea and chat 04.02.26 Enhanced one planning for specific children 05.02.26 In class individual photos (Children having PE today should bring their PE kit in a separate bag) 09.02.26-15.02.25 Children's mental health week 10.02.26 Safer internet day 16.02.26 Half term week 05.03.26 World book day (Children are invited to dress as a book character or bring in a prop from a book) 09.03.26 Science week	13.04.26 Children return to school 20.04.26 First week of after school clubs 11.05.26 SATs week 20.05.26 Sports day (Y5 / 6 in the morning, Y3 / Y4 in the afternoon, picnic 12-12:45) 25.05.26 Half term week 01.06.26 Multiplication check for 3 weeks (Y4 only) 02.06.26 Enhanced and focussed one plans 03.06.26 reserve sports day in case of poor weather 08.06.26 - 10.06.26 Mersea residential for Y6 22.06.26 Secondary school transition week (schools will choose their own dates)

<p>17.12.25 Y3 and Y5 Christmas dinner day <i>(children in Y3 / 3 are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper and / or accessory)</i></p> <p>18.12.25 Y3 and Y4 to walk to St Michael's church for a Christmas service <i>(This takes place in school time and is for staff and children only. Children should wear suitable shoes for walking)</i></p> <p>19.12.25 Last day of term</p>	<p>11.03.26 Learning conferences 3:40 – 6:00</p> <p>12.03.26 Learning conferences 3:40 – 6:30</p> <p>23.03.26 Last week for clubs</p> <p>24.03.26 Y5 and Y6 to walk to St Michael's church for an Easter service <i>(This takes place in school time and is for staff and children only. Children should wear suitable shoes for walking)</i></p> <p>27.03.26- SEND tea and chat</p> <p>27.03.25 PTA Break the rules day</p> <p>27.03.26 Last day of term</p>	<p>26.06.25 School fete after school</p> <p>29.06.26 Last week of after school clubs</p> <p>01.07.26 Class photos <i>(Children having PE today should bring their PE kit in a separate bag)</i></p> <p>09.07.26 Annual reports sent out</p> <p>30.06.26 Children to spend time with new teacher</p> <p>08.07.26 Open afternoon 3:30-4:30</p> <p>14.07.26 Y6 production for 6L and 6R 1:30 and 4:30</p> <p>15.07.26 Y6 production for 6O and 6G 1:30 and 4:30</p> <p>16.07.26 Last day of term for children</p>
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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



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child with mental health and wellbeing

Provided by your Mental Health Support Team

@set_camhs_nhs

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OUT MORE



Do you need help supporting your child? We offer a variety of online workshops to help you to support your child on the following topics:

- ✓ Fears and Worries
- ✓ Challenging Behaviour
- ✓ Emotionally Based School Avoidance
- ✓ Understanding Autism
- ✓ Understanding ADHD
- ✓ Sleep Support

Sessions will be held online during the day and evenings.



Striving to provide the best care by the best people



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