



# John Ray Infants School & Nursery School House

Learning together, aiming high, proud to be ourselves

Newsletter date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025



## Main Office Information

### Opening hours:

Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 4pm

Friday – 8.30am – 3.30pm

Attendance – Mrs Louise Price

Admissions – Mrs Louise Price

Clubs, lettings, and trips – Mrs Louise Price

Nursery & Finance – Mrs Clare Ryan

Tiddly Winklers – Mrs Wiltshire (**Please note we are full**)

Contact email:

[johnrayinfant@compassps.uk](mailto:johnrayinfant@compassps.uk)

### Open Door Policy

Please remember we are here if you would like to chat to us. Mrs Christian will stand at either the front or back gate. You can also speak with your child's teacher after school once all children have been seen out.

Contact email:

[lchristian@compassps.uk](mailto:lchristian@compassps.uk)

## Late collections

**A reminder to all parents/carers School finishes at 3.15pm. Please ensure you collect your child/children on time. A late fee of £5 will be added to your MYCAS account for late collections**



Please can I remind our parents/carers that we are a nut free school. This includes Nutella bars and pesto

## Dates for your diary:

### W/C 10<sup>th</sup> November – Week 2 of new menu

Our new menu will be starting after half term; you can find a copy of this on our website:

### [John Ray Infant School - School Meals](#)

14<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need – wear spots

18<sup>th</sup> November – Kestrels and Robins Maths workshop (9am)

19<sup>th</sup> November – Woodpecker and Kingfisher Math workshop (9am)

25<sup>th</sup> November – Reception phonics workshop

26<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1 phonics workshop

W/C 1<sup>st</sup> December – Teacher club's finish

3<sup>rd</sup> December – Choir singing at Riverdale Care Home 10am

W/C 8<sup>th</sup> December – Sports clubs finish

9<sup>th</sup> December – Choir singing at Hawthornes Care Home 10am

9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> December – Santa's grotto (info to follow)

12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner

15<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2 Christmas carols and crafts (AM)

16<sup>th</sup> December – Year 1 Christmas carols and crafts (AM)

16<sup>th</sup> December – Reception nativity (PM)

17<sup>th</sup> December – Reception Christmas crafts (AM)

### January 2026

5<sup>th</sup> January – Non pupil day

6<sup>th</sup> January – Return to school

15<sup>th</sup> January – Movie and munch (information to follow)

These dates may be subject to change, but we will give advance notice where possible. Timings for all the above events will be sent out nearer the time.



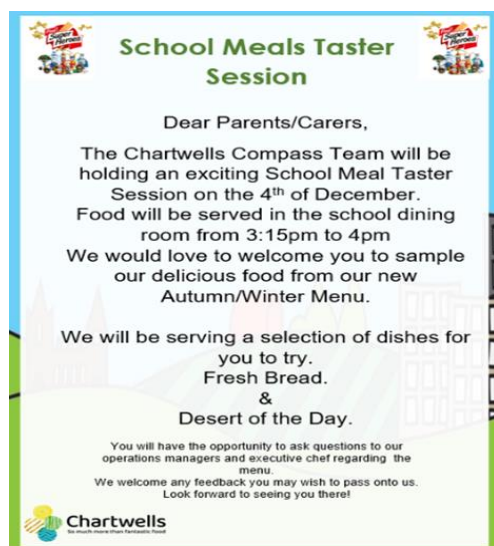
## We love to celebrate any achievements the children have awarded outside of school.

Please feel free to email [johnrayinfant@compassps.uk](mailto:johnrayinfant@compassps.uk) with a description of what they have done. It could be that they learnt to ride a bike with or without stabilisers, swimming achievements, karate, litter picking etc.

## September 2026 Reception admissions:

Is your child due to start Reception in September 2026? Please find below a link to apply from 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. You will receive your offers on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

[Admissions | Essex County Council](#)



**School Meals Taster Session**

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Chartwells Compass Team will be holding an exciting School Meal Taster Session on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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**  
The Chartwells Group is a member of Compass Group UK & Ireland



On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November, we invite all children to wear non-uniform (spots / stripes) in exchange for a donation to Children in Need. Children who have PE on Friday should wear suitable active wear clothes or bring in a change of clothes in a named bag.



**The Hawthorns**  
BRAINTREE

## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2025

DESIGN A FESTIVE CHRISTMAS CARD AND WIN A PRIZE FOR YOU AND YOUR SCHOOL!

Design a festive Christmas card and win a prize for you and your school! Let your creativity shine — your design could feature on The Hawthorns Braintree's official Christmas cards for 2025, sent to residents, families, and our community.

**Design Guidelines:**

- Use A4 landscape paper with a plain white background
- Keep your design flat — use pencils, pens, or paints (please avoid glitter or cotton wool)
- Make sure your artwork isn't folded or creased
- Hand in your finished design by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Our residents will choose the winning design!**  
The winning artist will receive a £25 National Book Token  
The winning school will receive a £250 donation  
Let's make this Christmas extra special with your creativity and festive spirit!

Scan the QR code to see our upcoming events  
**01376 335500 | [hawthornsretirement.co.uk](http://hawthornsretirement.co.uk)**

Meadow Park | Tortoiseshell Way | Braintree | Essex | CM7 1TD





### **Golden book 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**Dragonflies:** Afenya, brilliant blending and segmenting in phonics

**Ladybirds:** Henry, for excellent use of language to describe fireworks and a good understanding of firework night safety

**Bumblebees:** Luundu, for showing wonderful curiosity and excellent recall of information about Bonfire night

**Hedgehog:** Asa, for your learning behaviours this week. You have shown concentration and reflection in all your learning

**Squirrels:** Luis, for great musically learning 'Twinkle Twinkle' on the glockenspiel

**Otters:** For all settling so well in the new classroom and adapting to the new routines

**Moles:** Noah, who has made a lovely start to Moles and been very resilient joining a new class

**Kingfisher:** Lyla, for always being a superstar and her great writing skills

**Kestrels:** Ronnie, for settling in really well

**Woodpecker:** Jack, for having an enthusiastic attitude in all elements of school life and showing respect and curiosity. You are a pleasure to have in class

**Robin:** Skyler, for always being an amazing member of Robin class. You try your best in all areas of school life. I am so proud of you

### **Reminders:**

#### **Clothing:**

Please ensure your children have suitable clothing now the weather has started to become cooler i.e. warm and waterproof coats. **Please ensure that all clothes are labelled, including shoes, as many children have similar sizes and are from the same shop.** We have so many unclaimed clothing items as they have not been named. Please check with your class teacher if you are missing any items.

#### **Jewellery:**

Please note that children cannot wear any jewellery for P.E sessions. Please can jewellery be removed before coming into school.