



John Ray Infants School & Nursery School House

Learning together, aiming high, proud to be ourselves

Newsletter date: 17th October 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

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

Donations needed:

Tights – all ages

Any old comics/magazines for our Mole class

Thank you for all the school uniform donations, we are currently at our maximum for storage.



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 20th October – Week 3 Menu

20th October – Year 1 Toy Museum trip (Moles and Hedgehog class)

22nd October – Year 1 Toy Museum trip (Squirrels and Hedgehog class)

24th October – Superhero Day

W/C 27th October – Half term

W/C 3rd November – Parents evening this week

6th November – Fluenz (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)

14th November – Children in Need – wear spots

18/19th November – Year 2 Maths workshop (9am)

25th November – Reception phonics workshop

26th November – phonics workshop

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

3rd December – Choir singing at Riverdale Care Home 10am

W/C 8th December – Sports clubs finish

9th December – Choir singing at Hawthornes Care Home 10am

12th December – Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner

15th December – Year 2 Christmas carols and crafts (AM)

16th December – Year 1 Christmas carols and crafts (AM)

16th December – Reception nativity (PM)

17th December – Reception Christmas crafts (AM)

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 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.



Pacey did an amazing job of littering picking in front of our Infant site, Junior site and worked his way town to the shops. What an amazing thing to do Pacey, well done!!



Laney entered a competition to design a new badge for an Outdoor Adventure Day that was held recently for the Rainbows, Brownies and Girl Guides.

Laney was the runner up in the competition. Well done Laney!!

A message from Mrs Turner

Thank you to Khanya and Keira from Woodpeckers, Hayden from Kingfishers and Cooper from Squirrels who have made beautiful bookmarks and written brand new stories as part of their reading bookmark home learning - I loved seeing and reading these! Well done!



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.

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



Golden book 17th October 2025

Dragonflies: Grandeur, for great writing in our speech bubble activity. Arriving to school smiling

Ladybirds: Amelia, for excellent phonics work – blending and segmenting independently

Bumblebees: Szymon, for his motivation towards phonics and for being a persevering pig with his handwriting

Hedgehog: Ava, for your growth in confidence over the last couple of weeks! It has been so lovely to see

Squirrels: Cooper, for always joining in so well in class and having great ideas. You have done some great writing about the olds toys this week too

Moles: Hudson, for working very hard with his handwriting. Well done!!

Kingfisher: Pacey, for always helping adults in the classroom and working hard during lessons

Kestrels: Nova, for creative and engaging writing

Woodpecker: Renee, for demonstrating excellent listening and being a great role model with our core values

Robin: Dundre, we are so proud of you. You have been to every assembly and worked so hard in class



Harvest appeal



Help support Braintree Area Foodbank

Donate food
Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money
We are having to buy food to fill our food boxes. A monetary donation will help us to do this
Search for us on JustGiving

Learn about what we do
We have a group of speakers ready and willing to come along and talk about the journey of a tin from donation to a food parcel
Please call 01376 330694

Shopping list
Breakfast cereal
Milk (UHT or powdered)
Cup soups
Biscuits
Tinned fish
Tinned vegetables
Tinned rice pudding
Jam

Braintree Area Foodbank
Including Great Notley, The Heddingham's and Witham
www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk



Registered Charity in England & Wales (1143448)
Registered Limited Company in England & Wales (7094263)

Harvest appeal

If you are able to and would like to contribute to our local food bank, we will be collecting donations from Monday 13th October until Thursday 26th October.

We are very grateful for any donations—every contribution makes a real difference to people who really need them. Children can bring their donations into school and give them to their teachers.



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH,
BRAINTREE

LIGHT PARTY

FOR FAMILIES
FREE ENTRY

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER
3-5PM

Find us at St Michael's Church,
CM7 1EY
Join us for light themed activities
Bible story and songs @ 4:30pm



World Mental Health Day:

EYFS acknowledged this by participating in yoga, completing some mindfulness colouring and talking about ways to keep ourselves healthy. Year 1 and 2 participated in circle time sessions in their classes about how we can promote positive mental health and why it is important.