

John Ray Infant School

Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1HL

Tel: 01376 323071

Email: jriconact@compassps.uk

Website: www.johnrayinfant.compassps.uk

Executive Head

Holly Gibson

Head Teacher:

Lisa Christian



9th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back, and happy New Year. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Thank you very much for the kind cards and thoughtful gifts that were sent in at the end of term; they were greatly appreciated by staff and myself.

As we begin a new year, we are continuing our focus on ensuring behaviour remains outstanding across the school. Our three school rules remain central to everything we do: **Be Kind, Be Safe and Be Responsible**. I have spoken with the children at length in assembly about what it means to take responsibility, particularly for their own belongings. One area I would very much like to see improve this year is lost property. To support this, I ask that all items of clothing and belongings are clearly named, as this makes a significant difference and helps us return items to their owners quickly.

From next week, the EYFS team will begin setting up the outdoor learning area before the children arrive at school. During this time, we kindly ask that children and siblings do not play with the equipment. Activities may include paint or water, which can be understandably tempting, but resources can easily be moved, damaged or made unsafe. Where possible, areas will be covered with black sheets, and Mrs Turner and I will also be present next week to gently remind children. Your support with this helps ensure that valuable learning time is not taken up setting the area again.

A further reminder that children should not play on the outdoor gym equipment or climbing frame before or after school. Unfortunately, we are not insured for accidents that may occur outside of school hours, so your cooperation with this is essential.

As it is the start of a new term, we will also be learning some new songs in singing assembly. I have told the children that I would love to hear both their ideas and yours. Suggestions are welcome from any genre, as I enjoy giving the children a wide range of musical experiences. Please click on the link below if you would like to contribute a suggestion.

[Choose a song for assembly](#)

I wish you all a restful weekend.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Christian".

Lisa Christian
Headteacher

