



John Ray Infants School & Nursery School House

Learning together, aiming high, proud to be ourselves

Newsletter date: 8th November 2024

Main Office Information

Opening hours:

Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 4pm

Friday – 8.30am – 3.30pm

Attendance – Mrs Louise Price

Clubs, Lettings, and trips – Mrs Louise Price

Nursery & Finance – Mrs Clare Ryan

Tiddly Winkers – Mrs Clare Ryan (**Please note we are full**)

Contact email:

jricontact@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

Dates for your diary:

W/C 11th November 2024 – Week 2 menu

15th November – Child in need – Non uniform (Wears spots)

19th November – Reception phonics workshop at 9am

20th/21st November – Year 1 Maths workshop

26th/27th November – Year 1 phonics workshop 9am

10th December – Choir singing at Hawthorn

12th December – Choir singing at Riverdale

13th December – Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

16th December – Year 2 Carols and Crafts AM

17th December – Reception Nativity 2pm

17th December – Year 1 Carols and Crafts AM

18th December – Reception Cards/Crafts 9am

23rd December – Christmas holidays



Donations needed:

Small world (castles, farms, buildings)

Small world people

Little Tikes cars

Little Tikes petrol pump

Puzzles (that have all the pieces)

Dressing up clothes – all ages

Please hand any donations to the School Office. Thank you!

Clothing:

Please ensure your children have suitable clothing now the weather has started to become colder i.e. warm and waterproof coats, gloves and hats. Please ensure that **all clothes are labelled**, including shoes, as many children have similar sizes.

Jewellery:

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

Headteacher - Mrs L Christian

Deputy Head - Mrs E Turner

FS Lead - Mrs Pennell

Year 1 Lead - Mrs Yates

Year 2 Lead - Mrs H Cleary

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

Please feel free to email jricontact@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.



At the weekend Gracie attended a Hobby Horse competition where she came 5th in the Halloween fancy dress, 2nd in the jump and 2nd and 3rd in the gymkhana races.

This is a fantastic achievement; you are doing so well Gracie!!

Reminders:

Playground equipment - Please do encourage your children to stay with you before and after school and not to run around on the playgrounds or play equipment in the Foundation playground or in the back playground

Sickness - If your child has been sick or has diarrhoea they must stay away from school for at least 48 hours before returning to school. **Absence** - Please ensure you call the school before 8.30am on each day of your child's absence. Please do not just say your child is unwell, please explain what their symptoms are.

My Child at School app - If you have not received the link to sign up to the MYCAS account for your child please contact the School Office.

Water bottles – A gentle reminder to have water in your child's water bottles and not juice/squash as it's healthier and less sticky if split

Online Safety

How can I find age- appropriate games?

Do you need suggestions on age- appropriate games? You could use either of the following websites to search suitable games.

Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check if it has a communication feature as this might mean you decide a game is not suitable for your child.

<https://www.askaboutgames.com/find-the-right-game>

<https://www.familygamingdatabase.com/home>

How to Remove Social Media Access After Granting It

Have you given your child access to social media but are now regretting that decision? Bark have published this article to help you take back control by removing social media:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/removing-social-media/>

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/legal guardian. When giving your child access to YouTube, there are different options you could choose depending on your child's age:

- **YouTube Kids** – this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).
- **Supervised accounts** – this is a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:
 - **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
 - **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
 - **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a guide to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

My child wants to be a YouTuber

Many children want to start their own YouTube channel, but it is important to be aware of the potential risks and ensure that your child understands what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>

You should be aware that there are different settings available when posting videos:

1. Public: anyone can view the video.
2. Private: video can only be viewed by users that you select.
3. Unlisted: only people who have the link to the video can view it.

What are the benefits and negatives of a YouTube channel?

Before allowing your child to start a YouTube channel, review the benefits and risks. This article discusses the pros and cons as well as provides recommendations to help minimise any risks: <https://www.brightcanary.io/should-your-kid-become-a-youtuber-weighing-the-pros-and-cons/>

Further information

- <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB>
- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/youtube>

A message from Braintree foodbank – Thank you so much for all your donations

