



2019 Fluid Power Action Challenge

JYMS Takes Home 3 of the Top 5 Honors

The 2019 Fluid Power Action Challenge was held Friday January 18 at the Stepan Center on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Since early November, over 20 teams from middle schools in the Michiana area designed, tested, perfected, and documented their work on a prototype machine to complete the assigned task. On Friday the teams duplicated their work in 5 hours and competed for honors.

JYMS FPAC group consisted of 4 teams. John Young captured 3 of the 5 honors available. John Young Team #22 consisting of Carter Brown, Ryan Cheng, and Davin Cockey won the award of Design Champion. John Young Team #21, with Claire Braniff, Abby Singleton, Tori Trzaskowski, and Alaina Webster won the Team Challenge Champion for scoring the most points on the challenge board. John Young Team #18 with Sarah Burns, Ava Raker, Jon Rogers, and Rees Sellers came home with the First Place, Overall Champion.

All the students put in many hours of work in addition to their regular school work. We would like to congratulate all teams and the coaches, Walt Buras and Cassidy Richard. Great Job Jaguars!



John J. Young Middle School

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Dear Jaguar Community,

I hope 2019 is going well for you and your family! As we hit 2019 at full speed I do want to congratulate our 190 students who earned Principal's Honor Roll and the 120 Students who earned Honor Roll in the first semester! Great job! Keep it up! Many of these students will have the opportunity to apply for our National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). The induction ceremony will be February 20th for those selected through the application process. Please mark this date on your calendar.

February and March is a very active time at JYMS. Students are working hard completing major projects for class and getting prepared for academic competitions including History Day and Science Fair. We have a proud tradition and plenty of success in academic competitions. Our teachers and staff do a great job of preparing our students to compete. Success comes because our staff values 21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking. These skills are emphasized in all classes to prepare all students as they become lifelong learners. We wish all students good luck!

Please read this newsletter to see what other projects and activities are going on throughout the school and with your student's team.

We would like to make you aware that our assistant principals have moved to the Student Services Office. We can better serve our students having the school counselors and assistant principals working out of the same office.

I would like to leave you with one other important reminder about drop-off and pick-up times. JYMS does not open until 7:45AM for those eating breakfast. Otherwise, students may enter at 8:00AM. Students are also required to be off school campus by 3:30PM unless they are in a supervised activity. We do not have supervision before 7:45AM or after 3:30PM for students, so please have rides in place for your child. We do not want your child to have to wait outside before school or after school during the cold winter season.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate the over 300 JYMS Students who made Principal's Honor Roll or Honor Roll for the first semester of the 2018-19 School Year. Please see the complete list of student names at MishawakaSchools.com/jyms

Note: Please pull forward to the crossing guard when possible to help with traffic congestion.

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher, Principal

Office Staff is Here to Help

Office Contacts:

Kelly Kincses, Secretary	254-3600
Jennifer Addison, Secretary	254-4926
Norma Bauernfeind, Secretary	254-3616
Attendance Line (voicemail only)	254-3615
Becky Stayton, Nurse	254-3602
Cherie Smith, Counselor (7th grade)	254-3618
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Social Media

Please "like" our Facebook page for current events, last minute updates, and positive things happening at JYMS.

<https://www.facebook.com/JohnYoungMiddleSchool/>
<https://twitter.com/scmjohnyoung>

Visit us on our new website at MishawakaSchools.com/jyms

Mrs. Plonski & Mrs. Hembrecht



As we finish with Earth Science, we will adventure into Physics and learn about Newton's Laws and "play" with Science.

Social Studies: Geography and Africa in general Social Studies. World Religions and Geography in honors.

Healthy Lifestyles: Health is currently studying the nervous system and alcohol. PE begins back on January 28th.

7th Rotation (Woodshop): Students will be working on their individual projects and will transition to TCU lab February 22nd.

Please visit our new Facebook page – JYMS 100 Hall

200 HALL

Please check out the 200 Hall's 2018–2019 website: [Sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall](https://sites.google.com/Mishawaka.k12.in.us/200-hall). This website has general information to stay up to date with what's happening in the 200 Hall and in each of your student's classes.

Math: Students in the 200 Hall are using their understanding of proportionality to solve problems involving scale and percents, as well as working on geometric relationships. These are important functional skills that have real life applications. To help your student be successful, discuss how you encounter tax, tip, discounts, markups and interest in your daily life. If you have tips or tricks to determine how to calculate these amounts mentally, please share these with your student or ask him/her to share the strategies we have discussed in class.

Science: The students just finished their Earth's Interior projects and presentations. Our 200 Hall student's put in great effort to learn about the composition, state of matter, and thickness of each of the earth's layers. I was very proud of their work! The students are now working hard to understand how scientists use evidence found in rock strata to determine earth's geologic time scale. Some activities that students are doing to learn this are: card sorts, online lessons, and independent research about an era that they choose to investigate. We will soon begin looking into the convection currents that occur in earth's mantle that cause the tectonic plates to move in three ways: convergent, divergent, and transform. The students will be challenged to understand that the landforms created at plate boundaries are determined by the type of movement that occurs there.

Social Studies: Students will explore Southern Africa through model reading of informational text. We will read about the invasions and rulers of the region, culture and making of a civilization. We will look at the Physical Geography, the History,

100 HALL

We will continue to hand out red slips to students who may be missing any work. We are expecting students to take initiative to check Alma independently to find their missing assignments and take ownership of their own grades. The first red sheet will only inform students that they are missing something, the second is a parent contact home. If a student continues to have missing work three weeks in a row, they will receive a "hallway detention" to give students an opportunity to make up work here in school. If all work is made up and no additional work is missing after the first or second red sheet, they will begin a new red sheet cycle. They will return to a clean slate so to speak.

Please remember that there is always a teacher in the hallway that stays after school until 4PM for homework room.

Coming up this month:

English: We will be working on phrases, literature circles, and writing research essays.

Math: Pre-Algebra 1 - We will be studying geometry, focusing on area and circumference of circles and volume and surface areas of cylinders and rectangular prisms. Pre-Algebra 2 - We will be studying slope and will be writing and graphing linear equations. Algebra 1 - We will be studying radical and exponent rules.

Science: Science students have been working hard in class and outside of class. Some of our students have been working with the Scientific Method, hands on. Students have conducted experiments and created Science Fair projects and will be judged by Science professors and students from surrounding Universities. While in the classroom, we will be using the information we learned about the Rock Cycle to dig deeper into the layers of our Earth.

and the Life of people in the region. Throughout the month, we will discuss Apartheid and how it relates to the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. In March we will move into Eastern Africa. We will look at the Physical Geography, the History, and the Life of people in the region.

English: the students will be researching civil rights before starting the award winning novel *The Lions of Little Rock*, by Kristin Levine. This novel is about a young girl, Marlee Nisbett, who is in the 7th grade at a middle school in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1958 – the year after the Little Rock Nine went to Central High School. Tensions are high due to the Governor (Faubus) disagreeing with integration and closing all of the high schools. The middle schools remain open, so Marlee thinks she's starting an average school year... It turns out to be anything but average!

Healthy Lifestyles: we are back in the traditional classroom for Health. We are focusing primarily on our mental and emotional wellness. Time will be spent recognizing stress triggers, coping with stressors and/or removing stressful individuals or practices from our lives. Poor mental/emotional health tends to lead to destructive behaviors including substance abuse and suicide so portions of this unit will include alcoholism and suicide prevention.

300 HALL Our students have been working on a unit on characterization. We have read multiple short stories such as *Girls* by Gary Paulsen and *Mother and Daughter* by Gary Soto. This unit will aid students in being able to point out character traits within literature as well as in real life. This month we will continue working on this unit and we will also begin an informative writing assignment. We will continue going to the library every Thursday for the purpose of sustained silent reading and choosing books for our book talks, which are due every three weeks.

Science: February will be the end of our earth science curriculum. We previously discussed rocks, minerals, and renewable vs. nonrenewable resources; we finish with plate tectonics – earthquakes, volcanos, and evidence behind plate movement. When we finish earth science, we move into physical science. Physics is a difficult subject to study with some math overlap, but we look at forces through vehicle safety. Lots of lab activities make it very engaging and a fast unit! Parents can help at home with asking their students to spend time on Study Island lessons and checking ALMA regularly to help students keep up on their content.

Social Studies: We'll be exploring the Boxer Rebellion, and slowly making our way towards WWI. It'll surely be an eventful month!

Math: The students will be working on geometry and statistic/data. We are also taking a benchmark test at the end of each month that are formatted the same as the new state test, ILEARN. The students are getting used to the tools and format of the test they will be taking after spring break. TAs a reminder, the students have homework at least 2 to 3 times a week. Thank you for your support

Healthy Lifestyles: Students completed a roller skating unit. Students are presently in the classroom learning about Mental Health Challenges, Suicide Prevention Awareness and FACTS/ warning signs, and Alcohol Addiction.

TCU Innovation Lab: Our second rotation is quickly coming to a close. After that, students will move on to their final rotation class, World Languages with Mrs. Zavala. Since students have participated in TCU Lab, they are eligible to apply to the Innovators' Club and use the lab after school for even more opportunities to explore all of the resources the lab has to offer.

400 HALL

In the last newsletter we highlighted the need for work to be completed and turned in on time, and we are still seeing students get poor grades due to issues here. Please be sure you regularly check Alma and Google Classroom with your student to be sure you both stay informed about what's coming due and what needs to be made up. Most teachers will accept work late though the score may receive a penalty. Remember that some credit is better than no credit, but it's important to get work in on time to get the best scores possible!

English with Mrs. Kowalewski: In English students are finishing up their reading of the book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* with the goal of understanding the historical and cultural issues behind the book. We will wrap this unit up by writing an argumentative essay, then in February we will begin our Holocaust unit. For this unit we will learn about the horrors and injustices suffered by Jewish people and many other ethnic groups in WWII Europe. Our main text will be a play adaptation of *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Math with Mr. Lord: For February and March, our math classes will be looking into data and probability. This includes things such as scatter plots, lines of best fit, and the counting principle. After those units are completed, students will start reviewing the most essential 8th grade standards for this Spring's ILearn exam, beginning with a review of functions and other algebraic concepts.

Science with Miss Richard: In Science we've finished up our discussions around chemistry, now we're jumping into the life science unit which for us means genetics and heredity. We will be discussing Gregor Mendel and his experiments with peas, examining the mechanisms behind cancer, and identifying

500 HALL

patterns of inheritance in both real and made-up scenarios (some involving dragons. In addition to our main curriculum, we will also be continuing our vocab card assignment with a fresh set of cards due at the end of the year, so please stay on your student to be sure this is getting done!

Social Studies with Mr. Stoner: In our U.S. History class we are going to be studying the writing of the Constitution and the process of the United States becoming its own country!

Healthy Lifestyles with Mr. Calderone: In Healthy Lifestyles, the first three weeks of the new grading period we will be conducting basketball tournaments, as well as singles and double tournaments in badminton. The second three weeks of the grading period we will spending time in health venturing into teen lives and relationships, conflict resolution, and violence prevention. We will finish up the last three weeks of the grading period back in physical education learning skills with floor hockey and rugby, which will eventually lead up to games and competitions.

Art with Mrs. Anderson: The second trimester is now in full swing which means the 400 hall students are in their 2nd rotation class: Art with Mrs. Anderson. Art-Part One (first six weeks) focused on using the elements in artwork, trompe l'oeil (fooling the eye), perspective and aesthetics. Art-Part Two (second six weeks will focus on the principles of art, art history, and finishing the color unit by painting self portraits. See your student's Google Classroom for more details.



SCM Secondary Teacher of the Year, Beth Schwitz was honored at a dinner in Indianapolis.

Pictured: Beth Schwitz, Courtney Koszyk, and Bill Welling

Please check with your student that he/she has the necessary materials for class. It seems early in the school year for teachers to hear "I don't have (insert object here such as pen, paper, folder, etc.)" yet we are hearing this quite often. We appreciate your help with this matter as we all know coming to school/class prepared is the first step to a successful school year.

We have a **ZAP** (Zeros Aren't Permitted) each Wednesday after school. This is for any student struggling with homework and needs help, but it is also a requirement for students who have missing assignments. Parents/Guardians are notified on Tuesdays through email or phone (if no email address is listed) if their student is required to stay after.



Healthy Lifestyles: In P.E., the students had a roller skating unit. For many of them, it was the first time they had ever been on skates. They seemed to really enjoy this new skill.

History Day and Science Fair: have been the usual success. An Open House was held January 16th so parents, family members, and community could see what the students accomplished. Both

History Day and Science Fair participants will compete at the next level. Good luck to everyone involved!

Before Winter Break, our students helped decorate the hall. The theme this year was Holiday Music. The 500 Hall won for their decorations and the students enjoyed donuts and juice for their prize.

We are very excited about the extended Washington D.C. trip being offered to our 8th graders this year. If you have any questions, you can contact Mr. Zbrzezny or Ms. Schwitz. We hope that your student is able to take this fun educational trip.

Please check our website: <http://bit.ly/JYMS500HALL> for the latest updates on team activities.

Find Honor Roll lists on our website at:
MishawakaSchools.com/jyms

600 HALL

Math: Starting a Geometry unit.

English: Starting a Heroes unit and will be applying the hero's journey to literary and historical heroes.

Healthy Lifestyles: Basketball then badminton!

Science: Parts of a cell

Social Studies: We are starting Unit 3 which involves examining the U.S. Constitution, the creation, construction, and adaptation of amendments. Including the reasons and controversies surrounding the document.

Announcements: High School Schedules due ASAP!

Website: www.jagteam600.weebly.com &

Miss LaForest's website www.claforest.weebly.com

News from F. A. P. A. (Fine Arts, Practical Arts)

Choir: Our next performance goal will be for our March field trips. 7th Grade trip is March 20, and the 8th grade trip will be on March 22.

In order to go on this trip, students must:

1. pass their classes in the 3rd grading period.
2. not be assigned ISS or OSS in the 3rd grading period.
3. have consistent, appropriate behavior and effort in choir class.
4. do all choir assignments.

More information will be coming soon.

MAY concert dates:

8th grade Mayfest concert at MHS: May 10th

7th and 8th grade JYMS Spring Concert: May 23rd

READ 180: Greeting from Read 180! Congratulations to the following students for 'Graduating' Read 180! Charles King, Caleb Runnells, Blake Overmyer, Trinity Greer, and Yadira Trujillo. Way to Go! You're hard work paid off!

Drama: Students were introduced to Musical Theatre. This unit finished their semester with a choreographed dance to the musical song, *From Now On* from the musical, *The Greatest Showman*

Practical Skills: Practical Skills is starting the new year off with an introductory mini-unit centered around student introspection, goal setting, and self-awareness. As we reflect on last year, we begin 2019 with our "Hero Project", where students must identify their favorite heroic character, find a way to visually depict them, and write a paragraph about why they picked this particular hero, and what specific qualities the student

considers heroic. Each project contributes to a greater collage of heroes, allowing students a broad perspective on who/what their peers consider to be heroic, as well as where their peers draw influence from. Class discussion will lead into students reflecting on their own performance in and out the classroom, and how we can positively approach the second semester.

Spanish: Hola! We are always working on new vocabulary in Spanish class. Recently, we have been working on Spanish adjectives. Students made a Google slide and described a friend with positive adjectives. Students are excited to share slides with classes.

PLTW: Medical Detectives The students have started the new year discovering how healthcare professionals act as medical detectives to identify, treat, and prevent illnesses in their patients. Students will collect and interpret vital signs (pulse, temperature, blood pressure, and respiration) to evaluate patient health, and explore different infectious disease agents.



Scholastic Award Winners

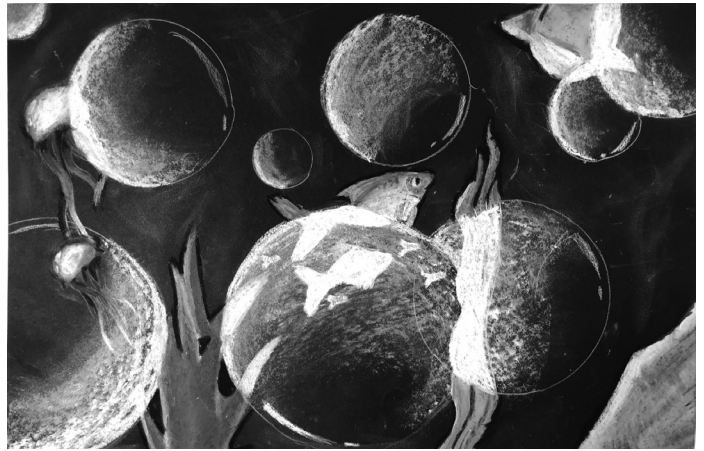
JYMS had 25 students enter art into the Scholastic Art Competition. Over 5,000 pieces of art is adjudicated by art professionals regionally and less than 1000 works are accepted into the show. John Young is pleased to announce two student artists who were selected to be in the show this year:

Lynnda Sutton Fish Bubbles, Drawing and Illustration Silver Key (work of distinguished achievement)

Leah Dawson Exploration in Shape and Texture, Painting Honorable Mention (stands out and worthy of recognition)

Our other competing artists include:

Elizabeth Childress
Ella Addison
Tori Trzaskowski
Izabella Filbert
Caitlyn Slaughter
Kaylene Blosser
Abrielle Flick
Ava Raker
Sarah Burns
Camryn Long
Abby Singleton
Santana Quintanilla
Sabrina Weston
Joseph Swank
Isabella Santa
Abby Nehring
Natalie Wilson
Darr Black
William Schalliol



Lynnda Sutton Fish Bubbles, Drawing and Illustration Silver Key



Leah Dawson Exploration in Shape and Texture, Painting Honorable Mention

December PBIS



Students chose from many activities during December PBIS including Fortnite and making Christmas Decorations.



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John Young Dates to Remember

February

- 13 Orchestra Concert
- 18 Presidents Day Holiday, No School
- 20 National Junior Honor Society Inductions
6:00 P.M.
- 25 Talent Show, 7:00 P.M.

March

- 15 Possible Snow Make-Up Day

April

- 1-5 Spring Break
- 18 End of Grading Period, students attend
- 19 Recess Day, No School
- 22 Possible Snow Make-Up Day
- 26 Yearbook Order Deadline

View/download entire calendar on our website at
MishawakaSchools.com/jyms



RESPECT



ON TIME



CARE FOR OTHERS



KEEP ENGAGED