



## Jaguar Pride Newsletter

April/May 2018

# Young Students Impress Judges at Science Fair

On January 19th, John Young 7th and 8th grade students from the 100 and 500 halls participated in our Science Fair. Eight professors and graduate students from the Science Department at The University of Notre Dame came to judge our young scientists. Our students impressed our guests from Notre Dame with their knowledge and professionalism. The top five projects from 7th grade and the top five projects from 8th grade were offered an invitation to the Regional Science Fair held at Notre Dame.

### 7th Grade Winners

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1st place | <i>Ana DeVries</i><br>Rocket Chemistry   |
| 2nd place | <i>Jacob Ackerley</i><br>What's in Your Water  |
| 3rd place | <i>Emma Loftus</i><br>Candy Chromatography   |
| 4th place | <i>Matt Pellitier and Lucas Nowacki</i><br>Does Mint Really Lower Temperatures or is it just a "Cool" Sensation? |
| 5th place | <i>Alaina Webster</i><br>Bath Bombs  |
| Runner-Up | <i>Linkin DeNeve</i><br>Finding the Center of the Galaxy   |



### 8th Grade Winners

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1st place | <i>Sarah Beshara</i><br>How many Microbes are in Your 'Bucha?                       |
| 2nd place | <i>Grace Zerbel</i><br>Growing the Extra Mile                                       |
| 3rd place | <i>Ben Parmachena and Jacob Dixon</i><br>One Man's Junk is Another Man's Insulation |
| 4th place | <i>Skylar Kempf</i><br>Paper Towel Wars   |
| 5th place | <i>Elizabeth Ball</i><br>It's a Tesla Coil  |
| Runner-Up | <i>Katie Habel</i><br>Chemiluminescence and Temperature                             |

We proudly sent our students to the Regional Science Fair on March 3rd. Ana Devries, Jacob Ackerley, Emma Loftus, Alaina Webster, and Linkin DeNeve represented our 7th grade and Sarah Beshara, Ben Parmachena, Jacob Dixon, Elizabeth Ball and Katie Ball represented our 8th graders. Each of the students spoke to 15 – 20 judges each. The projects were judged on a variety of factors.

171 different awards were awarded at NIRSEF. Each award had different criteria to determine its winner. John Young Students won 7 of these awards. To see the complete list of special awards, visit <https://sciencefair.nd.edu/assets/268436/awardslisttitles.pdf>

Additionally, of the 279 students presenting, 20 projects [4 Elementary, 6 Junior Level, and 10 Senior Level] at NIRSEF were selected to advance to the Hoosier Science and Engineering Fair (HSEF) [State Level Science Fair] on March 24th in Indianapolis.

Ana DeVries represented John Young Middle School at the State Competition.

### John J. Young Middle School

1801 North Main Street • Mishawaka, IN 46545  
574.254.3600 [MishawakaSchools.com](http://MishawakaSchools.com)



### Dear Jaguar Family,

We hope your family enjoyed quality time together over spring break!

As students were taking a break from the daily routine of school, our TCU Innovation Lab construction crew continued to make significant progress. The construction is on schedule and the lab should be operational in June! The TCU Innovation Lab will teach our students 21st Century Skills (Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Communication) which will help students to be successful in whatever path they choose in their next level of learning. The new lab will contain such things as, 3D printers, robotics, computer coding, and a state of the art production studio. Students will have the opportunity to explore and work with others on projects that interest them. We want students to discover a love for learning!

JYMS Academic teams have had outstanding performances in February and March at Science Fair, History Day, ISSMA Band Competition and Fluid Power Challenge. We want to congratulate the JYMS Advanced Band and Fluid Power Challenge team for winning recent competitions. The JYMS Fluid Power Challenge team won for best teamwork. Our Advanced Band won gold at ISSMA state competition. Congrats to all!

We want wish good luck to our JYMS Academic Bowl teams in their upcoming contest! We also want to wish good luck to our numerous state qualifiers for History Day! Our JYMS students once again dominated the local competition and will be sending 17 students to History Day State! Go Jaguars!

I would like to leave you with an important reminder to encourage your student to finish the school year strong. Your

middle age student may not show it, but they do want you to take an interest in their school performance. Middle school students still want to know their parents care. You can do this by having simple conversations with your child. Be sure to point out what students are doing well and give encouragement to improve in other areas. Stress the importance of attendance, completing assignments, and trying their best. Working together parents, teachers, and our community can help students grow into successful outstanding citizens!

Please make note of these important dates:

April 16 – May 4th ISTEP Part Two Window

April 24 – Advanced Band Concert at MHS

April 26 – All City String Concert at MHS

May 15 – Band Concert JYMS

May 17 – Choir Concert

May 23 – Orchestra

May 24 – JYMS Honor Awards at MHS

Go Jaguars!

Mike Fisher- Principal

## Office Staff is Here to Help

### Office Contacts:

Kelly Kincses, Secretary	254-3600
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Attendance Line (voicemail only)	254-3615
Becky Stayton, Nurse	254-3600 ext. 3610
Cherie Smith, Counselor (8th grade)	254-3600 ext. 3605
Laurie Schalliol, Counselor (7th grade)	254-3600 ext. 3617

## 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](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)

# 100 HALL

We are continuing to send home red slips to students who may be missing any work, however, we are no longer holding after school detentions on Mondays. We are expecting them to take more initiative this term to check Alma independently to find their missing assignments. Red sheets will only inform students that they are missing something. If a student continues to have missing work three weeks in a row, they will receive a referral and office consequence.

Please remember that there is always a teacher in the hallway that stays after school until 4:00 p.m. for homework room.

Term 4 is underway and school supplies are running out! Please talk to your student and ask if there are any materials they specifically need. Also, if you are willing and able, teachers need pencils (cheap wooden ones are perfect!), Kleenex (it's that time of year), and blue or black pens. Thank you for making sure your student is prepared for class!

## Coming up this month:

**English** – We will be focusing on perspective in short stories, dangling modifiers and clauses, and myths/folktales/legends. We will also read *The Outsiders*.

**Math** – 7th- Scale drawing project. Honors- Exponent rules, Pythagorean Theorem, and projects.

**Science** – Begin to discuss life science including cells and mitosis, parts of a cell, and functions of a cell. We will also be focusing on human body systems and how they are related to cells.

**Social Studies** – Finishing unit on Africa, begin the Holocaust, wars, and hallway wars.

**Health/P.E.** – P.E: Re-testing fitness mass games, and outdoor games. Health: Anti-bullying, social/emotional health, and relationships.

## Important Dates:

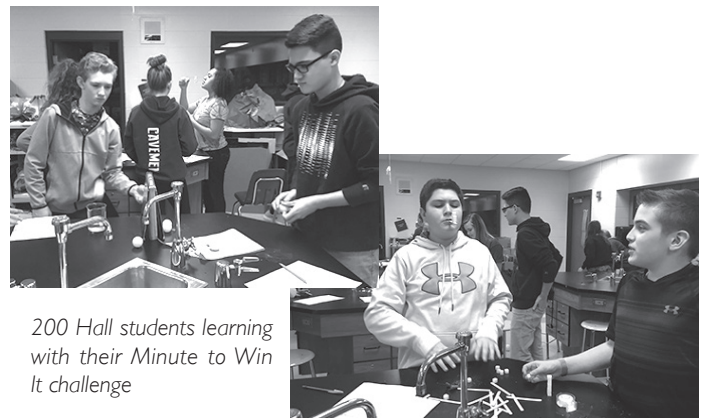
- ISTEP April 16, 17, 19, 20th.
- Term 4 Independent Reading Project (English) due May 29th.

# 200 HALL

Please check out the 200 Hall's 2017–2018 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 updated on what's happening in the 200 Hall and in each of your student's classes.

In **Math**, students have been working hard to prepare for the second round of ISTEP that begins on April 16. They have been learning about angle relationships and how to construct these relationships, as well as geometric shapes, using a compass, protractor, ruler and technology. Students will also be investigating probability while they measure, analyze and represent the data collected from probability experiments. These are important functional skills that have real life applications.

In **Science**, the students are working hard to learn the differences among speed, velocity and acceleration. Students are also working hard to investigate Newton's three laws of motion. They recently created a Minute to Win It challenge that required forces and acceleration. Now they are trying their best to break down and understand how the three laws made their games work. Students have learned a song to help them remember the laws and are learning how mass plays a huge factor in calculating force as well as the acceleration of objects. Potential and kinetic energy are the background knowledge students are being asked to recall to discuss and discover how roller coasters and bouncy balls work.



200 Hall students learning with their Minute to Win It challenge

In **English**, the students are in the middle of the Greek Mythology and Folktale unit. They're learning about morals/themes, and are applying them to everyday life. After spring break, the students will be reading a novel that involves friendship seeing no boundaries. The students will analyze themes learned previously, and compare how they are related to the novel. The final project for their novel will be creating a "movie" trailer based on the book.

***There is only ONE more book talk left this year! Please encourage your student to read their novel, and work hard on this last book talk!***

In **Social Studies**, students will explore Africa. We will learn about early civilizations, ancient empires, and some of the most famous rulers on the continent. We will compare these civilizations to previous civilizations to see how they are similar and different. We will also explore how the environment affected the people and their culture.





The 300 hallway enjoyed the musical production *Fiddler on the Roof* at Bethel College. The students really enjoyed the singing and dancing!

# 300 HALL

## General Team Info

Our team is preparing for the second round of ISTEP. We will be testing again starting April 16th. We've been working hard on written expression in all our classes.

Please encourage your child to get plenty of sleep and be at school on time.

**English** – When we return from Spring Break we'll be learning from our Scope magazines. The students really enjoy the high-interest articles in this magazine. Scope features a play that we also read as a class. We will be practicing for the second round of ISTEP by using NoRedInk.com. We've used this website throughout the school year to help improve our grammar and mechanics. Finally, to finish out the school year, we'll be reading the classic novel *The Outsiders*.

**Science** – We are almost done with earth science. Students have learned about rocks and minerals, natural resources, and geological time. We will finish they unit with plate tectonics. The last weeks of school we will start talking about cell biology where we look at cell parts and roles as well as how they divide.

**Social Studies** – This quarter in 300 Hall Social Studies we'll be moving towards the economics and politics of the eastern hemisphere, and of course we can't forget Australia! Then, as the quarter progresses we'll be analyzing several more comics with a focus on historical events and empathy. We will finish out the year with a study on modern news and news sources with discussion based learning.

**Math** – After testing the students will have a combination of an introductory unit on some 8th grade concepts and also STEM activities the month of May. I would like to take a moment to thank you for your support this year. It was greatly appreciated.

**Health/PE** – In PE classes we will begin the second round of our Fitness Testing and are aiming for improvement from our Fall scores. Students need to make sure they are always prepared for PE with their full uniform and tennis shoes.

Our topics of learning for this rotation in health class will include: Nervous System, Alcohol Use and Abuse and Peer Pressure.

# 400 HALL

In PE students have been participating in a number of different activities. They are running, playing, walking, and even playing fun games like floor hockey.

**Science** had the opportunity to create DNA models to show how DNA looks. They were able to engage in constructing these models using a number of tools including tooth picks, gummy bears, and licorice. Here are a few pictures of students creating these cool models of DNA:



As we look toward the end of the school year, students were able to create a cereal box to represent a Native American tribe or an important figure in history. They had to research facts and explain why the person or tribe was important in history. They then had to create a name for their cereal and decorate the box to be enticing. Here are a few pictures showing some of the great products that were turned in.



Students in **English** class are working on an independent project focused on the Holocaust. Students had their choice of six books, then set goals each day to read the book within two weeks. They will be creating multimedia presentations on their book focused on argumentative claims.

The last ISTEP tests of the 8th grade school year will be taking place from April 23rd–26th. Students will be taking tests for both Math and English/Language Arts. Students have been working hard to prepare for both those tests in their Math, English, and Enrichment classes. Students will be taking those tests in the morning so it is so important for students to get some good sleep, eat some breakfast, and be here on time!



**Congratulations** to our History Day and Science Fair participants! Our students put hours of time into these projects and their end products prove their love for learning. Ben Pamachena and Jacob Dixon received special accolades during the Science Fair competition. Also, congratulations go to Bo Basker – Individual Documentary, Grace Vandenburg for Individual Exhibit, Justin Fisher, Braxton Banks, Connor George–Group Exhibit, Lizzie Ball– Individual Performance, Kathryn Habel – Individual Performance, Grace Zerbai– Individual Performance, Bailey Darnell – Individual Website, and Sarah Beshara- Individual Paper. They will be in Indianapolis April 14th at Ivy Tech for the National History Day State competition.

**500 HALL**

**Reminder:** We have a Homework Room each Thursday 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 Wednesdays through e-mail or phone (if no e-mail address is listed) if their student is required to stay after.

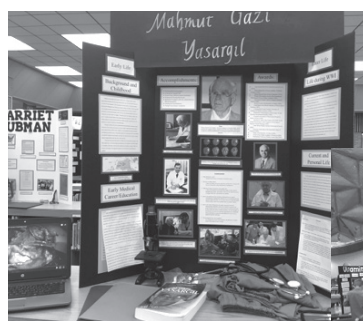
**ISTEP Testing:** We completed the first round of ISTEP testing in the beginning of March. We hope our second round (mid April) goes just as smoothly. Please remind your students to get plenty of rest and eat a big breakfast so they are prepared to successfully tackle the test!

**Million Dollar Project:** During Enrichment our students are working on a Million Dollar Project. This teaches real-world finances and budgeting with a fun twist. The students have each received an inheritance of a million dollars. They must spend as close to that million as possible

with some guidelines. For example, they must purchase a current listed home in the Michiana area for under \$300,000. They must set aside tuition for four years of college, and they must plan a family vacation among other required purchases.

**Personalized Learning Project:** In English, some classes completed a Personalized Learning Project during the third grading period. They got to choose anyone or anything that they considered to be in alignment with our definition of hero. They also chose the standards and essential questions that they wanted to delve into throughout their project. The end product was a Museum Exhibit about their topic. The students were very creative in their presentations and once again proved that they are all multi-talented!

**Soon To Be Freshmen:** As school slowly winds down, please be diligent in reminding your student to be on time to class, complete assignments, and be respectful to others. We want everyone to end their John Young days on a positive note. We want to thank you for allowing us to learn with your students. We have found that the 500 Hall rocks with talent, and we hope they continue to shine as their academic careers move on to High School.





# 600 HALL

**Math:** Compound probability and Math Lib

**English:** Researching different types of heroes and creating a multimedia presentation

**Health/PE:** STD's and communicable diseases

**Science:** Learning about genetics with Spongebob

**Social Studies:** Working through the Jefferson Era such as the Louisiana Purchase, War of 1812, and election of James Madison

**Announcements:** Congratulations to our hall for completing ISTEP with minimal issues! Good luck for next round. And a big shout out to our wrestling team!

Website: [www.jagteam600.weebly.com](http://www.jagteam600.weebly.com) & Miss LaForest's website [www.claforest.weebly.com](http://www.claforest.weebly.com)



*Students in Miss. LaForest's English class identify different types of print ads*

## Dress Code Reminder

Warm weather is approaching. Please keep in mind that shorts, dresses and skirts need to be fingertip length. Tank tops and muscle shirts are not allowed (shirt needs to cover all of the shoulder and no slits down the side of the shirt) and please no visible bra/spaghetti straps. Also a reminder that holes above the knees are not allowed.

## 2017–18 Yearbook

It's time to order your 2017–18 JYMS yearbook. Preserve the best memories of the year with a full color yearbook! Stop by the main office to get a form and return it with payment of \$25 **by April 20**. You can also order online at [www.derbyphoto.com](http://www.derbyphoto.com), keyword: John Young



## End of Year Field Trips

This year, students will need to earn the opportunity to attend our end of the year field trips. Each student must earn a minimum of 7 points before the trip to participate in the outing. Any student that is suspended during the 2nd semester of school will be automatically unable to attend.

### Point Criteria:

- 1 point for no Fs (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for NO referrals (behaviors that result in detention or ISS) (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for each JYMS Sports/Academic Team involved in 2nd semester
- 1 point for having 1 absence per check for entire semester (3 points possible with checks being on 3rd grading period progress report, 3rd grading period report card, and 4th grading period progress report)
- 1 point for every two hours of Community Service (Max. points 2)
- 1 point for every 10 Be REAL Bucks turned in. (Max points 1)
- 1 point for perfect attendance and effort during ISTEP testing

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

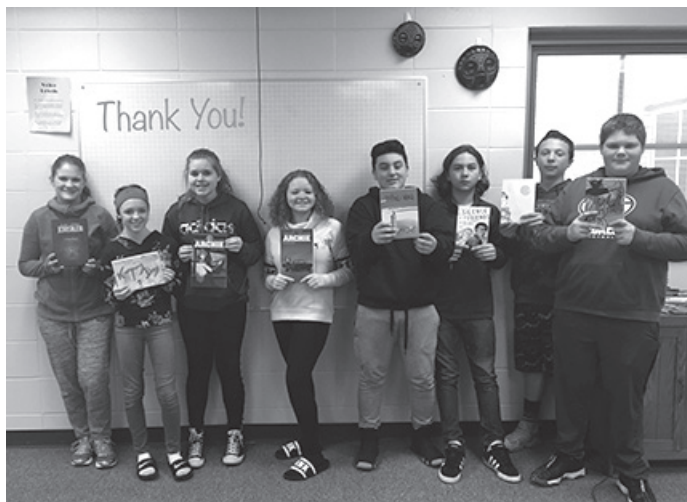
Artwork from Region I submitted to the Juried Exhibition of Student held in conjunction with the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis was adjudicated and below is a list of the Region I Winners.

*Tara Harrison*, Grade 8; John Young Middle School, Mishawaka Title: Sunset Notes; colored pencil and pastel; Deb Anderson, art teacher

*Emily Howard*, Grade 7; John Young Middle School, Mishawaka Title: The Art of the Violin; pencil and chalk on paper and textured foam board; Deb Anderson, art teacher

These works will now move on to be adjudicated in the State Finals where a total of 30 Grand Award Winners will be chosen from the five Regions throughout the state.

Regional Winners will receive a check for \$25 and Certificate of Achievement at the Gala Awards Ceremony on May 6 at Indiana Landmarks in Indianapolis.



*Mr. Wicker and the rest 300 Hall would like to thank the MEF and all their donors for continuing to support education at JYMS!*

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## Parent Pointers Calendar

Middle School  
**Parents**  
*still make the difference!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Celebrate April Fool's Day. Ask your child to help you play a harmless silly prank on family members.	<b>2</b> April is Math Education Month. Take time to review math with your child each day this month.	<b>3</b> Explain to your child that banks charge interest for loans. Together, research the current rate at your bank.	<b>4</b> Look at a map together. Ask your child to show you the shortest route between two particular cities.	<b>5</b> Ask your child to add two four-digit numbers. Can he figure out the sum on paper before you can with a calculator?	<b>6</b> Help your child think of tough situations she might face. How would she handle them?	<b>7</b> Ask your child to help you solve a crossword puzzle. This builds important vocabulary skills.
<b>8</b> Studies show that students who play sports tend to perform better in school.	<b>9</b> Make a list of words that come from other languages. Here's a start: <i>taco</i> , <i>vamoose</i> , <i>pasta</i> .	<b>10</b> Tell your child why you value education. Talk about his long-range goals.	<b>11</b> Create a family joke book. Have everyone write one or two jokes per page. Staple the pages together.	<b>12</b> Talk to your child about how immigrants have contributed to your community.	<b>13</b> Start a project with your child, such as repairing or building something.	<b>14</b> Sometime today, exchange notes instead of talking. (This also works when things get noisy!)
<b>15</b> Teach your child to use memory aids, such as HOMES for the Great Lakes.	<b>16</b> Try to eliminate pessimistic phrases. Replace "It won't work" with "Why not try it?"	<b>17</b> Choose a letter from an advice column. Read it aloud. Then ask family members to take turns being the advice columnist.	<b>18</b> When studying history, acting out past events can bring lessons to life.	<b>19</b> Read a poem aloud. Stop to let your child guess what the next rhyming word will be.	<b>20</b> Ask your child to turn old snapshots or drawings of family members into a family collage.	<b>21</b> Keep screens turned off today. Let your child be responsible for thinking of alternative activities.
<b>22</b> Celebrate Earth Day by doing something good for the environment, such as recycling.	<b>23</b> Play a game of Concentration with math flash cards. Problems with the same answer (9x2, 15÷3) make a pair.	<b>24</b> Find a new way to say "I love you"—in a foreign language, in sign language or in secret code.	<b>25</b> Keep talking about school. Every day, ask your child what she's doing and thinking about.	<b>26</b> Check on your child's grades. If necessary, help him raise them before the year ends.	<b>27</b> It's the birthday of Samuel Morse. Send messages to each other in Morse Code.	<b>28</b> Look through your cupboards for foods grown in other countries. Have your child find these countries on a map.
<b>29</b> Ask your child to tell you about a punishment you gave her that she thought was really unfair.	<b>30</b> Remember that the key to <i>getting</i> your child's respect is <i>showing</i> your child respect.	<h1>April 2018</h1>				



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## John Young Dates to Remember

### April

16	PTSA meeting	6:30 p.m.
26	Spring pictures	8:00-11:00 a.m.

### May

4	May Festival of Fine Arts @ MHS
7	PTSA meeting 6:30 p.m.
15	Spring Band Concert
16	Snow make-up day (No School)
17	Spring Choir Concert
23	Spring Orchestra Concert
24	Honors Awards
28	No School – Memorial Day
30	8th Grade trip to Washington, D.C. (through June 4)

### June

1	Last Student Day
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View/download entire calendar on our website at  
[MishawakaSchools.com/jyms](http://MishawakaSchools.com/jyms)



[www.scmeef.me](http://www.scmeef.me)



[@mishawakaeducationfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/mishawakaeducationfoundation)



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