

# The JUNIOR EAGLE

February 2021

Brown County Junior High School

Indiana Department of Education STEM Certified



## BCJHS Staff Members

**Math:** Mr. Bruce Koopman  
**Math:** Ms. Kaitlyn Christie  
**Math:** Mr. Tim Hebert  
**Science:** Ms. Hannah Davis  
**Science:** Mrs. Sarah Hale  
**Science:** Mr. Kevin Roush  
**English:** Mrs. Jane Phillips  
**English:** Mrs. Julie Miller  
**English:** Mrs. Cindy Stark  
**Social Studies:** Mr. Michael Potts  
**Social Studies:** Mr. Justin Schwenk  
**Social Studies:** Mr. Kyle McGaha  
**Health & Fitness:** Mr. Mike Harmon  
**Health & Fitness:** Mrs. Cheryl Wyman  
**Art:** Mrs. Laurette Roales  
**Vocal Music:** Mr. Daniel Lyng  
**Instrumental Music:** Mr. Matt Finley  
**Resource:** Mrs. Cortney Hitchcock  
**Resource:** Mrs. Debi Sumner  
**Foreign Lang:** Mr. Pedro De Leon  
**Engineering/Tech:** Mr. Dan Lewellen  
**NIET Master Teacher:** Mrs. Alyssa Stanley  
**Health Asst:** Mrs. Sue Thompson  
**Centerstone:** Ms. Erinn Suiter

## Instructional Assistants:

Mrs. Sharon Snodgrass  
Mrs. Debra Arnold  
Mrs. Kelly McPheeters

## Secretarial Staff:

Mrs. Kelly Morse  
Mrs. Ronna Snyder

## Custodial Staff:

Mrs. Carla Brown  
Mrs. Penny McGuire

## Kitchen Staff:

Mrs. Linda Hawkins  
Mrs. Amanda Lasley  
Mr. Paul Barker

## BCJHS Administration

Mr. Brian Garman, Principal  
Mr. Greg Pagnard, Asst. Principal/AD  
Mrs. Terri Whitcomb, Guidance

## School Information:

[www.browncountyschools.com](http://www.browncountyschools.com)

## BCS Vision Statement

*World Class Opportunities. Small School Relationships. Lifelong Impact.*

## The Principal's Report

It's hard to believe that it's already February. The year has went by so quickly. A reminder that the 2nd trimester ends on Friday, February 19th. This would be a great time to sit down with your child to review their current grades and develop a plan to complete any missing work. A reminder that we offer after school tutoring each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 4pm. Our teachers would be more than happy to assist your child.

I am sure by now that everyone is aware of the changes that will be coming to BCJHS next school year. The staff and I are excited to add the 6th graders to our building and are really looking forward to the opportunity to create a new Brown County Middle School. We know there will be challenges, but we are ready to face each and every one and are eager to get started with the creation of an entirely new and unique educational experience for our middle school students. We are embracing this change and truly believe we can build upon the current foundation of excellence to create even better opportunities for our students! I hope you enjoy this edition of the *The Junior Eagle*. So many great things are happening in spite of the challenging times!!

- Brian Garman  
BCJHS Principal

# Eagles

**Important Future Dates  
@ BCJHS**

**February 11th**  
BCJHS Spelling Bee  
3:30pm

**February 15th**  
President's Day  
(snow make-up day)

**February 19th**  
End of 2nd Trimester

**February 20th**  
Science Olympiad  
Regional Competition

Girls' Basketball  
WIC Championships

**March 15th - 19th**  
Spring Break



**MRS. WHITCOMB'S WALL**



**Part 2 of Cellphones, Tweens, and Teens**

Are cell phones becoming our prisons or are social media sites just harmless ways to pass the time? Are all of the negative consequences we are starting to see from phone use by our young people really unintentional or are our children being manipulated for the profit of big business? There is now evidence that seems to point to the fact that the consequences we are experiencing may have been planned from the beginning.

The campus of Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, is home to The Persuasive Technology Laboratory. This lab was created by Psychologist, Dr. B. J. Fogg who claims to be the father of this discipline. Persuasive Technology (also called persuasive design) was created solely to configure digital machines and apps to alter human thoughts and behaviors. This includes: smartphones, social media, and video games. The lab boasts of making, "Machines designed to change humans." The founder of Instagram is one of Dr. Fogg's former students. Just let that soak in for a minute! You can read more about Dr. Fogg and Persuasive Technology in the article, [The Tech Industry's War on Kids](#).

If you are reading this newsletter on your phone right now, you are among good company. According to a 2019 study put together by Apple's screen time tracking system, Hoosiers spend an average of 220 minutes per day on their phones. This is an average of 26 hours a week! That adds up to over one month a year – on our phones! A few minutes here or there doesn't seem like a lot, but it quickly adds up. How about the time it takes to just pick it up and check if anyone's texted or called? The average American picks up their phone once every 12 minutes, or 80 times a day.

These are all interesting statistics, but what does it all mean, really? What are the consequences of all of this screen time? How does it differ between adults with fully developed brains and our young people who are still growing and developing? Next month I'll dive into more of what the research says about the effects of cell phone use over time. In the meantime, we need to remember that from our oldest to our youngest children, we are their role models for moderation in life. I think my phone will come off of my desk and go into my purse.

Mrs. Whitcomb  
Student Services Advisor  
twhitcomb@browncountyschools.com/ 812-988-6605



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**Go Eagles!!**



## News for the Art Room

By Mrs. Roales, BCJHS Art Teacher

It is that time once again for the Federal Junior Duck Stamp competition. Please enjoy the pictures of students working hard on their submission. The Federal Junior Duck Stamp is a fantastic example of an interdisciplinary lesson. Students research North American waterfowl and use this research to complete their work. Students use ELA skills to create a conservation message about what they have learned about it's habitat.





# BCJHS

Go Eagles!!



## BCJHS Vocal Music News

By Mr. Lyng & Ms. Sears

BCJHS Vocal Music Teachers

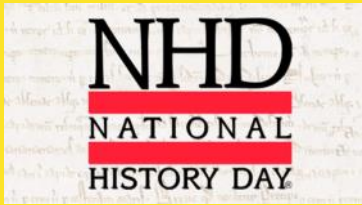
While we are not performing any concerts this year, it has still been a busy time for our BCJHS choirs! Students have been immersed in preparing and recording songs for a virtual choir. This project is an ongoing opportunity for students to sing together despite the restrictions of this year.

To celebrate Black History Month, students are exploring a variety of musical genres through listening and singing. Students are also crafting a culminating project, where they explore a diverse range of musicians and how they impacted popular music of today.

**Prelude** is an extracurricular show choir of enthusiastic singer-dancers. This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, the ensemble is primarily focusing on programming new and inventive choreography for selected songs. The students have been working on these songs throughout the year in hopes of a potential showcase in the future. This group meets Mondays after school from 3:30-4:30pm.

While this school year has been unconventional in many ways, it is a joy working with these amazing students!





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## National History Day

By Mr. Schwenk, History Day Sponsor

National History Day is a year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for 6th- to 12th-grade students. By participating in NHD, students become writers, filmmakers, web designers, playwrights and artists as they create unique contemporary expressions of history. The experience culminates in a series of contests at the local and affiliate levels and an annual national competition in the nation's capital in June. National History Day not only transports classrooms back in time during the school year, it transforms young minds forever. The 2020-2021 theme is *Communication in History: The Key to Understanding*. It is not too late to join!!

## Science Olympiad

By Mrs. Hale, Science Olympiad Coach

Science Olympiad competitions are like academic track meets, consisting of a series of team events. Each year, a portion of the events are rotated to reflect the ever-changing nature of genetics, earth science, chemistry, anatomy, physics, geology, mechanical engineering and technology. By combining events from all disciplines, Science Olympiad encourages a wide cross-section of students to get involved. Emphasis is placed on active, hands-on group participation. Through Science Olympiad, students, teachers, parents, principals and business leaders bond together and work toward a shared goal. This year's team members include:

Anatomy & Physiology = Genevieve Wilson, Hailee Darnell, Kayleigh Everett

Circuit Lab = Kaleb Gallagher, Owen East

Crime Busters = Hailee Darnell, Kayleigh Everett, Ella East

Disease Detectives = Genevieve Wilson, Elle Rainwater

Dynamic Planet = Shyanna Luckey, Sadie Hiatt

Experimental Design = Ella East, Shyanna Luckey, Sadie Hiatt

Game On = Kaleb Gallagher, Owen East

Heredity = Genevieve Wilson, Elle Rainwater

Meteorology = Shyanna Luckey, Sadie Hiatt

Ornithology = Sadie Hiatt

Reach for the Stars = Shyanna Luckey, Kayleigh Everett

Road Scholar = Kayleigh Everett, Hailee Darnell

Honesty Self-Control Excellence Respect  
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## Waltman Construction 7th Grade Student of the Month

Congratulations to BCJHS February "Student of the Month" Cole Goodman. Cole was nominated by his Health & Fitness Teacher Mr. Harmon. According to Mr. Harmon, "Cole comes to class everyday and works hard. He has a great attitude and seems genuinely concerned about getting his work done. Cole has a terrific personality that makes our school environment a more positive place." Cole's picture will be displayed at BCJHS during the month of February. A special thanks to **Waltman Construction** for sponsoring the BCJHS "Student of the Month". Cole will be receiving a "Student of the Month" plaque compliments of **Waltman Construction**.



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## Waltman Construction 8th Grade Student of the Month

Congratulations to BCJHS February “Student of the Month” Donny Johnson. Donny was nominated by his Resource Teacher Mrs. Sumner and his Science Teacher Mrs. Hale. According to Mrs. Sumner, "Donny has shown great fortitude during the hybrid learning. He has diligently completed his work and is currently on the “A” honor roll. He has spent hours working on assignments and has excelled. He has a great attitude and has recently worked hard to create a positive class valentine project." Mrs. Hales adds, "Donny is a friendly, kind, and hardworking student. He brings a smile and a positive attitude into the classroom each day. He's not afraid to seek help when he is struggling and he does his best to see a task through to the end. I am proud of him for his commitment to his grades and taking responsibility for his own learning, especially during this difficult year." Donny's picture will be displayed at BCJHS during the month of February. A special thanks to **Waltman Construction** for sponsoring the BCJHS “Student of the Month”. Donny will be receiving a “Student of the Month” plaque compliments of **Waltman Construction**.





**Western Indiana Conference  
Eastern Division**

Brown County Eagles  
Edgewood Mustangs  
Owen Valley Patriots  
Indian Creek Braves  
Cloverdale Clovers

**BCJHS Coaching Staff**

Cross Country: Mrs. Chasity Smith  
Cross Country: Mr. Ian McCabe  
7th Football: Mr. Sean Cassidy  
8th Football: Mr. Joel Lewis  
Asst. Football: Mr. Ernie Stringer  
Asst. Football: Mr. Josh Hazelgrove  
Tennis: Mrs. Andi Rogers-Bartels  
8th VBall: Mrs. Amanda Hawley  
7th VBall: Mrs. Emma Totten  
8th Boys' BB: Mr. Heath Bryant  
7th Boys' BB: Mr. Jackson Saylor  
8th Girls' BB: Mrs. Ronna Snyder  
7th Girls' BB: Mr. Kyle McGaha  
Wrestling: Mr. Andy Reed  
Asst. Wrestling: TBD  
Cheer: Ms. Cindy Woolems  
Girls' Track: Mr. Kevin Roush  
Boys' Track: Mr. Dan Lewellen  
Asst. Track: Mrs. Emily Lewellen  
Asst. Track: Mr. Tim Hebert



**The Sports Corner**  
By Mr. Pagnard, BCJHS Athletic Director

The winter sports season is drawing to an end! BCJHS boys' basketball teams have ended their seasons. Unfortunately, neither team was able to participate in the season ending WIC tournament due to Covid 19. The girls' basketball season is also ending! The girls will host Southwestern Middle School on 2/10/21. The game begins at 6:00pm. The girls will host Indian Creek on 2/15/21. These games will also begin at 6:00pm. The seventh grade girls will travel to Owen Valley and the eighth grade girls will travel to Edgewood for the WIC Tournament on 2/20/21. Their opponents and times are to be determined. Wrestling season is in full swing. The wrestlers will open their season at Columbus Central on 2/11/21. The match is scheduled to start at 6:00pm. The team will travel to Edgewood on 2/17/21 and host Beech Grove on 2/18/21. Both matches begin at 6:00pm.







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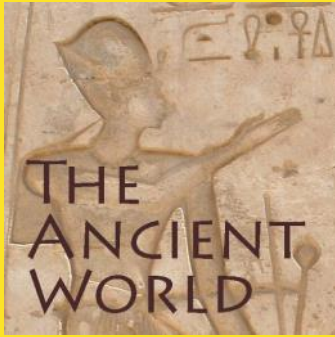
## STEM Lab

By Mrs. Snodgrass, STEM Lab Teacher

Students in STEM Lab recently completed a project building Squirrel Feeders. Students watched a video by Mark Rober, a former NASA engineer, who built a squirrel obstacle course in his backyard with lots of booby traps for the unwary squirrels. Students based their feeders off that concept, with some students engineering multiple traps. The goal was to make the poor squirrels really work for their nuts. They made ladders, string bridges, collapsing platforms, nearly impossible jumps, and trap doors.

Students have also been building marble launchers. They launched marbles at varying angles, measured distance, took averages, and then launched for a target based on their calculations. It was great fun! The students were asked to review their data and develop graphs to display the results. The marbles were launched down the Social Studies hallway, and we can happily report that Social Studies teachers were harmed!





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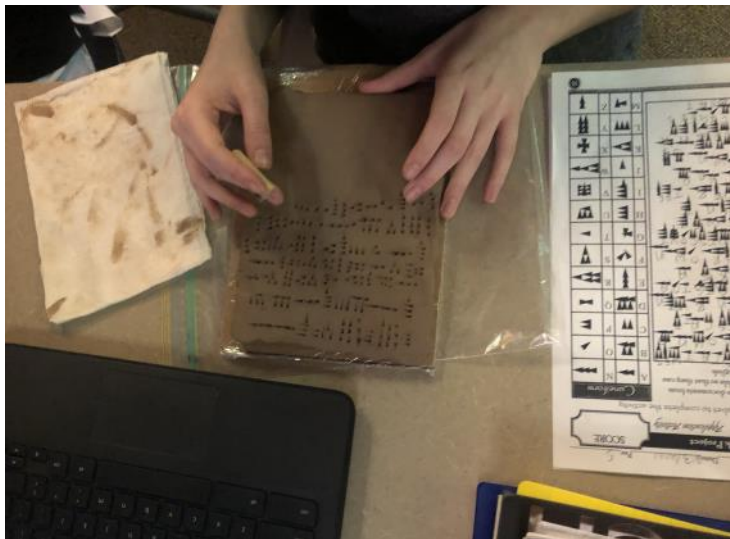
**Home of the Eagles!!**



## Students Study the Ancient World

By Mr. Schwenk, Social Studies Teacher

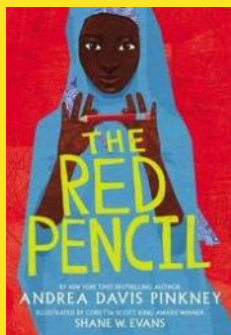
Students in Mr. Schwenk's Social Studies class have been exploring the achievements of the ancient world. Students have multiple choices of projects to explore. One group is mummifying chicken drumsticks using traditional Egyptian methods and creating a Canopic Jar out of clay. Another group is investigating Cuneiform, the earliest form of writing. They are translating a passage into English and then using Cuneiform to write a song or poem into clay tablets. The last group is using Minecraft to recreate a monumental building from the time period after researching it and determining its dimensions and scaling it up or down. All the students are really enjoying the activities and the results are turning out great!





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## Language Arts

By Mrs. Phillips, BCJHS ELA Teacher

Students made “Sudanese flowers” after reading *The Red Pencil* by Andrea Pinkney Davis. This story features a young refugee, Amira, and her search for beauty amidst tragedy and sadness. While living in a refugee camp, Amira sees plastic grocery bags carried by the wind and caught on barbed wire fence posts. She imagines these to be the closest thing to flowers she will see in the dry, hot desert. Students used plastic bags and pipe cleaners to fashion their own beauty from these discarded items. Finn Kean said, “The flowers symbolize how we must keep looking for beauty and hope in life.” As we struggle through a tough year, the little bits of creativity can help us all.

