

# Bruno Blast

Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy

## Reflections from Ms. Rebecca

Spring is in the air and I am sure many of you have noticed the work that has been taking place in the JBMA garden area. Kimberly Bauman is leading the charge to get the gardens ready for planting. The JBMA Flower Farm is underway and the seeds are germinating. Once the Almanac gives its approval, the flowers will be planted and the anticipation begins. There are so many educational opportunities for the students as we move forward with the plans and implementation of

the JBMA Flower Farm Project. Keep watching the garden for the flowers that are sure to bloom!

Spring also reminds me of how much of the school year has gone by. Summer is just around the corner. JBMA will have summer camps both at the preschool and the elementary levels. Don't forget to check out all of the exciting offerings by going to the website [www.jbma.education](http://www.jbma.education) and clicking on programs- summer.

Additionally, Birmingham Magazine recently voted Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy the best Early Childhood Program in Birmingham. Many thanks to our dedicated teachers who make our school the very best!

Next week is Spring Break and I know many of you have plans to travel or relax at home. Have a safe week and enjoy all that spring has to offer!

March 2017

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## Birmingham Magazine

Joseph S. Bruno Montessori | 5509 Timber Hill Road  
| [205.995.8709](tel:205.995.8709) | [jbma.org](http://jbma.org) | The school was founded back in 1982 and has continued on its mission to help all students grow to their fullest potential cognitively, socially, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and aesthetically.



# Speech-Language Pathology: An Introduction



## Speech-Language Pathology: An Introduction

The clinicians at Communication and Reading Therapies work with several students at JBMA to improve their speech, language, reading, and writing skills. Many families may be curious about what a Speech-Language Pathologist does and how we may be able to help their children succeed. We take on a variety of roles in the school setting, and we are excited to have the opportunity to share some information with you. This month, we are briefly describing the role of a Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) and defining speech sound disorders.

### What do Speech-Language Pathologists do?

Speech-Language Pathologists (Speech Therapists) in the school setting provide assessment and treatment of speech, language,

reading, and writing disorders. SLPs often conduct screenings, which are brief assessments that can indicate the need for a more comprehensive evaluation of a child's abilities in these areas. A thorough evaluation indicates a child's strengths and weaknesses and guides treatment based on the child's needs.

Treatment is individualized and can take different forms, often including play-based and multi-sensory activities to promote each child's success in communicating at home and at school.

### What is a speech sound disorder?

Although many children produce errors while they are developing speech, most speech sounds should be mastered by age 4. Some sounds, however, such as /l, sh, ch, s, z, j/ are typically mastered by age 5. Other later-developing sounds, including /r, v, th/, may not be mastered until the early elementary ages. Children presenting delays in speech development may have a speech sound disorder and often benefit from therapy with a Speech-Language Pathologist.

### What are the types of speech sound disorders?

Speech sound disorders can be categorized into articulation disorders and phonological disorders. Children producing consistent errors with one or more specific sounds, such as "thun" for "sun" and "path" for "pass" (commonly known as a lisp), may have an articulation disorder. A phonological disorder constitutes an errored pattern of speech. For example, a child may produce all consonants formed with the back of the tongue (k, g) using the front of the tongue, such as "tup" for "cup" and "das" for "gas".

For more information on these topics, visit the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association website at [asha.org](http://asha.org). We would love to hear from you! Please visit our website, [communicationandreading.com](http://communicationandreading.com), to contact us with any questions.

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## Alabama Scholastic Chess Championship

Akhil Batchu, pictured 2<sup>nd</sup> from left, was the team captain of his Chess Team that participated in the 2017 Alabama Scholastic Chess Championship held at Bob Jones High School in Madison, AL. Akhil's team placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade category.

The team consisted of Akhil, two additional 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and one 3<sup>rd</sup> grader.



## Mercedes Marathon Weekend

This year our students were again able to participate in the kids Mercedes Marathon. The race consists of students logging 25.2 miles of running during P.E. throughout the year, and then finishing the last mile with everyone else on race day. We had a large group participate this year, and I am very proud of the improvements we made throughout the school year to be prepared on the final race day. Everyone did a great job and we are looking forward to the next marathon.

Back: Coach Jordan, Kiana Ascarzadeh, Sophia Bacik, Lily Dunn, Nacho Giner, Raina Valliani, Surabhi Nevrekar,

Front: Maddie Bacik, Nayeli Petrik, Tyler Bowman, Collin McLean, Siddhartha Nevrekar, Zikiel Petrik



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Middle School United Nations Conference

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students went on a 5 day trip to Williamsburg, VA to participate in the William and Mary Middle School United Nations Conference.

After two weeks of hard work researching and writing position papers, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students represented JBMA proudly in their different committees to debate the topics they had studied. They wrote resolutions, and came up with big ideas to solve the problems they were

Overall, the trip was a huge success and we couldn't have done it without the efforts of our entire class. Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders were essential to helping in preparations, and put together some beautiful visuals of the work their groups had completed!

Pictured Left to Right: Max Mefford, Ariana Ascarzadeh, Caleb Phillips, Zane Peacock, Melanie Nunez



## Harshil Mehta at UAB Science and Engineering Fair

JBMA Middle School student, Harshil Mehta 's project was selected to participate in the Central Alabama Regional Science and Engineering Fair 2017 hosted by the UAB (CORD) on March 4, 2017. We're so proud of Harshil for his thoroughness in Data presentation, and ability to independently communicate the innovative engineering project ' ROBOPIK.

Harshil's hard work and dedication in creating a robotic arm to aid the disabled is truly

inspiring, said Ms. Chris, Middle School Teacher.

Harshil is an excellent example of Montessori approach that values the human spirit while applying the knowledge to the real world problem. Congratulations Harshil!



## Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy

### Mission Statement

The community of the Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy provides the opportunity for all students to grow to their fullest potential:

- Cognitively
- Socially
- Emotionally
- Spiritually
- Physically
- Aesthetically

### Vision Statement

The vision of Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy is to provide children and families with an education according to the Montessori philosophy and curriculum. Our focus is not only to provide cognitive education for our students, but to also model a commitment to creating peace and care for the environment for years to come. In theory and practice, we will explore how the traditional Montessori curriculum can be combined with current best practices in education as well as technological advances in order to develop a successful group of 21st century learners. At JBMA we treat each child as an individual, building on their strengths and abilities to become life-long global learners.

### The Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy's Core Values Statement:

**Respect-** We embrace with respect all students regardless of racial, cultural or religious background, gender or the physically or mentally challenged.

**Peace-** We create an atmosphere that will promote the development of peaceful individuals. All students will become committed to creating peace, and taking care of the environment in their homes, school, and communities.

**Collaboration-** We provide each child a foundation for a lifetime of learning by having multi-age classrooms and multi-level collaboration.

**Independent Thinker-** We foster students' development of positive self-esteem; so they will become independent thinkers and accept leadership roles in the world of tomorrow.

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We're on the Web!  
[www.jbma.education](http://www.jbma.education)

## Upcoming Events in April

- 4 PTO Meeting 6 – 7 PM
- 5-7 Cahaba Environmental Center – Upper Elementary
- 7 Children's Theater - Lower Elementary Classroom 1 & 2
- 11 Art Show
- 14 Good Friday – No School
- 17 Easter Monday – No School
- 18 Children's Theater – Lower Elementary Classroom 3
- 19 Children's Theater – Upper Elementary
- 27 Spring Program – 1<sup>st</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> 7 PM