Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS MONTH'S WINNERS





JIMMIE ANN DANIELS LOCAL WINNER FLATWOODS ELEMENTARY

Congratulations to our national winner: JIMMIE ANN DANIELS from Tuscaloosa County Schools

SEE FULL STORY ON OUR WEBSITE Jimmie Ann Daniels, a Flatwoods Elementary special education teacher who's earned the gratitude of students and their families, has been named an Amazing Teacher for January.

The student in Daniels' classroom range from kindergarten to fifth grade. She has taught special needs students for roughly two decades and holds a multiple abilities degree – which provides dual certification in general education and special education – from the University of Alabama.

Daniels said the program fostered a love for special needs children.

"There is a daily reward when you see just the progress that they make," Daniels said.

She credits her high school history teacher and cheerleading coach and many others for inspiring her career choice.

"I had lots of teachers, as I grew up coming through school that in one way or another, they all had an impact on my love for learning," Daniels said. "They all made an impact on who I am today."

When the pandemic closed schools last spring, Daniels continued tracking students' progress with home visits.

"We continued out the school year making weekly visits to our kids, making sure their needs are being met, they had what they needed and if not, we found a way to do it," Daniels said.

Now the students are back to in-person learning and love it.

"They're beaming when they come off the bus or when we get them out of their cars, and they come in excited to see what we have for them that day," Daniels said.

The grandmother of a student who nominated Daniels for the Amazing Teacher award said, "Her daily patience with all her students is enforced by her loving personality and kindness. Her inspiring determination in helping each student meet their best potential touches my heart."

NOMINATE YOUR AMAZING TEACHER AT: TuscaloosaNews.com/contests

*OFFICIAL RULES: No purchase necessary to enter. Must be 18 years of age or older to enter. Complete contest rules are available online on the contest page.