

# Encouraging young learners to do their best every day

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MIKE ULLERY/STAFF PHOTO

Nicklin kindergarten teacher Katy Scott works on a project for her class while her students watch a video presentation.

PIQUA — Many school districts stress the importance of rigor, relevance, and relationship. Piqua City Schools is a strong believer in these efforts, and so is Nicklin Learning Center educator Katy Scott. The kindergarten teacher develops a supportive student-teacher relationship to encourage her young learners to do their best every day.

"I have high expectations for my students. I know every child can learn and should be pushed to do their best," she said. "Education is 90 percent encouragement for the younger ones."

Scott's hometown is St. Paris. She graduated from Graham High School in 1999. She was a member of the French Club and The

Make A Wish Foundation. She was a stand-out volleyball player for the Falcons, earning all Southwest Rivers Conference and all Champaign County honors multiple years.

She credits her junior English teacher with motivating her to achieve higher goals. "Mr. Apwisch influenced me to be a better athlete and student," she said. "He helped me focus on what I wanted to do in my life." Scott also acknowledges the important roles of her grandma and mom. "Nanny, my grandmother, taught me to be strong,



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