

Ashleigh James (right) of the Immaculate Conception High School receives her JN Foundation 2018 scholarship certificate from Parris Lyew-Ayee, chairman of the JN Foundation.

Ashleigh James is the JN Foundation's GSAT Scholar for Kingston

NEVER settle for mediocrity," says Ashleigh James, 2018 JN Foundation Grade Six Achievement Test (GSAT) scholarship recipient for Kingston.

This 12-year-old has consistently excelled in her studies since starting school when she was three.

It was, therefore, no surprise to her parents and teachers when she got her GSAT scores – James received 100 per cent in Science, Language Arts, Communication Task, and Social Studies as well as 96 per cent in Mathematics, resulting in an average score of 99.2 per cent.

"She has always been consistent in her schoolwork and takes great pride in whatever she does. Therefore, I certainly wasn't surprised at how well she did in the GSAT. I'm very proud of her and extremely happy for all that she has achieved so far," said her mother, Roshelle James.

Mrs James also expressed gratitude to the JN Foundation for awarding her daughter a five-year scholarship. "I am happy that the JN Foundation has rewarded her for her hard work and efforts. I know going to the school that is your first choice is reward enough; however, it is also good when other persons recognise you for doing well."

Ashleigh was among 37 top

performers in this year's GSAT who were awarded five-year scholarships by the JN Foundation at an awards reception held at the organisation's Chief Office on September 9.

She is now placed at the school of her choice, Immaculate Conception High.

"I chose Immaculate because I was always fascinated with how the girls looked in their uniforms. I was also impressed with their demeanour and how they act, and told myself I would like to be like them when I get older," she said.

AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE

The JN Scholar said that she is looking forward to life at Immaculate, where she hopes to continue to excel in her studies and participate in several extracurricular activities.

"Once I've settled into the flow of high school, I intend to surpass my performance in primary school. I plan to do even better because I never settle for mediocrity," she said.

Ashleigh said that she also plans to join several school clubs, including PAWS, an animal rights group, as well as the tennis club.

The St Catherine native is also an active member of the Greendale United Church in Spanish Town and is a talented dancer, specialising in ballet and modern dance.

Ashleigh hopes to become a medical doctor, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology.

"I want to become an OB/GYN because when my mother, was pregnant with my little sister I used to go along to some of her doctor's appointments, and I found it really interesting, especially the medical terms that the doctor used. Therefore, from a young age, I decided that's what I wanted to do," Ashleigh said.