



Northeast School Principal's Newsletter

April 5th, 2024



Dr. Joseph A. Putrino, Jr.
jputrino@montclair.k12.nj.us

Woman's History @ Northeast

Throughout the month of March Northeast School focused our attention to important contributions and the impact of woman in history. Daily, classroom teachers hosted lessons connected to notable female contributors and trailblazers. Through stories and activities Northeast engaged in highlighting these major marvels.

Across the school we shared information over the morning announcements. In the related arts students added to their investigations. In technology classes highlighted different women in technology throughout history. They learned about Grace Hopper who was a famous computer scientist and one of the first programmers to work on the Harvard Mark I. Also, they talked about Ada Lovelace who is considered the world's first computer programmer.

In Art, students watched an Art History video about 5 female artists who have made an impact in the world of Art. Fourth grade is specifically studying Yayoi Kusama, female Japanese Artist and Kindergarten is studying Faith Ringgold.

In Music, while female artists are covered throughout the year, musician, Teresa Jennings was highlighted during our Global Music Presentation. Students learned about her and two of her songs, *The Music of Life* and *A New Day*.



In the kindergarten children read and learned about Mae Jemison and built shape rocket ships. Additionally, they studied the accomplishments and findings of scientist Jane Goodall through the Scholastic weekly reader. To add a real-life connection the class turned empty cardboard tubes into binoculars and modeled Jane Goodall by observing an animal outside, while drawing and writing about their findings. They also learned and discussed the Maya Angelou quote; "Be a Rainbow in somebody else's cloud" and then create their own beautiful rainbows.



In the first-grade students learned all about Frida Kahlo, the brave Mexican artist who faced many challenges. They explored many of Frida’s paintings while writing about what they've learned. Additional stories in the class throughout the month punctuated the range of accomplishments women have had on our world.

Second-grade students dove into the inspiring lives of notable women who have significantly contributed to history. From fearless aviator Amelia Earhart to pioneering primatologist Jane Goodall, environmental activist Wangari Maathai, and the guide Sacajawea. These young learners embarked on a journey of discovery. Engaged in collecting facts, conducting research, and writing paragraphs, they are celebrating these remarkable women's achievements and learning invaluable lessons about courage, determination, and resilience.



Third graders studied three influential women throughout history. Harriet Quimby, Wilma Rudolph, and Sonia Sotomayor. Students completed written projects and art pieces which were displayed at the end of the unit. Students also applied the strategy of wondering/questioning to narrative nonfiction.



In Social Studies, fourth graders are learning about the history of the women’s rights and suffrage movements. Each student will select one historical woman figure to research and write about. In this activity the students are applying their skills of research and writing to capture and communicate stories in an effective way.

5th graders wrote in response to a journal prompt, “Tell about an important woman in your life...” (Maybe they chose you!) This work challenged our students to not only view Woman’s History Month as an investigation into the past, but to look for greatness and impact right now in their own lives. Additionally, select students are working on journalistic articles for the 5th grade newspaper: The NE Chronicle, which will highlight a female student environmental activist. The whole grade Zoomed with a female animal scientist to learn more about the eagles at Big Bear Valley, CA. Also, they conducted 2 different research projects, one on paper the other an online presentation in class. They will also learn about different women throughout history, including musicians and scientists this month through slides, videos, online stories, scavenger hunts, and task cards.

I hope you all had the opportunity to discuss your child’s Investigations and learning at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Spring Break

School Closed

April 8-12th
(Eid al-Fitr April 10th)