Women’s History Month commences March 1, 2021. Below is a brief history of this celebration.

Women’s History Month 2021

Women’s History Month is a celebration of women’s contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. Women’s History Month 2021 will take place from Monday, March 1 - Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Why Do We Celebrate Women’s History Month?

Women’s History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on the often-overlooked contributions of women to United States history. From Abigail Adams to Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth to Rosa Parks, the timeline of women’s history milestones stretches back to the founding of the United States.

The actual celebration of Women’s History Month grew out of a weeklong celebration of women’s contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a “Real Woman” essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.
Did you know? To coincide with Women’s History Month 2011, the White House issued a 50-year progress report on the status of women in the United States. It found that younger women are now more likely than their male counterparts to hold a college degree and that the number of men and women in the labor force has nearly equalized.

A few years later, the idea had caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women’s History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women’s History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

**International Women’s Day**

International Women’s Day, a global celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women, took place for the first time on March 8, 1911. Many countries around the world celebrate the holiday with demonstrations, educational initiatives and customs such as presenting women with gifts and flowers.

The United Nations has sponsored International Women’s Day since 1975. When adopting its resolution on the observance of International Women’s Day, the United Nations General Assembly cited the following reasons: “To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security.”
Our next PTA meeting will take place at 5 pm on Monday, April 5th. We will email a Zoom invite to parents.

JKO will conduct SATs to juniors on April 13th. Stay tuned for more information.

**Parent Teacher Conferences** will take place on Thursday, March 18th, from 5 pm to 7:30 pm and on Friday, March 19th, from 12 pm to 2:30 pm. For the Friday session we will run periods 1 through 3. We will begin the process of signing parents up to specific time slots along with preference in communication and convey to teachers that information.

**Save the Date:** The National Honor Society induction ceremony will take place on March 22nd @ 6 pm. The Zoom invitation will be emailed out by Mr. Vincent to all members of the school community.

The first marking period ends on March 23rd. Please check your child’s progress on PupilPath.

Did you know that you can track your child’s education on any computer, phone, or tablet? You can also sign the COVID consent form, right in the [NYC Schools Account](https://mystudent.nyc/saa/signup?lc=en). You can sign up for an account by entering a few basic details. This will allow you to begin receiving notifications from the DOE. It only takes five minutes. We are asking all parents to sign up. Click on the following link to sign up: [https://mystudent.nyc/saa/signup?lc=en](https://mystudent.nyc/saa/signup?lc=en)

In preparation for the opening of schools please ensure that you complete the covid 19 consent forms for your child if your child is scheduled for blended learning. **Students who have not completed this form will not be allowed to attend in-person.** Additionally, in-person instruction will take place five days a week. Email Ms. Bernabel if you need help completing this.

- Families can submit consent using NYCSA or this [updated consent form](https://mystudent.nyc/saa/signup?lc=en). Please note that even if parents previously provided consent, we are asking them to submit again to ensure they have the [updated consent form](https://mystudent.nyc/saa/signup?lc=en) for their child that reflects the requirement for weekly testing in your school. Note that the consent form was updated on Wednesday, October 14 to reflect this change.
- Students who need a medical exemption (available for all students) or disability-based exemption (available for students with IEPs) will be able to submit separate forms for approval.
- Students without consent and who do not have medical exemption or disability-based exemption will be moved to fully remote instruction.
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Please make sure your child attends his/her Virtual Courses Daily and Completes All Assignments given by Teachers! **Attendance is Mandatory in ALL Courses!**

- Please **have your child schedule a one on one academic meeting with me for the Spring term**. This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation. The meeting may take place over the phone or via zoom.

- Make sure to **keep track of your child’s progress in their classes throughout the semester** by logging on to [https://pupilpath.skedula.com/](https://pupilpath.skedula.com/).

- If you or your child have experienced the death of a loved one and/or have experienced mental health issues during the Covid-19 crisis and need support, please contact me for counseling services and resources.

- **FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES:** Scout and research colleges/universities they would like to attend after high school.  
  **JUNIORS:** Prepare and study for **SAT Day April 13th**. See study resources below:

**SAT RESOURCE LINKS:**

**TAKING THE SAT, WHAT TO EXPECT:**  
[Taking the SAT](https://www.collegeboard.org/sat) | [SAT Suite of Assessments – The College Board](https://suite.collegeboard.org/)

**INSIDE THE SAT:**  
**-READING:**  
[Inside the SAT](https://www.collegeboard.org/sat/reading) | [SAT Suite of Assessments – The College Board](https://suite.collegeboard.org/)

**-WRITING:**  
[SAT Writing and Language Test](https://www.collegeboard.org/sat/writing) | [SAT Suite of Assessments – The College Board](https://suite.collegeboard.org/)

**-MATH:**  
[SAT Math Test](https://www.collegeboard.org/sat/math) | [College Board](https://www.collegeboard.org/)


Juniors should continue their college search and create their school lists to apply next school year.

**SENIORS:** COMPLETE their FAFSA and NYS TAP for College.

- *Complete FAFSA as soon as possible!* [https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)

- *You need your parents to complete the application!*
- *After FAFSA, Please remember to complete your NYS Financial Aid (TAP)!

  [NYS Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)]

- Please check PupilPath daily for important announcements and emails pertaining to your child!

*Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance: NVega11@schools.nyc.gov*
Recently, the JKO family learned that we have lost one of our very own, Kleiberth Cardenas. He had been sick for a few years with leukemia and recently passed away. We will miss him dearly. The school community will find ways to honor his memory and celebrate his life.

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“I feel very lucky to have known Kleiberth since his freshman year. Although soft-spoken and reserved, Kleiberth's witty sense of humor, warmth and kindness always shone so brightly. He truly put a smile on my face each time I spoke with him, and I will miss hearing his thoughts on school topics and about life. He made everyone around him smile; he didn't have to be the loudest in the room to be the most heard. I am hoping that happy memories of Kleiberth hope to ease the pain of all those that knew and loved him.”

Erika Hirsch, Speech Teacher

“I am happy that I had the opportunity to be one of Kleiberth's counselors at JKO. I will always remember the twinkle in his eyes and beautiful smile. He was a leader among his friends, who did not have to speak loudly to gain attention from those around him. I enjoyed getting to know him throughout the past several years and our conversations about life and his goals. He will truly be missed by so many.”

Ms. Vega-Beltran, Guidance Counselor

“I am so happy that I got to see him in the hospital with his mom last February & bring him the gigantic teddy bear I won from Smash Arts for Valentine's Day & a card from my class before the lockdown. He is now an angel with a smile on his face playing football since he wanted to become a football player. Klei was very quiet in class, but he was very talkative one on one especially if the conversation was about his favorite sport--football. He was always a gentleman with the nicest smile.”

Mary Denisi, Business Teacher

“I feel very lucky to have known Kleiberth since his freshman year. Although soft-spoken and reserved, Kleiberth's witty sense of humor, warmth and kindness always shone so brightly. He truly put a smile on my face each time I spoke with him, and I will miss hearing his thoughts on school topics and about life. He made everyone around him smile; he didn't have to be the loudest in the room to be the most heard. I am hoping that happy memories of Kleiberth hope to ease the pain of all those that knew and loved him.”

Erika Hirsch, Speech Teacher
Congratulations to Ms. McMahon for being awarded the UFT Career and Technical Education Educator Award, the highest honor presented to CTE educators by the UFT!!! Last year she was awarded the Outstanding CTE Educator Award. She continues to exceptionally be a pioneer in her discipline as well as a beacon of light for our school and students! Thank you Ms. McMahon!!!
Hey Ms. Newell,

I wanted to check in on you. I think it is important to reach out to the special helpers who are always taking care of everyone else.

You are such a beautiful woman, and you are making a difference in so many children’s lives. I listen to you teach our students every day and I am in awe of your loving and caring nature. You go above and beyond to make each and every child feel unique and precious. Thank you for everything you do, we all appreciate and recognize your exemplary care and compassion as a profoundly brilliant educator. Thank you for loving my daughter Hannah and all our children. You are truly an extraordinary human being! God had a divine purpose for your life and you are fulfilling a spectacular calling.

Please take care of yourself because YOU are precious. Always praying for you!

Cheers,
Dana Joy Faruolo

Thank you, Ms. Newell, for all you do for our students daily!!!
On Thursday, February 11th, we participated in The Apollo Theater’s School Day Live virtual performance series “5 Days with Step Afrika!” We conducted period 7 and 8 assemblies where all classes participated. Ms. Okwabi will follow up with an arts integration program with her Environment classes. Thank you Ms. De Gregorio for facilitating this wonderful event in honor of Black History Month!!! Below are some pictures:
A message from Ms. De Gregorio and the Smash Arts Club prior to the winter break:

Dear JKO STAFF

We hope all is well and you and your families are okay. Despite the current situation we are in, each and everyone of you has tried so hard to do your jobs. Covid-19 hasn’t made things the easiest but through perseverance and adversity each and every one of you overcame and did what was needed in order for us students to learn and pass our classes. The task isn’t easy, and it won’t get easier even if we may not show it or say it, we love and appreciate you. We confidently speak for all the students at JKO and We proudly say

Happy Valentines Day.

Sincerely,
Smash Arts Productions
And the winner of the student planner cover vote is...

Option 1

Our goals can only be reached through the vehicle of a plan... There is no other route to success.

-Pablo Picasso

2021-2022

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School
Student Planner

Design by Marycarmen Herrera