

Technology News @ P.S.208

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March is Women's History Month

Dear Parents/Gardians,

March is many things — a month when we set back our clocks, a month when we celebrate the return of spring, a month when we consistently find ourselves over or under dressed for the weather, no matter what the actual temperature is — but most importantly, it is also **Women's History Month!** This is the month where we revel in learning about all manner of female history-makers, from the big names to the unsung heroes. It's also a time when we focus on learning more about the female perspective on big movements in human history.

This month, P.S. 208 and the technology lab will be highlighting the importance of women (girls) in STEM during Women's History Month by continuing our study of *coding*.

The need for us to make an extra effort to learn about women who have played important roles in history continues. For that reason, we will explore girlswhocode.com. Their mission to close the gender gap in technology and to change the image of what a programmer looks like and does. Technology (computing) is where the jobs are — and where they will be in the future, but fewer than 1 in 5 computer science graduates are women and the gender gap is getting worse. For that very reason we will shed light and explore the various opportunities there are in this area for girls and its significance. Lesson plans and activities will be conducted that feature diverse women in technology to give our girls role models they can look up to. We welcome you to join us along our journey.

Parent Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, March 5th!

PTC provide an opportunity for parents to partner with teachers in providing a good learning experience for their children!

Here are a few tips on how to strengthen that partnership at our upcoming parent-teacher conference...

- **Prepare for the conference:** Keep a folder with tests, papers, or any other topics you want to address. Do your research by talking to your child; find out how he/she is doing in their classes
- **Keep the teacher informed:** Teachers appreciate knowing what's going on with your child. It's important to communicate medical or family issues in your child's life.
- **Take Notes:** They will help you remember the good points and areas for concern. It's good to have notes to look back on so you can target the areas that may need improvement.
- **Follow up:** Don't be afraid to ask for a parent-teacher conference at any time during the year if you need or desire additional information.
- **Work together:** Partner with the teacher by being a team player. Think: "how can we work together to resolve this issue?"
- **Ask questions:** It's your turn to ask questions. Make a list beforehand so you'll remember your important points.
- **The communication tool:** Tell the teacher your preferred method of communication: *phone, email, or notes*
- **Ask how you can be involved:** Involvement is about being aware of what's happening with your child's education. Inquire about what can you do at home to support what your child is learning at school? How can you help the teacher in planning for events? Meetings? Trips?

We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday, March 5, 2020

