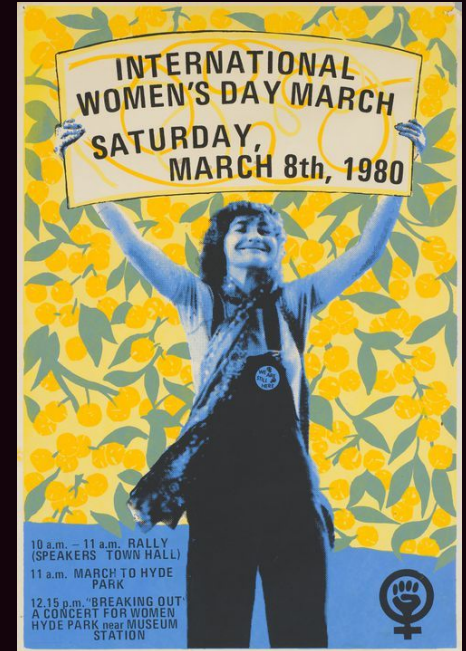
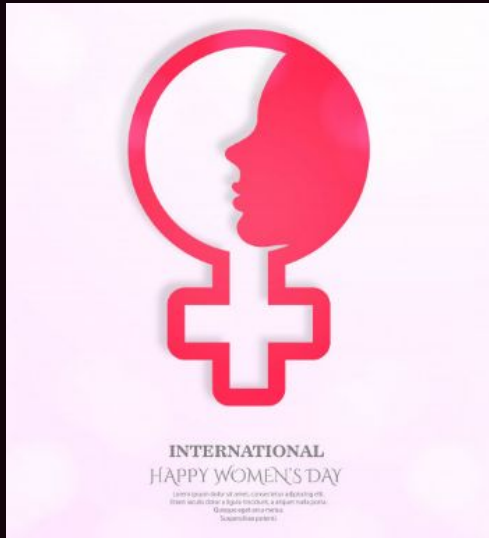


# International Women's Day



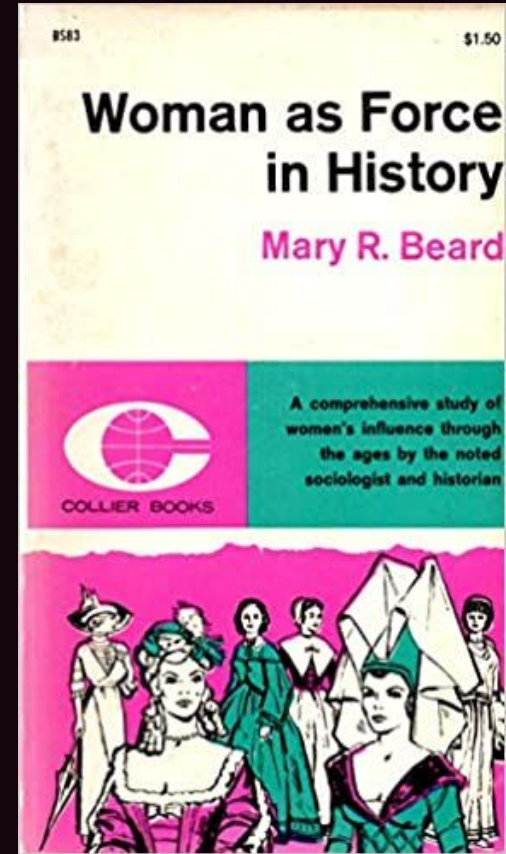
8th March 2021

#ChooseToChallenge #IWD2021

# March is also Women's History Month

This has a shorter history than International Women's Day and began in 1978, although it took until 1987 to spread further. Like Black History Month and LGBTQ+ History month, Women's History Month is to celebrate and commemorate the achievements and impact of a group that the history books and history education tend to overlook...

History generally was the History of "Great Men", who were usually western and white. Movement began during the early 20th century to start looking at women's history, but this did not really take off until the late 1970s.

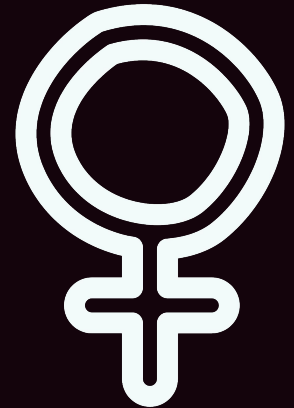


# What is International Women's Day?

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality.

Marked annually on March 8th, International Women's Day (IWD) is one of the most important days of the year to:

- celebrate women's achievements
- raise awareness about women's equality
- lobby for accelerated gender parity
- fundraise for female-focused charities



# This year's theme is #ChooseToChallenge

A challenged world is an alert world. Individually, we're all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.

We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality. We can all choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements.

Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world.

From challenge comes change, so let's all choose to challenge.

Images are being shared on social media about raising a hand up high to show you are in to challenging gender bias and inequality. You can browse some of images, from all around the world [here](#).

# Some of the images are here...



Devon Peterika, United States



Gabriela Goncalves, United Kingdom



Jessica Yakwo, Nigeria



Archana Jain, India



Olivia & Elin Mendola, Sweden



Clara Fosca, Spain



Bundaberg Community Corrections, Australia



Mazidah Binti Musa, Malaysia

But we have equality... don't we?

# MailOnline

# Comment

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## Women's jobs, self-worth and sanity are going to the wall - men just put on noise cancelling headphones, says home-schooling mother-of-three **FLORA WATKINS**

By [FLORA WATKINS FOR THE MAIL ON SUNDAY](#)

**PUBLISHED:** 22:30, 9 January 2021 | **UPDATED:** 22:49, 9 January 2021

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# Unconscious bias can be discriminatory, disenfranchising and dangerous

- Studies have shown that biases exist that keep women out of professions. And these biases start young. A 2007 international study of 25,439 children's TV characters found only 13% of non-human characters are female, and 32% of human. In children's films, only 28% of speaking roles went to females. Males spend twice as much time on screen and pictures. The figures are worse in school textbooks as a global survey showed.
- Public transport is designed with male travel requirements in mind- even though women use them more than men.
- Women do, on average, 61% of the housework and unpaid work in the home. This had led to increased rates of stress, anxiety and depression which have long term effects on women's health.

This image went viral in 2017, as it showed Trump and his cabinet signing an executive order on abortion



While it can be easy to point fingers at Trump's administration, this would not be a rare image in many other democracies across the world.



# What are we doing at Brookvale Groby?

- Telling you about it
- Staff have been asked to change their email signatures to reflect an inspirational woman, or women- to celebrate their achievements and raise your awareness.
- Encouraging you through a variety of different activities and discussion points to think about International Women's Day and gender equality.
- Some might be displaying some posters in their classrooms, or might make an effort to talk about women's achievements in their subjects.
- Talking about influential women in the bulletin this month- look out for those announcements!

# What can YOU do?

## IF YOU IDENTIFY MORE AS FEMALE

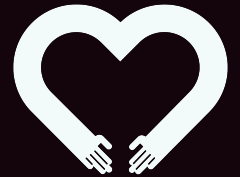
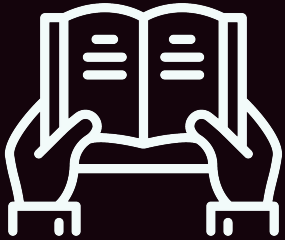
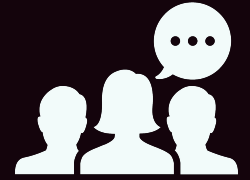
- Don't put limits on what you can achieve based on your gender.
- Challenge those who do put limits on what you can achieve based on your gender.
- Support other women, celebrate other women.
- Try not to criticise other women choosing to stand outside of stereotypical gender roles.  
Respect their choices.

## IF YOU IDENTIFY MORE AS MALE

- Don't take women discussing the need for equality personally, or claim they don't need it.
- Be aware of how being male gives you certain advantages.
- Support women, celebrate women.
- Try not to criticise any women choosing to stand outside of stereotypical gender roles.
- Respect their choices.



We can all research, read, watch, observe and learn about gender issues, and we can all challenge our unconscious biases and stereotypes and those of others...



# What could we doing better?

What sort of things might you like to see us do, next year for international women's day?

You may hear about some inspirational women in your lessons today/ this week?  
Which women have we missed out? Who should we have talked about?

# Thank you for listening

Representation of the world, like the world itself, is the work of men; they describe it from their own point of view, which they confuse with the absolute truth.

Simone de Beauvoir  
(1908-1986)



# Possible Starter/ Plenary Activities



# Period 1: Women who changed a country

It was an international women's day march in 1917 that began the Russian Revolution. The march began, women from the Vyborg textile works joined the protests, calling for the downfall of the Tsar. 300 years of Romanov rule ended in that revolution, although attempts to set up a democratic government were ended by a Communist revolution.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY**

In pairs or small groups, brainstorm ways that you and your friends can make the world a better place for women and girls of all nationalities.

Present your ideas as a mind map.



 International Women's Day 

# Period 2: Women who changed an industry

This is Reshma Saujani, CEO & Founder of Girls Who Code  
This is an organisation that pairs instruction in robotics, web design, and mobile development with high-touch mentorship for young women.



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY**

Do you think it is important that women get help to be represented in industries that they aren't traditionally in? What benefit is there to industries?

 International Women's Day  teachstarter



# Period 3: Women who changed the media

Sheila Grant Duff- a foreign correspondent during WWII, when women were told they couldn't do that. She smuggled typewriters, activist literature and arms across the borders. People attempted to put her down by spreading rumours about her sex life and was shut out from her profession as a result. Still, her story inspires others to stand up against misogyny and nationalism.



Una Marson: a Jamaican woman who became editor of a newspaper called The Keys in the 1930s, which campaigned against the “colour bar” and tried to fight both sexism and racism.

Do you think it is important that women work in the media? That women's stories are told, by women?

# Period 4: Women who changed sport

Mia Hamm, at the age of 15, played for US national football team. She played for the team from 1987-2005. She was part of the 1999 world cup team, the first and only women's team to win it all on home soil. In 2013, she was the first woman inducted into the World Football Hall of Fame.



Should women's sport get the same media attention as men's sport? Why do you think it doesn't?

# Period 5: Women who changed the world



Eleanor Roosevelt- “Well behaved women rarely make history”

She was an outspoken first lady (to FDR) who campaigned for women’s rights and civil rights. She was the first First Lady to hold press conferences in her own right. Seriously depressed at the idea of being a First Lady, a role that mostly consisted of domesticity and hostessing, she used the role to become more about activism and political awareness- becoming a United Nations ambassador and writing her own newspaper columns. She continued to work internationally after her role as First Lady ended.

Eleanor Roosevelt did a lot but she did that from a position of class and wealth privilege. Does that undermine what she did?

# Links to useful resources

Links to this year's theme videos and those for last year: [LINK](#)

[BBC Videos on inspirational women](#)

Viral video- [gender swaps](#) (this is on Facebook)

[What is IWD?](#) video

[Printable fact sheets](#)

[Profiles of influential women](#)

[Task cards](#)

[Selfie cards](#)- (or just useful areas for challenge)

[Women in the workplace report](#)

[Global Gender Gap report](#)