

# Newsletter

“The women of today are the thoughts of their mothers and grandmothers, embodied and made alive.”

Matilda Joslyn Gage

Week 25 2022-23

## INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY



# INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

CATS Cambridge celebrated International Women's Day with an assembly led by our Sociology teacher Jody-Helena Williams on Thursday 9th March. Jody looked at the history of International Women's Day and the reason for it falling on 8th March each year. She also asked the students if they felt that equality in terms of gender exists in areas such as education, work, politics, and the media and what we could do to produce this.

The students were asked to think about equality also in a more general sense and how far we have moved towards this, what could we look at to illustrate a move towards equality? The students also looked at the definitions of equality and equity and discussed the significance of this as this year's theme. Students were also asked to produce possible themes for future International Women's Day and why they thought that these would make good themes.

In addition, we created a display, wore International Women's Day bracelets, and were given purple pens, which were handed out to remind us of the day.

## EQUALITY vs. EQUITY



The **#EmbraceEquity** campaign aims to highlight that equal opportunities aren't enough and can be **EXCLUSIONARY** and **DISCRIMINATORY**.

### EQUALITY

The concept of being equal, treating people the same regardless of the needs, differences and requirements people might have.

### EQUITY

Being fair and impartial, consideration of the differing needs people might have and adjusting to enable their requirements.



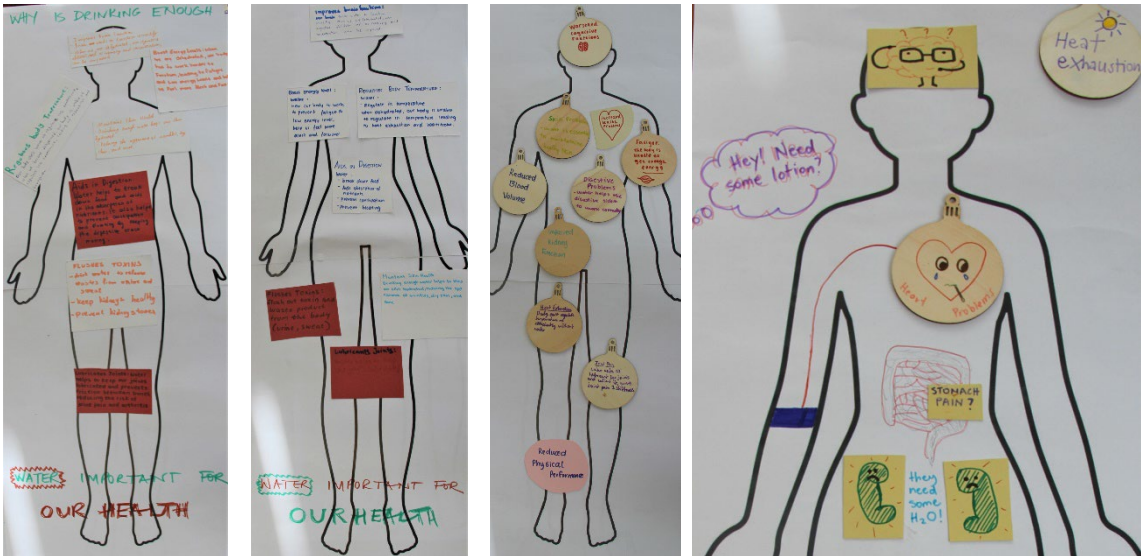
*International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.*

*Different countries place more emphasis than others on IWD. It is an official holiday in several countries worldwide, and regardless of its legal status, in much of the world, it is customary for men and women to give their colleagues and loved ones flowers and gifts.*

# NEWS AROUND CATS

Natalia Miksova, House Captain for **Leopard House** organised this week's activities on Healthy Eating. Leopard House students are working on the topic of water. Natalia selected research material for the PT groups in Leopard House to respond to in a visual way. She came up with three practical activities so students could work collaboratively and creatively to show what they have learnt about the importance of water.

The final outcomes will be displayed around the College for everyone to enjoy. Natalia led her own group with confidence and enthusiasm and she made sure the articles and tasks were clear and engaging for everyone involved.



# NEWS AROUND CATS

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, CATS Cambridge students took a trip to Queen Mary University, London, to take part in the **CIFE Inter-College Challenge 2023**. Travelling down by train, our students had a great deal of fun, coming first in two of the rounds before being beaten back by the stiff competition on display.



The **Jewellery Club** have been making bracelets and key ring charms for Valentines Day. On Thursday just before half term, Farzana and Yeva set up a small table in the hub and sold their wares. Money raised is going to help people in Turkey who have been affected by the earthquake.

With the sale of items, and some generous donations, the students have raised over £100!!



# NEWS AROUND CATS

The CATS Cambridge Table Tennis Tournament 2023 is well under way with the community competing to get to the quarter-finals next week. Taking place after school on a Thursday, everyone dusts off their paddles and squares off against their fellow competitors. A fun and fast-moving event with plenty of good-spirited competition and the inevitable grandstanding of slams and the myopic wandering around searching for the missing table-tennis ball.

Organised by Rob Derbyshire, Head of ESL, it's good to see the staff get involved, with Dr Mike Liptrot (Chemistry), Rob Mathers (Maths), Richard Tateson (Biology) getting good exercise as the students pushed them to their limits. Even the Principal, Dominic Tomalin, took part, facing off against Nikki from Jaguar House (image – bottom). More to follow next week!



## International Women's Day

Louise Chamberlain  
Vice Principal



At the inaugural session of the UN General Assembly in 1946, Eleanor Roosevelt travelled from USA to London to read an open letter to the women of the world encouraging them to increase their involvement in national and international affairs. Prior to this, women in countries across the world had lobbied and protested for the right to vote, to work and to participate in society without discrimination. Despite attempts to silence women's voices in countries with very different approaches to Government and social organisation, women spoke up against slavery, war and discrimination. Nearly thirty years after that UN General Assembly meeting, the United Nations began celebrating International Women's Day in 1975 and officially recognised International Women's Day in 1977.

In 2023, the Commission on the Status of Women's priority theme is focused on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the digital world. Technology can be a wonderful tool which brings people together and enables a better-connected world; it provides the opportunity for all to access education, information, and entertainment. Young people in many countries view the online world as an extension of inhabiting the "real" world, interweaving both into their daily lives in a very different way from some in older generations. It could be easy to believe that the disembodied, un-boundaried digital world enables people to meet each other on more even terms than in reality, but this is not the case. Online harassment and threats, algorithm and AI gender biases as well as the combination of internet anonymity with the challenges of global online policing lead to frequent marginalisation and hostility to women. This hostility can take the form of online silencing, misogyny and violence such as threats of rape, cyber stalking and sexual harassment. In some countries, more than 40% of the women who experience aggression online then experience violence offline. Whichever country they live in, women who create avatars that are not female experience far less silencing and sexualised threat online.

Marginalisation and violence suffered online by women affects the global economy. It is estimated that around \$1 trillion could have been added to the GDP of middle and low countries in the last ten years if women had had enhanced representation in technology and the online world. The psychological impact of women and girls' experience online has the potential to have further impact on other aspects of their lives and on those around them, including increased global economic loss.

Building a future where women can thrive in the digital sphere cannot be the responsibility of women alone. There were 259 million more men than women accessing the internet in 2022 and this disproportionate current use puts a greater responsibility on those men to make the digital world a space where everyone feels safe. Offline, it will take all of us working together to create a digital future where everyone is treated with respect.