John H. Finley School PS/MS 129 Week of Feb 25

The Panther Weekly

425 W 130th Street New York, NY 10027 www.johnhfinley.org (212) 690-5932

Black History Month Focus

Louis Daniel Armstrong, nicknamed *Satchmo*, was an African-American trumpeter, composer, vocalist and occasional actor who was one of the most influential figures in jazz. His career spanned five decades, from the 1920's to the 1960's.

"There are TWO secrets to success: 1. Don't tell anyone everything you know. 2. If you have to ask what jazz is you'll never know."

-Joseph R.

STUDENT'S VOICE

Why is Black History Month (BHM) important to you?

"BHM is important to me because it a way to express my heritage as a young black girl. I get to remember my ancestors who paved a road for me to have a worthy education, a voice, a place to speak my mind without being ridiculed, a place where I will not be judged or mocked and a place where I can be free." - Marjani F.

"BHM is important to me because it means learning about strong African-Americans fighting for their rights. We get to learn about the history of black people who worked hard for us to have freedom." - Melinda C.

"This month is important to me because we can celebrate the great things that black people have done." - *Michael J.*

"BHM is important to me because it celebrates black people and the hardships they faced in the past. It helps us appreciate the strong black people who fought for their rights and stood up to their oppressor, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks."

- SweJolie G.



Upcoming Events

February 28

Black History Month Celebration 6th – 8th grade **9am** K – 5th grade **1pm** Family Night **4:30pm – 7:30pm** (Come join us ©)

March 10

Day Light Saving (move your clock one hour forward 2am)

March 13 – 14 Parent Teacher Conference

March 17 St. Patrick Day (wear green Mon 3/18)



James Baldwin

Attendance 94%

Remember school begins at **8:00am**.

The best way to have our children practice great habits is to start now!

Principal: Odelphia Pierre Assistant Principal: Andrea Story

Page 1 of 2

STUDENT'S VOICE

"BHM is important to me because it shows me how African-Americans have changed the world. Today, we take many of their actions for granted and we do not take advantage of what they did for us. A lot of people sacrificed everything, including their life to make sure that we have freedom and equality." - Jah-mier M.

"I get to learn about the history of black people in this country. Every day we can learn new things that they did to make this country great." - Marquise G.

"This month is important to me because we celebrate the people who fought for us to have equal rights. Without them, we would not be where we are today."

- Jeremiah J.

"BHM is important to me because we are reminded about all the great and amazing things African-Americans have done." - *Robert A.*

"BHM is important to me because it is about honoring the black people who helped bring respect to all people of colour. It is about our history and how it helped shape who and where we are today. It is important to honour the legacies of those who helped shape our culture." - Mamebouso K.

Reminder for Students:

- CLUBS ARE BACK!! Please see Mr. Zorrilla about the new clubs that are forming. Find what you love and immerse yourselves ©
- Want to get fit before school? Sign up for CHAMPS sports. Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7am – 7:45am, CHAMPS is a fitness program involving all sports, the quarterly feature is BOXING.

Reminder for Parents:

- Summer camp enrollments are coming up, get a head start on arrangements for the free programs offered. Here are some options of websites that provide information on free or income based camps.
 - <u>www.goddard.org</u>
 - o <u>www.nycgovparks.org/reg/summercamp</u>
 - <u>www1.nyc.gov</u>
- John H Finley's <u>uniform policy</u> is navy blue pants with a white collar shirt and maroon cardigan: Uniform is displayed in the main lobby, and can be purchased at Lazarus or Cookies.
- State tests will be administered for ELA from April 2nd 4th and for Math, May 1st – 3rd. Let us work together to help our students do their personal best.



Katherine Johnson



Muhammed Ali

In the Community

Parents do you want some fun things to do with your children over the weekend? Here are some local low lost or free activities in your area, Register via **Eventbrite App**.

Garden Volunteer Session

Sat March 2nd 10am – 1pm 1775 3rd Ave, 10029

Stem Camp for NYC Kids Sat March 2nd 9am – 3:30pm

DeHostos Community Ctr. 696 Amsterdam Ave, 10025 www.stemulatingminds.org/programs

Features from the student body, Thank you for reading ©

Principal: Odelphia Pierre Assistant Principal: Andrea Story

Page 2 of 2