

THE OAKWOOD TIMES

21st Century Journalists • Small School Doing Big Things • January Edition



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Inspiration – Still Felt Today

Martin Luther King's Influence on Me
By Kayden Ndubuisi

The man, the King, the legend that stood up for what he believed and continued to be. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. never gave up! He channeled peaceful ways for necessary change by leading marches, making speeches, and bringing hope wherever he walked along with many others who supported his cause. Even in death, by assassination, his voice still spreads through. He wanted others to never stop believing and that freedom was closer than they thought. Separated, not together a world that made zero sense to him. In his eyes a large group of people could accomplish amazing things together and, in his life, he sure proved that. I don't like to give up because of him. I always try to do my best, to complete my goals, even if I am stressed or something is blocking my path to victory. He is remembered for his actions for the rights all African Americans deserved and even if he was stopped, his message will live on forever.



I Am Inspired
By Taiwo Abatti

Dr. Martin Luther King is an African American activist who fought for civil rights. He made many sacrifices just to do what he believed in and yet he was criticized. Dr. King is still such a very important person and what he did was inspiring. He told people it doesn't matter what people say about you, just do what you believe in. For example, I want to be a singer when I grow up and even though people tell me I can't do that, I believe that I can if I put my mind to it. Like Dr. Martin Luther King, I also want to be a leader to people so that people don't have to be scared to do what is right.

Inspired
By Kenny Abatti

Martin Luther King Jr. is an important leader of the Civil Rights Movement. He wrote and gave a speech called "I Have a Dream". That speech talks about how Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wanted equality and freedom for all African Americans. Just like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I have a dream that the ocean and Earth would be clean with an equal amount of life.

The Inspiration of Martin Luther King
By Camoora-Lee Jones

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. inspired me because he never cared about the color of anyone's skin, and he was brave enough to stand up for everyone. He never hated anyone. He said, "love beats hate" and also said, "One life can make a huge difference." He did not believe in violence and cared for everyone, even the people that hated him. He's inspired me so much, he is amazing.



Martin Luther King
By Jayden Ndubuisi

Martin Luther King was one of the most influential people of the 20th and 21st century. His legacy is all around us in books, literature, and monuments. He is especially known for his freedom speech in the march on Washington on August 28, 1963 for jobs and freedom, where he spoke his famous, "I have a dream" speech. He could inspire everyone to make a difference because he showed that if you work hard, you get results.

How Does MLK Inspire You?
By Emely Rodriguez

Martin Luther King Jr inspires me because he showed me that no matter what you're doing, you should never give up even when it's hard. That you should keep on trying and that nothing is impossible.

How Did MLK Inspire Me?
By Sa'Myra Butler-Allen

Martin Luther King inspired me to not care about people's opinions, but to do what is right. Even if he fought for equal rights for everyone, some people didn't agree with him. Most people targeted him, hated him, and more but he used their hatred as inspiration.



Spirit Week

Written by Elle Scott and Sa'Myra Butler-Allen

In celebration, the staff and students at Oakwood Avenue Community School were encouraged to wear holiday attire. We called this joyful time "Spirit Week". We as a school initiated "Spirit Week" so that staff and students would get a chance to have fun and share some holiday spirit while in a school environment.

The week began with students and staff bundling up in



their favorite winter attire on Monday, dressing like their favorite Holiday character on Tuesday, wearing their favorite holiday colors on Wednesday, being Wacky and Tacky on Thursday, and wearing their favorite festive attire on Friday.

Students were excited to participate in the event but were just as excited to see what others were wearing. Taiwo Abatti, a student at Oakwood said, "It was interesting to see students dress in different things on each of the days and how creative students were with their outfits."

Third Grade, Polar Express Day

Written by Chiemela Jayden Ndubuisi

During the week of December 13, third grade students at Oakwood Avenue Community School took part in various Polar Express Activities. Starting on Monday, students enjoyed reading the book written by Chris Van Allsburg and engaged in a "search for story elements" activity.

They continued the week, doing different comprehension activities to help them gain understanding. Finally, on Thursday, December 16, students dressed in their pajamas, ate various winter treats, and watched the 2004 movie *The Polar Express*. Fun was had by all!



Journalist of the Month
Written by Taiwo Abatti

Every month there is always a journalist of the month. Anybody can be a journalist of the month if they have met the expectations. For example, students who are eligible for Journalist of the Month must be on task, ask questions, check facts, and communicate with their writing partner. This month, The Oakwood Times is recognizing two journalists. The journalists are... Kenny Abatti and Faith Mathis.

When accepting this honor, Kenny and Faith were both beyond excited to be recognized by their peers.

Kenny Abatti said, “I try my best in every article I am writing. I feel thrilled to be voted Journalist of the Month. I am appreciative and thankful for being a great journalist.” Kenny joined journalism because she saw this as an opportunity to improve her writing skills and get a chance to write creatively.

Faith Mathis said, “I joined journalism to improve in school and writing. It makes me feel happy that people are acknowledging my hard work. I like being in journalism because I get to write, and I think the class is amazing. We have a lot of fun!”



Virtual Winter Concert

Written by Kenny Abatti and Faith Mathis

On December 13, 2021, the Oakwood Avenue Community School Winter Concert premiered on YouTube. Grades 2-7 focused on performances in music and drama. Each grade was tasked with a different song from different musicals or movies to perform from including Peter Pan, Rita Morano, Sound of Music, and West Side Story.

The concert began when fifth and sixth graders took to the stage singing and performing “America” from Rita Morano.



Original artwork by Oakwood Avenue’s own, Emely Rodriguez

Students wore matching dancing skirts and had a choreographed dance. Next up was seventh grade dancing to West Side Story’s, “Cool”. Following them was the sixth-grade drama class who did a drama performance from Peter Pan and The Lost Boys and a fifth-grade dance to “Yo Ho a Pirate’s Life for Me”. To end the show, second and third graders executed The Sound of Music, and both performed choreographed dances. Third graders performed “These Are a Few of My Favorite Things” and second graders took the stage singing “Do, Re, Mi”.

Oakwood did an amazing job, and we are definitely excited for next year’s concerts. We would like to thank Mrs. Keshner for all her hard work putting this together!

January Birthday Shout Outs

Written by Rayanna Stewart and Emely Rodriguez



January 4 -
Andrew Alfaro

January 5 -
Kayla Carter

January 8 -
Zahra Kazem

January 9 -
Analy Zambrano

January 10 -
Angie Perlera

January 13 -
Camoora-Lee Jones

January 14 -
Jayden Marcellus

January 16 -
Zaria Smith

January 17 -
Niamora Haye

January 20 -
Samantha Tavares

January 22 -
Aaron Rechea

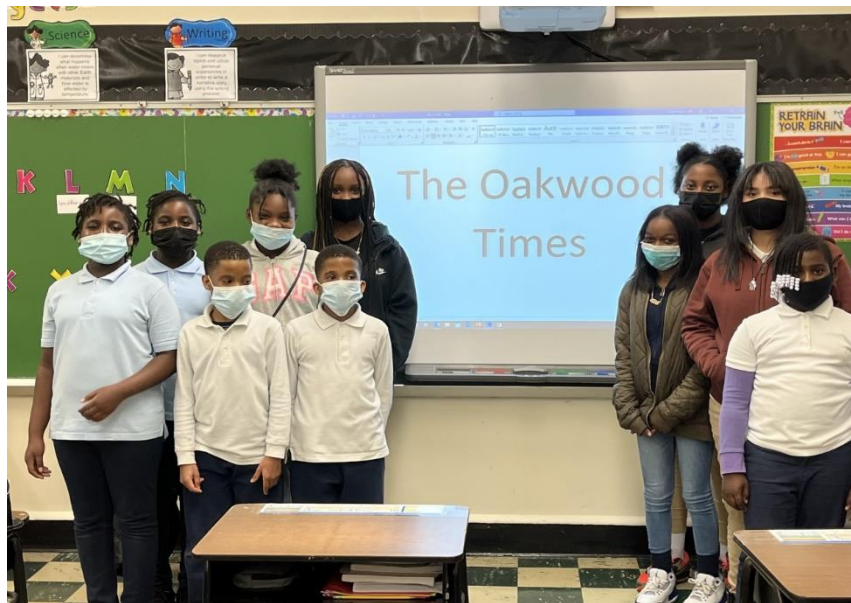
January 23 -
Laiani Luther

January 29 -
Brielle Garner
Rayanna Stewart

January 31 -
Harmony Kornegay

The Oakwood Times Journalists

We are excited to welcome so many new journalists this school year. We would like to thank our journalists who are working tirelessly to report the news at Oakwood Avenue Community School. We are extremely excited to release another fabulous edition of The Oakwood Times! We look forward to providing fact-based reporting all school year on the best stories at Oakwood Avenue Community School.



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