Women

International Women's Day is celebrated all around the world on 8th March. It is a day people celebrate women from different countries and their achievements throughout history. Read the profiles of the groundbreaking women below to find out about them.



Coco Chanel Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel was born to a poor family in the French countryside in the French fashion designer late 19th century. She grew up in an orphanage and then moved to Paris and worked in clothes shops. At the time, women's clothes were uncomfortable and difficult to move around in. Coco opened her own shop in 1910 and began making clothes that she thought women would like to wear. They soon became very popular and by the 1920s, Coco had built a fashion empire worth millions! She changed the way women dressed, but also the way they thought about themselves. She showed them they could be strong, independent and powerful, and that they deserved respect.

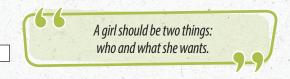
Valentina Tereshkova Valentina Tereshkova was born in Russia in 1937. After she finished school, she *Russian cosmonaut* worked in a factory, but she had an unusual interest: parachuting! She eventually completed 126 jumps. Because of this, she was allowed to join the space programme even though she wasn't a pilot. In 1963, at the age of 26, Valentina became the first woman to go into space. She became an international hero. She showed the world that there was no difference between the capabilities of men and women, neither on Earth nor among the stars.



Read the text and do the quiz.

Who ...

- 1 became an international hero in her twenties?
 - a Coco Chanel b Valentina Tereshkova
- 2 grew up without either of her parents?
- a Coco Chanel b Valentina Tereshkova
- 3 qualified for a training programme because of her hobby?
 - a Coco Chanel b Valentina Tereshkova
- 4 owned her own business?
 - a Coco Chanel b Valentina Tereshkova
- 2 ICT Who do you think said it? In pairs, match the sayings to the correct woman. Then, check online to see if you were right.
 - A bird cannot fly with only one wing. Human space flight cannot develop any further without the active participation of women.



3 Discuss the quotation.

There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and the other is the pen. There is a third power stronger than both, that of women.

Malala Yousafzai

ICT In groups, collect information about an incredible woman from your country.

Then, write a paragraph about her, similar to the ones above. Present the woman to the class.