

The Art of Learning



From the Principal

It's May already!

The new leaves starting on the trees, the spring flowers, the birds singing and the green grass are things that happen every year, no matter what is happening in the world. It gives me comfort! There are many reasons to have hope during this time.

These last few weeks have been heavy weeks given the pandemic and the news. With COVID so close to home now, safety is our primary goal in our families. I see the many challenges in our community. Our students enjoy seeing their learning facilitators and friends at school.

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From the Principal

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Some classes have been back and forth to online multiple times. Some families are experiencing real hardship. Our staff come to work everyday doing everything they can to keep kids safe and to provide rich learning, it's not easy. Our entire community is facing challenging times. These challenges look different to different people.

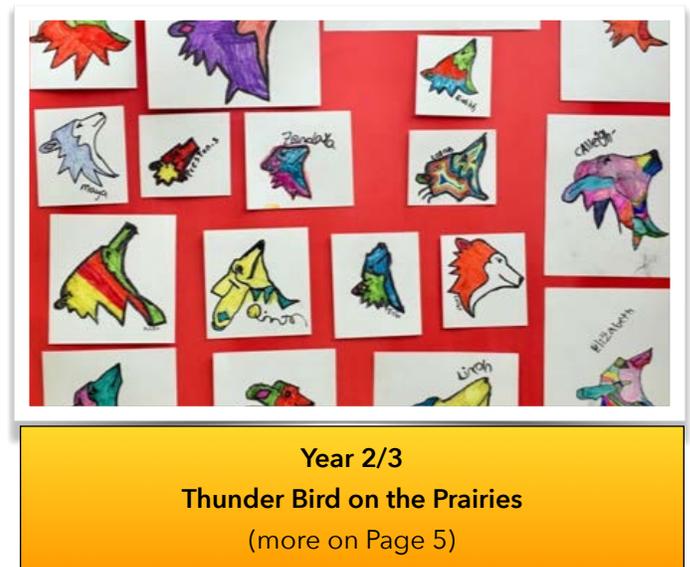
However, Calgary Arts Academy is a community and each of us is a valued member who belongs. We must all do the best we can to take care of ourselves and our families. As community members who value the Circle of Courage, look for opportunities to be kind and engage in empathetic, helpful and thoughtful behaviours. We are all experiencing challenge. Truly, one can experience immediate reward with one small act of kindness. We need to take care of each other. This is what our community needs to thrive through this third wave.

When you see those signs of spring, hold on to that hope!

Knob Hill News

Special Adult Day – June 4th

On June 4th, we would like to honour and show our love for the special adults in our students' lives. Rather than formally celebrating Mothers' and Fathers' Days, students will focus on the importance of a special adult in their lives. Families are not all the same and we would like to respect and support the diversity of the families that make up our wonderful community. Thank you for helping our students recognize the adults that they admire and love.



CAA SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

CAA Society Board of Directors meetings are public. Currently, these meetings are held virtually using Zoom.

If you would like to attend one or more of these meetings, please contact Cole Jordan, Secretary/Treasurer, at cjordan@caaschool.com or (403) 532-3020 Ext 8413, who will provide the information you'll need to attend.

CAA Society Board Meeting Dates

May 18, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.
June 15, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.

Arbor Day – May 6

We wish all of our families time to enjoy nature and sit among the trees in Calgary on Arbor Day. Arbor Day is the longest running civic greening project in Calgary and is celebrated on the first Thursday in May. Calgary's first Arbor Day was May 8, 1905. On that day, Mayor Emerson and nine City Aldermen planted 10 trees in Victoria Park. To date, annual Arbor Day celebrations in Calgary have distributed an estimated 425,000 tree seedlings to grade one students.

On May 6th, each Year 1 student will receive a tree seedling to be taken home to be planted on private property. This year the seedlings will be given to Year 2 students as well because these students missed their tree in Year 1 due to on-line schooling last spring. Thank you for helping transform our prairie city into an oasis with a canopy of trees.



Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)

As part of I Love to Read Week, May 4th was DEAR Day. Students made sure to have books close at hand so they could Drop Everything and Read at a moment's notice. Students at Knob Hill were focused and loved the opportunity to dive into a good book when surprise announcements asked everyone to stop and read!

Kindergarten / Year 1 News

Kindergarten and Year 1 students have been enjoying the signs of spring that fill the CAA school yard, especially as the warmer weather encourages more opportunities for outdoor learning activities. Watching the world turn green, plants grow, and birds and critters return to Calgary provided an excellent conclusion to our contract all about animals and the world. The month of April also included several exciting virtual field trip opportunities from Ripley's Aquarium of Canada where we participated in the programs, "Once Upon an Aquarium" and "Sea Turtle Feeding." Kindergarten students also were lucky to hear guest speaker, Cam Wright, who spoke on Zoom about bee keeping. We also had a video call from Veterinarian, Stephanie Hancock, who led us in an engaging "Teddy Bear Surgery" activity and spoke about the profession of a vet. To conclude this contract, we learned that there are many things to consider when taking care of the earth, and that we can play a huge role in the betterment of our world.

We have recently started a new and stellar contract called, "What a Wonderful Universe," which explores space themes, plants, and has a unique and fun spin on fairy tales. In Year 1, we are developing our writing skills along with our colourful imaginations as we begin to write our own fairytales. In Kindergarten, we will also get to dabble in the writing process as we work together to write a clever fairy tale with a space setting as a class. "To infinity and beyond" is our motto, as we delve into our last exciting months of learning!

Year 2/3 News

Happy spring, Year 2/3 families! We hope that you are enjoying the change in weather and are staying safe and healthy!

We have wrapped up our Art of Adventure contract and have enjoyed sharing and watching everyone's Flat Teacher Adventures! If you are still finishing up your Flat Teacher Adventures at home, please send it off to your teacher whenever you have a chance to finish.

FLASH! BANG! POW! We are jumping into our last learning contract of the 2020/2021 school year. Through the Art of Imagination, we will collaborate with our class cohorts to explore the art of graphic novels. Through this process we will engage in a creative process inspired by comic books, graphic novels, superheroes and creative writing. We will explore and find the inspiration for our class cohort's collaborative art piece through the investigation and exploration of social justice issues and Canadian identity. We will be sharing our creations with the in-person learners at Knob Hill in June and we look forward to sharing our learning with parents in a virtual way as well.



Knob Hill Art Room with Ms. Kearney



Year 2/3

Thunder Bird on the Prairies

in the style of
Norvelle Morrisseau,
The Picasso of the
North



Year 4/5 News

We have wrapped up our Rise Up contract and will soon be starting our fifth and final contract of the year. This upcoming contract will involve the senses of sight and sound, though never at the same time! We will engage with, reflect on, and create old-timey productions including silent films and radio plays, while also investigating newer versions of these genres, including podcasts, radio interviews, and stop-motion animations.

Over at Knob Hill, we have welcomed Ms. Schachtner into our community after she finished her practicum and began her role as a full-time teacher, filling in for Ms. Connolly who is now on maternity leave. Speaking of... we are very excited to announce the birth of Ms. Connolly's beautiful and healthy baby boy, Malcolm!

At the Education Centre, Mr. Thomas' class is enjoying caring for our pet turtle, Boberry. We said good-bye to Mr. Jesse who finished his practicum, but are very excited to still see him around our hallways as a substitute teacher.

Our At-Home learners are busy planting seeds and watching how plants grow and change over time. We have also wrapped up a series of creative choice projects that showcase fictional countries that we created on our own.

Year 6/7 News

We've had a busy month of learning and fun. Be sure to check your child's FreshGrade frequently.

In Science, Year 6 students are exploring trees and forests. Year 7 students are wrapping up our off-the-grid houses and starting the Planet Earth unit.

In Year 6 Math, we are learning about translations, reflections, and transformations, while Year 7 students are relating fractions and decimals.

Students in Year 6 are wrapping up our Ancient Athens unit and we are going to be diving into the Iroquois confederacy. In Year 7, we are progressing along with the road to confederation and learning about migration and rebellion.

In Language Arts, Year 6 students are starting a poetry unit in combination with learning some essential Photoshop skills to create our own virtual poetry books in the same vein as the virtual classrooms from Parent-Teacher Conferences. In Year 7, we're leveraging ClassCraft to help guide our second big writing unit. This time we're slowing down the process to analyze the elements and then create something amazing.

Year 8/9 News

April was a full month for the Year 8/9 learning community! We have done a sweeping exploration of costume design, theatrical make-up, and monologue writing and acting. We have completed our "Welcome to my World" learning contract and will be finishing the year with a visual arts, digital design contract, through which we will share inspiration and gratitude to the essential workers who strive to keep us safe each day.

Heading into May, all Year 8/9 students have transitioned to At-Home learning. Our thoughtful and resilient students are facing yet another big challenge the way we do best, by remaining creative and by leaning on the strength of our peers and teachers. We will come through this difficult year together.

In terms of core curriculum, Year 8 students will begin studying the fascinating history and culture of Japan. We will study light and optics in Science and geometry in math. Year 9 students will explore Canada's Youth Criminal Justice system and will have several guest speakers on the topic. In science and math, We will explore space and surface area. We are developing our skills to write a strong, 5-paragraph essay.

The weather is getting nicer, and as the grass greens and trees leaf out, we feel hope. One of our hopes is that in-person students will be back together before the end of the year and we will head into June with a strong sense of Belonging and able to celebrate a safe Year 9 graduation.

May at a Glance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Day 1	4 Day 2	5 Day 3	6 Day 4	7 Day 5	8
9	10 Day 6	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 3	14 Day 4	15
16	17 Day 5	18 Day 6	19 Day 1	20 Day 2	21 Staff PD Year 9 Grad	22
23	24 Stat Holiday	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 5	28 Day 6	29
30	31 Day 1					



CAA Spotlight

MSA Science Fair

Congratulations to the Year 9 and Year 10 students who submitted their recent science projects to the MSA Virtual Science Fair. The Year 9 students created projects related to the Biological Diversity unit and the Year 10 students created projects related to their Physics unit. There were many incredible submissions! We are so proud of everyone for taking the risk to enter and share their hard work.

Those who entered received valuable feedback from current medical students at the University of Alberta as well as the chance to win prizes and awards in various categories. I am happy to announce that between the Year 9 & Year 10 students, we received a total of 5 awards including Best Study, Best Experiment, Best Presentation, Best Medical Study, and Best Water Related Project.

Math League Contest

Congratulations to the Year 8 students who participated in the CNML Math contest on February 25, 2021.

They placed in the top 5 for participating schools. Well done!



HIGH SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT NEWS

Term Two | Issue 9 | Date: May 2021



WHAT'S UP?

Physical Education- Students have been working on indoor/outdoor games and they are creating personal workout plans. – Mr. C. Lapointe

Academic Bullets:

Math- 10C Students have finished their Polynomials unit and are entering the world of Relations and Functions. Everyone demonstrates independence in sorting out the most information in our very lengthy workbook. **10-3** Students have finished studying Unit Conversions and are beginning to learn about Angles and Parallel Lines. Their project for this unit will be drawing a perspective diagram. – Ms. K. Den Hoed

Science- Students completed their Physics Unit and are learning about scientific discoveries, organelles and plant cells. Students have been hands-on in the lab creating their own microscope slides and examining them under microscopes. In the next month we are looking forward to diving into a Biology project before preparing for our end of the year exam. – Ms. M. Leung

Humanities- In social studies students are exploring the impacts of colonization on Canada's First Nations. In ELA 10-1, students are focusing on personal responses and source analysis to non-fiction. – Ms. M. Billington

Drama Option

Year 10 students have been adapting and changing to the needs for our Outsider's Production. They have learned the greaser and working on the Oklahoma dialect. – Ms. S. Murphy



CALM

Students are working on financial literacy. We have discussed income tax and practiced completing tax forms. We will also be talking about banking and investments, saving money, interest charges and credit. To complete the unit, we will focus on fraud and protecting ourselves financially.

The Book Drive is under way! Year 10 students organized each stage of their project from visiting the Little Red Reading House, creating advertisements, decorating collection boxes to creating a video to encourage donations. Due to students switching to online learning, the date has been extended to May 25th. – Ms. J. Schiffner



Important Dates

May 21st PD Day (no classes)
May 24th Victoria Day (no classes)

Final Exam Schedule

June 10 Social 10-1 Part A
 June 14 ELA 10-1 Part A
 June 17 ELA 10-1 Part B
 June 18 Social 10-1 Part B
 June 22 Science 10
 June 23 Math 10C and 10-3

Students will remain at school after their exams as they are reviewing for their next exam or are working on independent projects for extra credit.