

# CALGARY ARTS ACADEMY

May 2013

Newsletter

[www.calgaryartsacademy.com](http://www.calgaryartsacademy.com)

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YOUR ONLINE REGISTRATION?  
[FZ.CALGARYARTSACADEMY.COM](mailto:FZ.CALGARYARTSACADEMY.COM)  
QUESTIONS?  
[KLOFTUS@CALGARYARTSACADEMY.COM](mailto:KLOFTUS@CALGARYARTSACADEMY.COM)

## APRIL DRAMA CAMP

During April Break, nine students braved the wind to come to Drama Camp with Ms. Allen. It was held in the Dance Studio at the Glenmeadows Elementary School campus. Throughout the week, the students exercised their bodies, voices and imaginations. Group Building/Cooperative games were a fun way to start each day and wake up the creative juices. They developed characters based on physicality, as well from costume choices. Exploring movement, voices and personality were also part of inventing new characters. The students improvised scenes with each other, sharing their enthusiasm and creativity. Opting to write their own play, they cooperatively created a story plan, chose characters, brought in costumes and props and staged the show. They wrote and rehearsed it throughout the week and presented it to their parents and Student Care on the final afternoon. The students decided to make their play a movie, so they filmed on location in the field, the playground and the compound over a few sessions. Despite the windy weather, the filming was complete and it is currently being edited. It was a fun, exciting and very busy week. Thanks to everyone who participated!

- Ms. L. Allen

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*On May 4, an amazing group of parents got together to revitalize the gardens at the Glenmeadows Elementary School Campus.*



### **Glenmeadows Revitalization Project**

On May 4th, an amazing group of parent volunteers from both campuses came together to help revitalize the garden space at the Glenmeadows Elementary School campus. Under the guidance of one of our CAA parents, Lisa Baptie, who is a permaculture designer, the garden space was transformed to create a more sustainable natural space for students to use. Volunteers learned how to create more water efficient gardens and gained tips to use in their garden spaces to mimic the natural world. The improvements that have occurred in the garden include; redesigned beds that allow for better flow and more seating in the garden. Swales were dug under the pathways to allow the ground to retain rainwater and help keep the soil moist in the garden. Three wicking beds have

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## Kindergarten News

Kindergarten students are busy preparing for their Showcase, *The Story of Kindergarten*. They have worked hard to create a dance, two puppet plays, art work and songs that will take you on a journey through their year! Specific information regarding the Showcase has been sent home via e-mail as well as with your children in their agendas.

Later in the month, we will continue to learn about the communities we live in. Students will be involved in a project that will allow them to work collaboratively with their classes to create a large-scale 3D community that will be on display in the hallways of the school.

As the weather continues to improve, please ensure your child has appropriate clothing to be outside on the playground as well as for Gym classes. Making sure they have running shoes, hats and light jackets will ensure their safety and comfort. Also, should you want your child to wear sunscreen during these activities, please ensure it is applied prior to arriving at school.

- Ms. D. Rose

## Division One News

This month, Division One is working with Mr. Riley and Mr. Cam. Students will be investigating magnetism through Drama with Mr. Riley and will be song writing with Mr. Cam about the prairies. In Music with Ms. Lyons, student will discover that sound can be organized into patterns and can help them predict and understand how music is composed. They will create and perform their own rhythm compositions. Students will continue to work on musical

terminology and notation through singing, moving and playing instruments.

We will be participating in a field trip to the Calgary International Children's Festival on May 23rd to see the performance of *Pinocchio*. We will have the opportunity to view the life cycles of ducks, butterflies and bees as we raise these animals and insects this month and in June. We have begun growing our vegetable seedlings for the garden, and we will be planning them in the new wicking beds that have now been installed in the garden. On May 9th, Calgary will be celebrating *Arbour Day*. As part of the celebration, each Year 1 student will receive a tree to plant. Once you receive your tree please visit <http://plant-for-the-planet.org> to register your tree. Your child can help children from around the world reach the goal of planting 14 billion trees.

- Ms. S. Wilkinson Blanc

## Division Two News

Before the April break, Division Two did some amazing model work with a professional model maker. To integrate the Social Studies and Math curriculums, Year 3 students built scale models of the Taj Mahal out of paper and styrofoam and Berber Granaries in Tunisia out of clay. Year 4 students made class collaborative scale models of our school campus. This month we have a professional visual artist visiting us and he will be using several different mediums, to study fractions. Division Two students will be going on a

- Ms. S. Wilkinson Blanc



Parents help revitalize the Glenmeadows garden - May 4

## Glenmeadows Gardens - continued

been added to the front of the garden to be used to grow vegetables. These raised beds have a water reservoir in the bottom that allows the plants to be watered from below. This stimulates the plants roots to grow downwards creating a stronger plant. All the beds have now been sheet mulched, this helps amend the existing soil and reduce water evaporation. Fruit bushes and trees have been planted around the perimeter of the garden to create more shade in the garden and to provide food for students. We have installed a rainwater collection system that includes a large water tote and two rain barrels to collect water that will be used for the garden. A huge thank you goes out to all the parents and students who helped with this community building project that will benefit the students of CAA for years to come.

field trip to the Science Centre at the end of May. Stay tuned for more info and permission forms. The Year 3 writing PAT is on May 14th. Please ensure your child is on time that morning and well fed.

- Ms. N. Williams

## Division Three News

April was a fabulous month filled with engaging Arts Immersion projects. Year 6 students dramatized the parts of an airplane using their bodies while also building and testing their own gliders. Year 5 students learned about immigration in Canada through folk dances.

In May, Division Three students will be going on field trips to gather some hands-on experiences with the Science curriculum. On May 29th, Year 6 students will go to Fish Creek Park with Mr. Lindsay as their nature guide. They will study local trees and forests for their final Science unit. Year 5 students are going to the Telus World of Science on May 22nd. They will participate in hands-on experiments to complete their study of Electricity and Magnetism.

Year 6 students write their first Provincial Achievement Test on Wednesday, May 15th at 9:00am. They are encouraged to have a healthy snack and a good night's rest.

- Mrs. L. Twa

## Division Four News

In Social Studies, Year 8 students are exploring the isolation and adaptation of Japan by comparing and contrasting the Edo and Meiji Periods. They will begin their unit by studying the technique of Sumi and by creating Japanese ink paintings using Sumi techniques.

Year 7 students will be analyzing different building techniques and materials while studying their unit on Structures and Forces in Science class. The unit will culminate with a building competition in which they will design cars or bridges in teams.

- Ms. M. Billington

## Badminton News

Congratulations to the students that attended the C.A.A.A. Badminton tournament on April 30th at the Sunridge Badminton Centre. All our players worked hard and represented Calgary Arts Academy in the finest form. Thank you to our volunteers: Coach David Sojer, Dean Kalmer, and Shawn Miner.

Kudos to the badminton team:

Thompson K., Carter W., Beau M., Josh C., Ciaran V., Tristan P., Kari K., Polina O., Rachel S., Jaiden H., Rebecca M., and Ben S.

Special mention goes to the girls' doubles team of Rachel and Jaiden. In order to include all the year 7s in the tournament, those two offered to play as year 8 students. Not only did they come home with a bronze medal, but exemplified generosity in the finest form!

- Ms. D. Anderson

## Workshops in May

Brought to you by  
CAA School Council

**May 8 - GirlPower  
Workshops (cancelled)**

**May 14 - Home Alone  
Safety Course,**  
Glenmeadows Elementary  
School Campus, 3:30pm to  
5:30pm. Cost \$20.00 per  
student. Register at [http://  
caa.registrationnow.net](http://caa.registrationnow.net)

**May 21 - Red Cross  
Babysitting Training,** Knob  
Hill Middle School campus,  
9:00am to 4:00pm. Cost  
\$48.00 per student.  
Register at [http://  
caa.registrationnow.net](http://caa.registrationnow.net)

**May 23 - Parent Education  
Workshop "Kids and Drugs:  
A Parent's Guide to  
Prevention"** presented by  
Alberta Health Services,  
Knob Hill Middle School  
campus, 7:00 to 9:00pm.  
Register at [http://  
caa.registrationnow.net](http://caa.registrationnow.net)



## School Council News

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered for our Casino on April 17 and 18. It was a huge success, and some feedback from our advisors was that we have an absolutely AMAZING volunteer base who did an incredible job throughout the duration of the event. We hope you all had fun, and again, we cannot do these fundraisers without you. I just want to emphasize that as volunteers, you are fantastic, and because of that, it makes it a whole lot easier to enhance our students' education with the funds raised from the casino and other fundraisers throughout the year.

### School Council Opportunities

As the 2012-2013 school year nears a close, we are busy planning for the upcoming school year. As such, we are currently seeking new parents to join our dynamic group - we have several positions available and we sincerely hope that you will consider offering your talents and time. No previous CAA School Council experience is required and new parents to CAA are also welcome. Please contact council at [council@calgaryartsacademy.com](mailto:council@calgaryartsacademy.com)

Available positions:

- Vice-Chair/Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Fundraising Coordinator
- Gaming & Casino Coordinator
- Director, Governance & Bylaws
- Coordinator - Parent & Student Workshops

- Parent Resources Researcher
- Special Lunch Assistants (one per campus)

Whether you decide to take on a position or not, please remember that, as a parent, you are always welcome to attend our meetings. Our next meeting is at 7:00pm on Wednesday, June 5th at the Glenmeadows Elementary School campus.

### Personalize Your Items and Support Our School (Mabels Labels)

Tired of losing your child's clothing, containers and water bottles? Now you can shop for waterproof, dishwasher safe, microwave safe, customized labels while supporting the school!

All you need to do is visit [www.calgaryarts.mabelslabels.com](http://www.calgaryarts.mabelslabels.com) and shop! A portion of the proceeds of each sale will come back to School Council Society to support school initiatives.

Make sure to use our unique web address when shopping at the site and encourage family and friends to do so also.

## What's for Dinner? Spring Fundraiser

Make spring and summer dinners easier and support CAA by participating in our Spring Fundraiser. Spolumbo's Sausages, Simple Simons Pies and In-dey-go Cookie and Muffin Dough.

Place your order at: <http://caa.fundraiserorders.com>

### Community Events Community Outreach Parent Resources

See the school's website for useful information:

Parent Resources - see the "Students & Parents / Useful Documents" section.

Seminars - see the "Students & Parents / Community Outreach" section.

Arts Related Activities - see the "Students & Parents / Community Outreach" section.

May 2013



## Kids' Health

### ***Ensure playgrounds are safe places to play***

Kids love playgrounds, and they can be part of a healthy, active lifestyle. But playgrounds are also places where children can get hurt. You can help make sure the playground is a safe place for your child by...

#### **Checking your child**

- Clothing can get trapped in equipment and strangle a child. Remove drawstrings and other cords from clothing.
- Children should not wear bicycle helmets while they are on equipment.
- Do not use skipping ropes while on playground equipment.

#### **Supervising your child**

- Stay close to your child.
- Be sure children younger than five years old are supervised by an adult at all times.
- Ensure that your child uses the equipment safely and correctly.
- Teach your child to watch for other children and to take turns on equipment.

Encourage children to use playground equipment that fits their age and stage of development. Pre-school age children and elementary school age children need different types of equipment.

#### **Getting involved in your community**

Communities should ensure that their local public playgrounds meet Canadian standards. For more information contact [www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

#### **How can you do this?**

- Ensure that the necessary changes are made so that the playground is safe.
- Keep the playground equipment, surface and grounds in good shape and clean.
- Report any injuries to the playground operator (the municipality, school, child care facility, etc).

**Source:** *Safe Kids Canada*

### **Reducing food allergy risks ...**

Sharing meals is often one of the highlights of a holiday or special event. Here are some tips to reduce food allergy risks at events:

- **Be prepared.** Find out ahead of time if there will be any guests who have food allergies. Try your best to serve foods that all guests can eat. This may be much easier than making special dishes for those with allergies. For example, if one of your guests is allergic to peanuts, plan to serve peanut-free foods to all your guests.

- **Know your food ingredients.** A child or parent with allergies may ask about the ingredients in your homemade food item. Make sure you can provide a list of everything you have included in your food, even spices. For packaged items, refer to the ingredients list or contact the manufacturer if you have questions. Ingredients in packaged products can change, so check the label each time you serve a food item. Keep in mind that foods normally packaged in a nut free facility may have "holiday versions" (such as candies made with seasonal colours) that are packaged in a different facility and may contain nuts.

- **Avoid cross-contamination.** Cross-contamination happens when an allergic food is spread to other foods utensils or counter tops. It can easily happen when making foods at home. For example, someone might bake nut-free cookies and pack them in a container that was not washed thoroughly after being used for cookies with nuts. If you are serving a special food to guests with allergies, be sure to keep it in its own container, rather than serving it on a tray of mixed items.

For more information, contact your local public health centre or visit:

- **Health Canada – Food Allergies and Intolerances:** [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/allerg/index-eng.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/allerg/index-eng.php).
- **Anaphylaxis Canada:** [www.anaphylaxis.ca/](http://www.anaphylaxis.ca/)
- **Allergy Safe Communities:** [www.allergysafecommunities.ca](http://www.allergysafecommunities.ca)



*Make sure you have a list of ingredients ready for every home-made food item.*

For more information about the above, or any other health-related topic, please visit [www.albertahealthservices.ca](http://www.albertahealthservices.ca)

[kidshealthnewsletter@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:kidshealthnewsletter@albertahealthservices.ca)

MAY 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Day 4	2 Day 5	3 Day 6	4 GM Garden Day
5	6 Day 1	7 Day 2 Class/team photos, both campuses. School Council Meeting	8 Day 3 Special lunch (Pita Pit)	9 Day 4	10 Day 5	11
12	13 Day 6	14 Day 1 Home Alone Course	15 Day 2 Kindergarten Showcase	16 Day 3	17 Day 4	18
19	20 Victoria Day No classes	21 Staff PD No classes Babysitting Course	22 Day 5 Special lunch (Panago)	23 Day 6 Parent workshop	24 Day 1	25
26	27 Day 2	28 Day 3	29 Day 4	30 Day 5	31 Day 6	