

# The Art of Learning

think and wonder      wonder and think



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### In this Issue

Fair Trade School, 1  
Division News, 2  
Healthy Children, 6  
Healthy Teens, 7

## CAA is a Fair Trade School

Calgary Arts Academy is pleased to become the first public school in Calgary to achieve a Fair Trade School designation.

Facilitated by Mr. Rasporich, a group of Calgary Arts Academy students – the Fair Trade Steering Committee – researched Fair Trade and prepared and submitted a proposal for their school to be awarded this designation. A school campaign was launched and included posters, presentations and a variety of activities, all with the goal to educate students and staff about Fair Trade and to gain support for their application.

On April 12, 2017, they received the Fair Trade Designation.

### 2017-2018 Calendar

Click here to view  
next year's calendar

### 2017-2018 Registration

Log into Family  
Zone to register for  
the 17-18 school  
year.



## Division One News

### Kindergarten and Year 1

Division 1 is excited to announce a fresh new batch of Kindies ready to perform in their very first Show Case at CAA! On May 11th, come and enjoy the magical world of fairy tales, as the Kindies perform original and student-created scenes. You will laugh, maybe cry, and definitely be amazed by the passion and excitement in these young performers.

During the month of May, both the Kindies and Year 1 students are beginning a new learning contract titled *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. This contract is all about animals around the world. We are delighted to welcome our visual artist, Lori Kearney, back into our classrooms for this learning contract, as she will provide several enriched science lessons about colour and will also guide lessons about the seven Ojibway spirit animals.

Each of the Kindie and Year 1 classrooms will be transformed into a different animal habitat and region during this contract. During MACRO times, the students will be divided into five groups that include both Kindies and Year 1 students. Within these groups, they will rotate between classrooms as they engage in different experiences and art forms about each habitat. We are eager to see how the Year 1 students will step up in the role as leaders during this time. We are also excited about the opportunity for the Kindies to spend more time with the older students at CAA.

With several upcoming projects, the month of May is going to fly by! We will make pet rocks



to be used as math manipulatives, engage in African dance, create Ted Harrison inspired pop-up art, practice map-making skills, develop Eric Carlson inspired tissue art, build our own Banff National Park inspired board games, and participate in the active learning environment of Granary Road during a field trip.

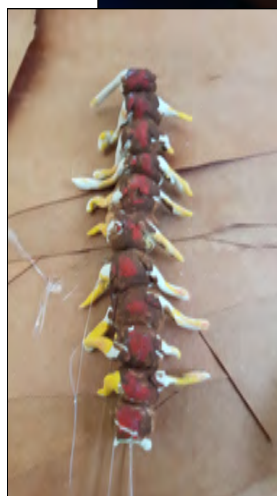
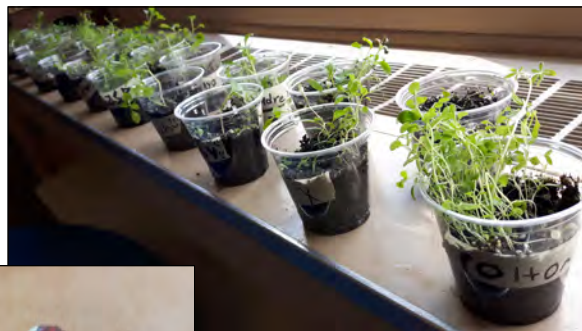




## Year 2/3 News

We started the month of April having a good time splashing around at Killarney pool during our swimming lessons. The newness of the season was embraced with our Spring Fling learning contract. We are busy planting, observing and measuring the growth of our class wildflowers, which taught us first hand that indoor plants need soil, sun, water, air, nutrients and care. We discussed the current threats pollinators, such as bees, are facing. We will make a difference by taking the flowers home in May and transferring them to an outside pot or garden. The life cycles of the frog, chicken and butterfly will culminate in the care and study of our newly arrived painted lady butterfly larvae. The release of the butterflies in late spring will also be connected to the importance of pollinators for our food supply. Resident artist, Ms. Kearney explored and studied ecosystems and the food chain with us by constructing 3D models of the forest floor and pond life. Groups of producers, consumers and decomposers were assigned to create a sculpture of our researched organism using medium such as paper, foil, tape and/or modelling clay. Ms. Kearney will be taking the finished pieces and displaying them at our

school booth in the BMO Centre during the Calgary Stampede this summer.



### CONGRATULATIONS SILAS!

Congratulations to Silas Bujak in Ms. Billington's class. He won the Think Globally Art Contest that Ms. Kearney organized and facilitated. He has an all expense paid trip to travel to Edmonton to meet Alberta Premiere Rachel Notley and Education Minister David Eggen. His original artwork will be hung in the Alberta Legislature Building during Education Week May 1 to 5th. We look forward to hearing about his trip and seeing his photo ops!



## Year 4/5 News

April was an exciting month in the 4/5 team. We finally finished our CAA TV projects which led to an afternoon of popcorn and treats as we viewed our creations together. Programming ideas ranged from cooking shows, to science specials, sitcoms, reality tv, police and courtroom dramas plus our very own "Wipeout" featuring Donald Trump and a big blue wall. We have topped it all off with a trip to CTV news channel to see a news broadcast in action.

We are currently finishing up our poems for the Lieutenant Governor's poetry contest. We have chosen between rhyming couplets and Haikus to create original works about a famous Canadian.

The big news in 4/5 land surrounds our final project of the year. Students will be producing a student created musical about the Bluenose and will present it near the end of June. Preparations are underway and editions will be help in the second week of May. This production will include the areas of acting, directing, stage management, music, dance, design and front of house/marketing for the students to understand what it takes to mount a show from the bottom up.

A few other exciting things to look forward to this month will be a visit from owls in the classroom and an opportunity for the students to dissect their pellets which should offer up some interesting treasures. Information with regards to the June trip to Camp Kiwanis for our year fours will be on its way to families shortly.

As we enter into the last two months of school, we look forward to being part of the continued growth of our amazing 4/5 team!



### Badminton

Badminton finals were on Friday and all the players played great! Keegan and Sayia took home bronze in the mixed doubles competition. All the players showed great sportsmanship and represented CAA admirably. We are looking forward to next year! Thank you to Sayia's mom for volunteering at the tournament and to Colin Ellice for driving the players to and fro.





## Year 6/7 News

Our Heritage Crime Scene project was a huge success and we were thrilled to share our set designs with each other! We had a ton of fun searching out evidence, interrogating suspects and solving mysteries.

This month we turn our focus inward with a self-reflective sculpture project. We will create a metaphor to represent the biggest lesson we learned this year. From this metaphor, we will be creating individual sculptures out of found materials and objects around the Knob Hill campus. We are in the design stage of this project and are creating thoughtful, and profoundly inspiring designs. The final stage of this project will be to display these art pieces and share them with our community.

## Year 8/9 News

After celebrating the achievements during of our Vertigo process, we are focusing on the school's theme of Think and Wonder, Wonder and Think. We are creating a Wunderreise - a wonder journey. This is an artwork that serves as an interactive compendium of your experiences with wonder. The journey that you take your viewer on can take many forms, using a variety of artistic media, technology and performance. All of this comes together to share our experiences of Wonder with others and connect those experiences to our year at Calgary Arts Academy. Year 8 students are wondering how many ridiculous, roundabout ways one can build a machine to perform a simple task. Inspired by the cartoons of Rube Goldberg, we will work collaboratively to incorporate simple machines, chance and probability and design thinking to create our own Rube Goldberg machines. Year 9 students

are wondering about energy consumption during a project called NRG & U. We are learning about phantom power and how unplugging things not in use can help save money and the environment. We are exploring both Science and Math concepts to guide our explorations.

In Year 9 Social Studies, we completed the first part of our marketplace series by creating Fair Trade and pure profit products, attended by Sean McHugh, the executive director of Fair Trade Canada. We will follow-up with a Dragon's Den-style role play to pitch our products to angel investors.

Also, Year 9 students will visit the court house on May 15 to see the justice system in action, and possibly engage in long-form improv 'fairytale court.'

In Year 8, we will be working with STEAM researchers from the University of Calgary to explore sustainable fantasy villages and constructed languages as a way to approach learning to code, the science behind sustainability and historical views of past civilizations. We will be looking at the works of Marc Okrand (Klingon and Atlantean) and David J. Peterson (Dothraki, Nav'i) as inspiration.



Year 8/9 students presented their amazing show "The Dock Supervisor" to an enthusiastic audience on April 12 and 13





## Backyard Safety



As the warmer weather nears, so do long hours of afterschool and weekend outdoor play! The summer is a great time for your kids to enjoy playing outdoors with family and friends. It is during this time that new friendships are formed, new skills and activities are learned and life-long memories are made. This is also a time during which kids are faced with some dangerous risks related to the outdoors. This sounds scary, but many of these risks are predictable and injury is preventable. Many kids spend their time playing in the backyard. Here are some potential hazards and ways to prevent injury from them.

**BBQ's** – Children are attracted to fire, and summer brings an increase in burn injuries from outdoor grills. Always supervise your children around a BBQ that is on and never let them operate a BBQ.

**Pools** – Most pool drowning or near drowning incidents involve home pools and most victims are under the age of four. Always supervise your children when they are playing in or near the pool. Remember to empty the water or cover your pool after each use.

**Trampolines** – Falls from play equipment are the leading cause of injury in backyards. Many of these falls are from backyard trampolines. Almost all trampoline-related injuries to children involve backyard trampolines. Supervision by adults and trampoline nets are not enough to

prevent these serious trampoline injuries to children. The Canadian Paediatric Society, the Canadian Academy of Sports Medicine and Parachute Canada recommend that children and youth do not use backyard trampolines.

Proper supervision and awareness of hazards will help reduce the risk of injury to children in their own or in someone else's backyard, allowing you to enjoy safe and active time outdoors! For more information on backyard safety, visit:

[www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/home-safety-play-time#sthash.cZUtME54.dpuf](http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/home-safety-play-time#sthash.cZUtME54.dpuf)

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/Pages/trampoline-safety.aspx>

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/alberta/Pages/backyard-safety-for-children.aspx>

## Ways to Build Your Child's Confidence

As a parent or caregiver, you play the greatest role in nurturing your child's self-image. Influences such as the child's academic and athletic ability, teachers, or peers affect how your child may feel about him or herself. You can help your child feel more confident by doing and saying things that will strengthen their own feelings of self-worth.

Providing encouragement and support helps to strengthen your child's confidence. This is something almost all parents do instinctively from the time their children are babies by praising them for their first steps or applauding their first word. As your child grows older you may sometimes find more to criticize than to praise. It's easy to forget that children need praise and encouragement at every stage of development.

Children need to know that they are loved and appreciated, no matter what may happen in the world around them. For example, when there are troubles in the family children might think they have somehow caused the problems. You can help your child build a stronger sense of self-worth by assuring them that adult problems are not their fault, and by telling them often that you love them.

Children who know they are loved and who have a strong sense of their value as individuals have a better chance of leading happy and fulfilling lives. Children who feel neglected, unloved or insecure know something is missing from their lives and may try to fill that emptiness by turning to alcohol or other drugs when they are older. By showing your love and encouragement every day, you're building your child's sense of identity and self-worth. Your child will be better equipped to cope with challenges they encounter and are more likely to make healthy choices in the future.

## Concussion Prevention



Concussion is a common sport-related injury that occurs during hockey, football, snowboarding and skateboarding. A concussion is a brain injury that occurs when the brain suddenly shifts inside the skull and knocks against the skull's surface. It may be caused by a direct or indirect hit to the head or body.

After suffering a concussion, a person can experience many different symptoms. These may include, headache, ringing in the ears, nausea and /or vomiting, disorientation, emotional and personality changes, dizziness, poor balance and/or coordination, poor concentration, light sensitivity, irritability, fatigue and sleep complications. In order to reduce the risk of a concussion, encourage your teen to take the **smart risk** approach and **look first** when engaging in a risky activity, such as contact sports. Preparation, good sportsmanship and fair play all help to reduce the risk of injury, including concussion.

Teens should also **wear the gear**, such as a helmet that fits correctly and is secured on the head throughout the sport. In high-impact sports such as hockey, teens should wear a face and mouth guard. Finally, always replace your teen's helmet after impact or as instructed by the manufacturer.

In order to manage a concussion, encourage your teen to take the **smart risk** approach and **seek help** from a coach, teacher or parent immediately after an injury has occurred. Consult a physician immediately after being notified of an injury in order to determine if a concussion has occurred. Finally, ensure that your teen does not return to activity or play until it has been approved by their doctor. For more information on concussion prevention visit:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/injprev/Page4938.aspx>  
<http://www.sportmedab.ca/alberta-health-services-capital-health>

## Talking to Your Teen About Alcohol

Inviting conversations about alcohol can help give teens the support and guidance they need to make healthy decisions. That being said, talking to your teen about alcohol can be challenging and it may be hard to know where to start. Before you broach the topic it is important to remember that children tend to mimic the behaviour of those they love and admire, especially that of their parents. It's likely that your drinking habits are the ones your child will adopt later on. If drinking while dining is a part of your life, your child will grow up assuming that this kind of drinking is the norm. If you abstain from drinking, or if you drink moderately, your choice will set an example for your child. On the other hand, if your own drinking is excessive, your child will learn from that choice too.

When starting a conversation it may be helpful to:

- Be concise and objective when explaining the facts about alcohol and discussing the pros and cons of alcohol use.
- Phrase your questions in a way that require more than a one word answer.
- Encourage questions.
- Expect that you'll be asked about your own drinking and experiences.

For more information about how to talk to your teen about alcohol, please refer to the AHS resource titled *Talk to Your Children About Alcohol* (<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/edu/if-hp-edu-amh-talk-to-your-children.pdf>) If you think your teen is drinking, take action to monitor them more carefully and don't be afraid to ask for help if you are unable to communicate, or if you feel like you are losing control of the situation.

For individuals looking for information or support the AHS Addiction Helpline is available 24/7 at 1-866-332-2322.