

The Art of Learning

Inspiring Innovation

In this issue

From the Principal, 1
 Knob Hill News, 2
 Kindy / Year 1 News, 2
 Year 2/3 News, 4
 Knob Hill Traffic Safety, 4
 Year 4/5 News, 5
 Year 6/7 News, 6
 Year 8/9 News, 6
 School Council, 7
 Links:
 CASSA, 8
 AHS, 8

PAT Dates

May 11 - LA Part A (Year 6 & 9)
 June 19 - Science (Year 6 & 9)
 June 22 - LA Part B (Year 6 & 9)
 June 25 - Social (Year 6 & 9)
 June 27 - Math (Year 6 & 9)

Coming up

Year 2/3 Showcase - Feb 6/7
 CAA Casino - Feb 12/13
 School Council Meeting - Feb 13
 Year 6/7 Showcase - Feb 14/15
 Sign Painting Night - Feb 15
 Year 8/9 Theme Park - Feb 16
 Feb Break - Feb 19-23
 Staff PD - Feb 26



Year 2/3 Showcase
 February 6 and 7, 2018



Year 6/7 Showcase
 February 14 and 15, 2018

From the Principal

As school administrators, educators and caregivers of children, we do a lot of thinking about ensuring our students are successful. When it comes to student success, we need to think about how we define success. Of course we commit to all students' academic success. We also want all students to succeed in other realms, such as socially, emotionally and out in the community. When we think of how we want success for the whole child, there are countless definitions that are appropriate and relevant when we consider a student's educational experience. But what does success mean?

"... what does success mean?"

I recently read a blog post by George Couros that encapsulated what Calgary Arts Academy strives to accomplish. Couros points out that it is often deemed that success in school is related to how a student compares to others. Students are not empowered when we focus on being successful based on other people's

KNOB HILL CAMPUS

Taking Care of our Young Learners

Kimberly Hoey
Rhonda Morrison
-Administrators

In Gratitude

Thank you to all of the Calgary Arts Academy families and staff for continuing to work diligently to create a warm, welcoming school. What a privilege it is to be administrators in service to a community committed to the unique mission to create a collaborative, democratic learning environment through Arts Immersion.

There is a buzz in the air around the building these days. It has been fun to watch the Year 2/3 showcases come to fruition as artists, teachers, parent volunteers and students all work together to create a unique showcase to share their learning in an engaging way. We look forward to seeing all their hard work in its entirety on February 6th and 7th, 2018 (details below).

Thank you for continuing to send your children dressed appropriately for our changing winter temperatures. Students will be outside during their lunch breaks if temperatures stay above -20 degrees Celsius with wind chill. We make the call

Continued on next page

standards. Really, success is accomplishing your goal. It may be a small goal or a big goal.

At Calgary Arts Academy, we challenge students to set goals for themselves. We empower them and encourage them to take the steps they need to take to be and feel successful. Students need to define what success means to them. What goals do they have for themselves? When we listen to children and support their growth, they will always surprise us. When families and school work together to support children's goals, we are setting these children up for success, not only in school but well into their lives.

- Ms. M. Stonehouse

Kindergarten / Year 1s are In-line

Kindergarten and Year 1 students skated into the new year – literally! We had the opportunity to learn how to in-line skate on rollerblades and impressed everyone when we got the hang of it



after the first lesson! This was the perfect way to start our Olympic Contract. We have been learning all about the Winter Olympics and are eagerly anticipating the 2018 Olympic Games. Year 1 students have been spending a lot of time outdoors creating colour and making ice. We've learned that the more

Knob Hill News (Continued from Page 2)

We make the call close to lunch hour during cold days and check Environment Canada for current statistics.

Spirit Committee Rocks!

In December, our young leaders in the Spirit FAMA group worked together to give back to our local community. They decorated and stuffed 100 paper snack bags for Calgary city students. The bags were donated to Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids which is an organization that works in partnership with Calgary schools to make and deliver free healthy snacks and lunches for students who would otherwise go hungry. It was a meaningful and engaging generosity project for us to participate in and we look forward to helping them out throughout the year.

Lockdown Practice

Just a reminder that we will have a lockdown practice at our campus on February 13th at 1:30 p.m. The Calgary Police Service will be on site to assist with the practice which will take about 20 minutes. During that time, phones will not be answered and there will not be access to the building. Thank you for your cooperation.

drops of food colouring – the darker the ice! We even had some of our ice turn black! We filled ice cubes with coloured water and let them freeze overnight. We made connections to Math when we used the coloured ice cubes to explore patterns and 2-D and 3-D shapes.

In Kindergarten and Year 1 Macro we've been playing and working hard! We have been developing our gross motor skills by playing a variety of outdoor games like curling. Through sport we are learning about skills that Olympic Athletes display everyday: motivation, leadership and cooperation.

In Hub Time with Ms. Billington, we have been working hard to learn the words to the Canadian Anthem. We have learned that Canada has two national languages and we are learning the words to O'Canada in French and English.

In January, we met worms that turn 'garbage' into 'gold!' We had Princess Dirt come to our school to teach us about the benefits of composting! She brought her worms and showed us how they help to break down food into soil. We learned what to feed them and how to take care of them. We were super surprised to find out that they enjoyed sweet food like pumpkins!



Knob Hill News (Continued from Page 3)

Year 2/3 Showcase Details

CAA's Year 2/3 Showcases will be held on Tuesday, February 6th and on Wednesday, February 7th at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Ranjene's and Ms. Dolen's classes will be performing on February 6th, and Ms. Lothbrook's and Ms. Connolly's classes will be performing on February 7th.

We are pleased to inform you that parking will be available for Knob Hill families at the Richmond Diagnostic Centre parking lots starting at 6:00 p.m. on the showcase evenings. This should help alleviate parking challenges. A huge thank you goes out to the Richmond Diagnostic administrative staff for generously allowing CAA to access their parking. The City of Calgary Parking Permits allotted to CAA will not be available for these evenings.

Roald Dahl in Year 2/3

We are so excited to be creating our Year 2/3 Showcases around Roald Dahl's work. Students are dancing, singing, acting and building our own curriculum experiences. As we transition from the classroom to the stage, we are already recognizing the benefits of the efforts we've made. Matter changes and 2-digit subtraction feature strongly in our day-to-day activities, as well as our regular literacy centers. See you at the performance! (see the left-hand column for more details.)



Knob Hill Safety

20 Avenue Traffic

Traffic during drop off and pick up times are a challenge to manage at all schools. CAA Knob Hill School has an even greater challenge because of the steep hill in front of the school. 20 Avenue is a narrow street and is especially tight when the buses are parked along the curb.

Please obey the traffic laws and no-parking signs near the school. U turns and jaywalking in the middle of the block are traffic offenses and put our students in jeopardy. Thank you for working together with us to ensure the safety of students.

Knob Hill Parking Permits

Knob Hill School now has 10 City of Calgary Parking Permits for visitors and volunteers. If you park in a "permit only" parking space on the street, please come to the office and bring your vehicle license plate number. Ms. Fischer will register you on-line for a permit which will allow your vehicle to be parked in a "permit only" zone in the neighbourhood. Please be aware that the parking passes apply to permit parking zones only, not to no-parking zones.

Year 4/5s are Settlers of Catan



Inspired by the board game, Settlers of Catan, the Year 4/5 team has begun an in-class “game” in which students earn points and collect resources to create fictional settlements and cover a wide variety of academic objectives. Over the course of this learning contract, we will engage in projects centred around the concept of building and maintaining a democratic society. In mentor groups, we move through our daily activities, earning in-game currency based on how well we have collectively met learning and behaviour expectations for the day. At our twice-weekly “Pod Parliament” meetings, Mentor Groups will then have a chance to strategize, build consensus and spend our earnings on resources to develop and advance our settlements. The decisions made at these meetings will directly impact the overarching narrative of this contract, and will be influenced by the knowledge and skills we have

gained by participating in workshops led by each of their facilitators. These workshops will include, but not be limited to: practicing procedural writing by creating “Settler Survival guides” in an app called Piktochart, learning about trading and personal banking while practicing addition and subtraction of decimals with money, building recycled instruments while exploring the sounds and musical styles from around the world, examining stories

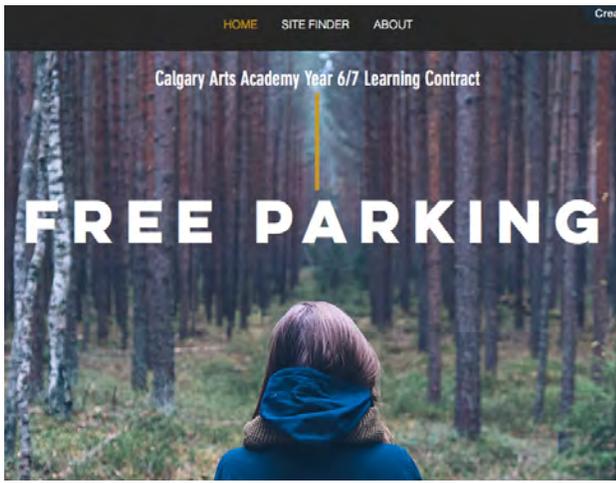
from the Underground Railroad and discussing issues of peace and freedom in connection to Black History Month, exploring air pollution and ocean pollution, and well as ways to prevent both including the creation of greenhouses, writing poetry about prominent Albertan agricultural pioneers, and participating in a novel study on the theme of colonization.



CAA Representatives were treated to an evening of music at the *Community Celebration Concert* on January 28, 2018, featuring The Chestermere High School Concert Band and the Centennial High School Wind Ensemble and, of course, the Calgary Stampede Showband. Well done, everyone!



Free Parking in Year 6/7



We have wrapped up our "Free Parking" website learning contract with pride. We dove into the art of website design and successfully shared our learning about Canadian history, ecosystems, and math with decimals. Parents are welcome to visit all the sites at <https://jeisen2.wixsite.com/mainpark>. We will be entering the Parks Canada Coolest School Trip contest with our incredible websites about Canadian National Parks and Historic Sites. Stay tuned to hear if we win!

As January drew to a close, we finally enjoyed getting to the dramatic conclusion of our novel, "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen. The novel proved to be a rich learning experience about language, plot, suspense and survival.

Showcase rehearsals are underway! We are learning about ancient Athens, the Red River Rebellion, Shakespeare, structures and forces, and fractions while creating hilarious one-act plays. Performances are February 14 and 15. Mark your calendars!

YEAR 8/9 THEME PARK

THEME PARK is an opportunity for us to explore our learning through the creation of an engaging interactive experience open to the entire school community. The design and construction of this theme park combines our use of Science, technology, engineering, arts and Mathematics with our innovative application of skills in the fine arts to expose theme park guests to a variety of activities including; personalized rides, carnival games, concessions as well as all the attractions and entertainment offered in theme parks the world over. This project presents us with hands-on learning experiences as well as opportunities for us to use the principles of construction and design to create novel ways of demonstrating and sharing our learning experiences. All of this will transform the Education Centre's campus gymnasium into a place where interaction with the student generated experiences was both engaging and approachable, while maintaining a deep inquiry into our own growth as artists and intellectuals.

The Theme Park operates from 10:30- 12:00 and 1:00-3:00 on Friday February 16th. All are welcome to the new and improved **HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH!**

School Council News

School Council has been busy this month organizing workshops and charitable drives.

We coordinated Princess Dirt to come to the Knob Hill campus to introduce the vermicomposting system to the Kindergarten to Year 3 students. A special thanks to Victoria D. and Ms. Billington for arranging this.

Our first charitable drive of 2018, The Souper Bowl Food Drive, ran during the week leading up to the Super Bowl. Thanks to everyone who donated food for the Calgary Food Bank. Stay tuned for our next charitable drive coming up in March for Brown Bagging For Calgary Kids.

And be sure to attend our monthly meetings to share your thoughts and ideas with us. Our next meeting is on February 13th, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Knob Hill Campus.



www.princessdirt.ca

Links



Calgary Arts Summer School Association is now taking registrations for their summer 2018 programs. Take advantage of special pricing by registering before February 22, 2018. [Click here for details.](#)

Healthy Children

February 2018 Parent Newsletter



Articles

Being Active Indoors – It is Possible!

Healthy Sleep – Is it time for a wake-up call?

Read Alberta Health Services' *Healthy Children* to find out how it's possible to be body active indoors. [Click here.](#)

Healthy Teens

February 2018 Parent Newsletter



Articles

Activity Trackers – Are they Useful?

Healthy Sleep: Is it Time for a Wake-up Call?

See Alberta Health Services' *Healthy Teens* to read about Activity Trackers. [Click here.](#)