

The Art of Learning

We all have a story to tell

STORYTELLERS

CAA Winter Celebration
Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
Friday, December 7, 2018

From the Principal

This year's Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium performance has all the makings for a magical evening celebrating student learning, school community and culture.

It is wonderful to have the entire community come together to enjoy great performances. I am truly looking forward to this year's Story Tellers: We all Have a Story to Tell.

The talent of our students across a variety of disciplines continues to astound and amaze me. Our students clearly have high expectations of themselves. The level of creativity in developing these performance pieces is exceedingly high. Our students consistently provide their input into the numbers and as a result develop exciting pieces that will certainly peek the interest of the audience. We are proud to have students who are passionate about Arts Immersion learning and performance!

What has stood out to me throughout the rehearsal process this year has been the incredible maturity and leadership capacity of our students. Typically, in productions of this magnitude, there is a great deal of



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intervention required from the adults. Our students successfully drove the process and they seldom required redirection. This is a testament to the high level of student leadership and engagement in the process of performing.

The rehearsal process has demonstrated clearly to me the personal growth, persistence, collaboration and creativity our students have developed. The level of growth we see in many students throughout this process is truly remarkable. Our participation in “Jube” is truly an intense learning experience that our students benefit from.

The Arts Immersion learning content of each piece is very clear. Watching the rehearsals through the lens of an educator is very exciting as it is apparent each group was focused on curricular objectives throughout the process of developing and performing the numbers. I believe an effective balance has been achieved where the collaborative process was an equal partnership between students and the adults they work with.

As the Principal, I am very proud of all the work that is going into making this show a reality and believe we will continue to see the benefits as our students grow and impact the world around them. We truly have a spirited, collaborative, and engaged group of leaders making up our student body.

Thank you all for your commitment to these ideals and your continued support of our community.

Happy Holidays.

Recognition

Check out the CAA mention in Downie & Wenjack Fund's “Legacy School Update - Nov 2018.”

[Click here to view.](#)



People's Champ



You say it takes a village? We can handle that.

Check out CAA Middle School's entry to CBC Music's Canadian Music Class Challenge. ([click here](#))



Knob Hill News

Knob Hill Safety

Did you know that it is not legal for school buses to back up? When families park in the “no parking” zone on the south side of 19 Avenue, it makes it extremely difficult for the buses to drive up the hill and park. Buses cannot back down the hill and at times there is no room for the bus to pass oncoming traffic. Please, please, please assist the bus drivers by not parking illegally on the south side of 19 Avenue. Your help is much appreciated!

Remembrance Day

Thank you for joining us for our Remembrance Day assembly. Special thanks to Chief Laurie VandeSchoot who worked with our wreath bearing students. She helped students to understand and appreciate the reason for their role during such an assembly.

Students took their job seriously and were respectful as they carried out their duty during the assembly. They marched the wreaths and paid respects to those who have lost their lives in conflict.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Thank you so very much to School Council and to all families who contributed to the Staff Appreciation Luncheon on November 23rd. All of the dishes were so delicious and it is such a treat for staff to enjoy a lunch break together. What a wonderful way to support staff and enhance the spirit of belonging at our Knob Hill Campus!

Spirit Club Updates

Thank you to those who participated in Twin

Day. Please know that this day is chosen by our Year 1 to 3 students in Spirit Club. They work together to brainstorm a list of events to raise school spirit and spread kindness in our community. Spirit Club students then have an opportunity to vote on their chosen event. Look for another exciting opportunity coming up in December.

Spirit Club is also busy working to design brown bags to pack with snack food and send off to Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids. We participated in this program last year and felt a real connection to the work that they do. They take the snacks we have packed and deliver them to children in need in various Calgary schools in the city. Giving back to our community sure helps to fill our buckets.

Another Spirit initiative is the mitten tree and sock box. Please donate new hats, mittens/gloves, and/or socks to hang on our mitten tree. All donations will be accepted until December 19th at which point they will be taken to Inn from the Cold. Thank you for your

support with this.

Jubilee Performance

Our Knob Hill Campus has been full of the energy that comes from preparing for the large Jubilee performance. We are also learning about the patience that comes from pursuing the spirits of mastery and independence through practice, practice and more practice. We know that the joy of performing on the big stage will be worth the effort and persistence. We look forward to dazzling you with our celebration of learning and performance at the Jubilee on Friday, December 7.

Alberta Dance Theatre (ADT)

Year 1 to 3 classes had the opportunity to attend this year’s dance creation by Alberta



Dance Theatre entitled “The League of Monsters”. The show explored the themes of acceptance and sustainability in a thought-provoking performance suitable for all ages. Our gratitude goes out to Ms. Leanne Kidd for bringing this opportunity to our students.

Season’s Greetings from Knob Hill staff and students! We wish you all of the joy and peace that can come from spending time with families and friends during the holiday season.

Kindergarten / Year 1 News

Jubilee, Jubilee, Jubilee! The Kindergarten and Year 1 team has been working very hard practicing our opening and closing song with Mr. Steven. As part of our performance, we have been rehearsing our creative movement pieces with Ms. Kidd and Mr. E. Each class has been learning about the true meaning and history of the 7 grandfather teachings. We can’t wait for you to finally see.

Year 1 students had the opportunity to witness a very special performance at Alberta Dance Theatre's League of Monsters. Alberta Dance Theatres brings another thought-provoking show, exploring ideas about acceptance and sustainability.



Year 2/3 News

November has been an exciting and busy month for the Year 2/3 Team.

We have been loving our exploration of all things monsters so much that we decided to combine some monster magic into our most recent contract about storytelling. To kick off our study of storytelling, we are putting our author hats on to create monster themed stories. We are working on peer editing, using descriptive language, and including punctuation in our writing.

This month we have been lucky enough to welcome not one, but two, community experts into our classrooms! Our first guest’s name is Brandon. Brandon is a fluvial geomorphologist with a specialization in architectural element analysis (pew, that’s a mouthful!). Brandon brought in lots of cool rock samples and told us all about his work in Fort McMurray. Our second special guest’s name is Jeff. Jeff is an urban planner that specializes in planning public skate parks, and urban community planning. Jeff talked to us about what we liked about our communities, and what we would change if we could. Then he helped us to plan our own cities, just like professional urban planners. Planning our own communities let us think about the ways that we interact with the natural environment, and the things that we value in our own community.

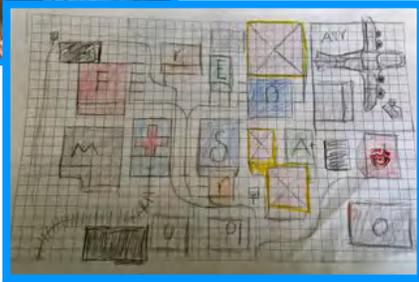
In addition to all of this amazing learning, we have been rehearsing our hearts out for Jubilee. We are doing an amazing job of learning our songs and choreography. We can’t wait for you to see all of our hard work in action. Speaking of amazing performances, we ended the month on a monstery note with a visit to Decidedly Jazz Danceworks to watch The League of Monsters. Huge thanks to Decidedly Jazz

Danceworks and ADT for providing us with the opportunity to see the show.



Brandon, a fluvial geomorphologist, visited us and told us of his work in Fort McMurray.

CAA students' community plan



Year 4/5 News

November was a rich and happy month in the 4/5 Pod. We dove headfirst into Jubilee rehearsals for our three pieces. We created our own dramatic tableaux and modern dance to explore the "Hero's Inner Journey", made comics and watercolour paintings about what we might be like as adults for "I Don't Want To Grow Up", and learned about Alberta's wetland ecosystems in order to create giant cardboard puzzle puppets for "The Exquisite Wild".

We have demonstrated so much resilience and persistence as they learned a great deal of choreography and rehearsed until the pieces were polished and ready for the Jubilee stage.

In November we also went on a fabulous field trip to see the Akram Khan Dance Company from the UK at the Bella Concert Hall. "Chotto Desh" was a masterful story told through dance, projections and narrative. It perfectly inspired our own storytelling-themed Jubilee performances.

We have been mastering the skills of subtraction and have used drama to create fun scenes about how to subtract across a zero.

A noteworthy moment in November was how expertly and respectfully the 4/5 students behaved during our first lockdown practice. Circle Meetings in November have focused on safety, generosity and friendship.

We are looking forward to Jubilee. Later in December, we will dive into some creative writing inspired by a book by Tania Dufault called "The Nameless Girl and the Lost Prince". The author of this book will pay us a visit on December 19!

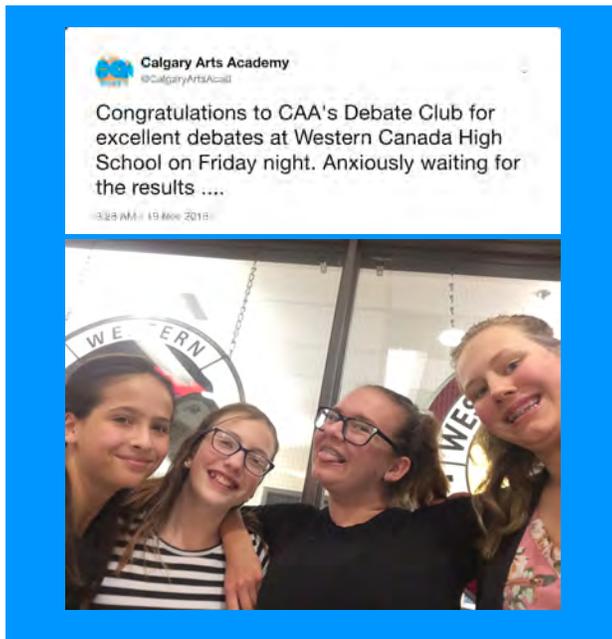
Year 4/5 students design the sets for their Jubilee



Debate Club

The Year 7-9 CAA Debate Club had an exciting month in November. Two teams competed at the Western Canada High School Impromptu Tournament about Democracy on November 16. They both represented CAA with confidence and skill.

Students in our club have been learning the art of Canadian National Style debate. Debaters combine the skills of persuasive public speaking and logical argumentation to battle each other in a war of



wits and words.

Regular meetings of the Debate Club are Mondays at lunch and Tuesdays after school in December. In January, our after school meetings will move to Thursdays.

Year 6/7 News

Year 6/7 students have been reading the graphic novel Fahrenheit 451! We chose this novel as it relates to the Jubilee theme of storytelling and we decided to explore what it would be like to live in a world without stories or, in this case, books. We have been engaging with big, abstract concepts and following our own thought processes to reach personal conclusions about the significance of story in our society. We've been working with visual artist, Carl White, to learn about Encaustic Painting, which is painting with coloured beeswax. We are using old books as the foundation for our art pieces and building our pieces in three parts. So far, we've completed part one. The goal of part one is to reflect how censorship can impact our understanding of truth!

Year 7 students have been working hard at putting together our Jubilee piece. We've been analyzing the song REDACTED, by REDACTED. It's been an interesting blend of combining the elements of a story, historical encounters, and math ideas. Below are a few pictures of what's going on to give you a sneak peek.



Year 8/9 News

November was an enriching and busy month in the 8/9 Pod. Still reeling from a very successful production of "The Tragedy of the Sith's Revenge", we hurdled headlong into the storytelling collective creative process of Jubilee. Drawing upon the influence of common plot elements found in cross-cultural folk lore, myths, and fantasy/science fiction, we crafted a spectacular epic fit for the ages. We explored the mysteries of sky science and mechanical systems, examined how the exchange of ideas and knowledge shaped democracy and the worldview of the Western world, and scrutinized circle properties and 3D polygons. We look forward to fulfilling our venerable vision on stage in what will be a bitter-sweet final Jubilee performance for the Year 9 students.

We also participated in the Try-a-Trade event at the Career and Technology Centre. From welding to cosmetology, we were given a taste of what the trades have to offer.

Circle Meetings in November focused on

positively coping with stress, and making wise learning choices that prevent self-sabotaging thoughts and behaviours.

Research in Action!

Over the past three months, a selection of Year 8 and 9 students have volunteered their time to become involved with a research study in partnership with Mr. H. Campbell from the University of Calgary. The eight students who choose to become involved explored the research question: What is it like to experience literacy within a theatrical space?

What this looked like in practice was a one-on-one interview with the research team, a series of reflective journals, the creation of a monologue, and a performance night which is up and coming. As the research developed, students became better able to articulate what they believed literacy to be, where they saw literacy within their learning at school, and how the unique Arts Immersion approach used at CAA helped to enrich their learning.

The monologues, which are scheduled to be performed on December 13th to an audience invited by the students, personify the essence of literacy for each individual student involved. Students are exploring literacy as: freedom, unveiling, understanding, ambition, hope, connection, trust, and speech. Different monologues involve elements of 3D modelling and projection, dance choreography, live painting, tableaux, original song composition, ventriloquism, and more.

The truly unique and inspirational work done by the students in this study will not only help to them to better understand their own literacy learning and advocate for the CAA community but also will serve to expand the dialogue around literacy education in Alberta as a whole. This research would not have been possible without the amazing support of CAA and the entire research team is incredibly grateful to be able to have been a part of the community this term!



Our Pumas athletes concluded a successful volleyball season in November. We battled hard throughout the past few months and celebrated our season with a team windup game at the school. A big thank you goes out to Christina and Paul Marlett, Ms. Conrad, and Mr. Lewis for all of their coaching efforts this season. Additionally, thank you to all parents who volunteered to transport players to and from games, score-keep when needed, and cheer on our athletes. Our boys team was also chosen by the league as the 'Most Sportsmanlike' team in their division. Congrats to all athletes!

The Pumas basketball season begins with regular season games in early December! Our girls team is set to host the first two games of the regular season (December 4th and 11th), followed by our boys team hosting in the new year (January 10th and 15th). Come cheer our athletes on! All home games will take place at 4 :00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at our Education Centre campus. Ms. Moore, Ms. Barnfather, and Mr. McCafferty are excited for what the season will bring!

Coming Up ...

December 2018						
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30	31					

January 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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27	28	29	30	31		

Links

[2018-2019 CAA School Calendar](#)

[Alberta Health's Healthy Children](#)

[Alberta Health's Healthy Teens](#)

December 7 - Jubilee Production
 December 20 to January 4 - Winter Break
 December 31 - Deadline to submit sibling application
 January 31 - Fourth installment of bus payment due

See the latest "What's Happening" and "CAA School Council Update" for details of other events.

Sibling Registration

Does your CAA student have a sibling that wants to attend our school for the 2019-2020 school year? If so, please submit an application with supporting materials by January 31, 2019. Full application details can be found on the school's website under ["For Parents / Registration."](#)



*Have a wonderful holiday season!
 See you all next year!*