

# The Art of Learning



## Message from Administration

September has gone by in a flash! While we may miss the warmer weather and longer days of summer, the change in season always brings new energy and excitement. Many of our teams are wrapping up their first learning contracts of the year. Feedback will be shared with parents/guardians soon regarding student learning throughout this contract.

We would like to thank all those families who joined us in person on September 19 and 20 for Meet the Teacher conferences! It was great to meet you one-on-one, and set goals for your child's learning this year.

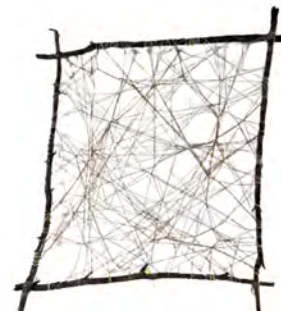
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### *Message from Administration continued.*

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was on Monday, September 30, 2024. As school was not in session on that day, CAA observed Truth and Reconciliation (colloquially known as Orange Shirt Day) on Friday, September 27, 2024. At the Rosscarrock and Knob Hill campuses, the students and community gathered together for an assembly. We welcomed current school parents, Kyle Agapi and Nevada Ouellette as guest speakers who taught us about Indigenous ways of knowing and shared their cultural celebrations and traditions. We are grateful for their passionate teachings and motivating presentation which inspired reflection, participation, and connection.

Kyle Agapi belongs to the Blackfoot Confederacy (Niitsitapi) and is a dancer and educator committed to honouring Indigenous culture. He was joined by Nevada Ouellette (BHSC., M.Ed) who is a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and currently lives in Mohkinstsis. Nevada proudly embraces her mixed ancestry (Eastern European, Ojibway, Cree & Métis) and is a respected ceremonialist, jingle dancer and old-style fancy dancer. At the Rosscarrock campus, their son also participated in the teachings and performed a grass dance for our students.



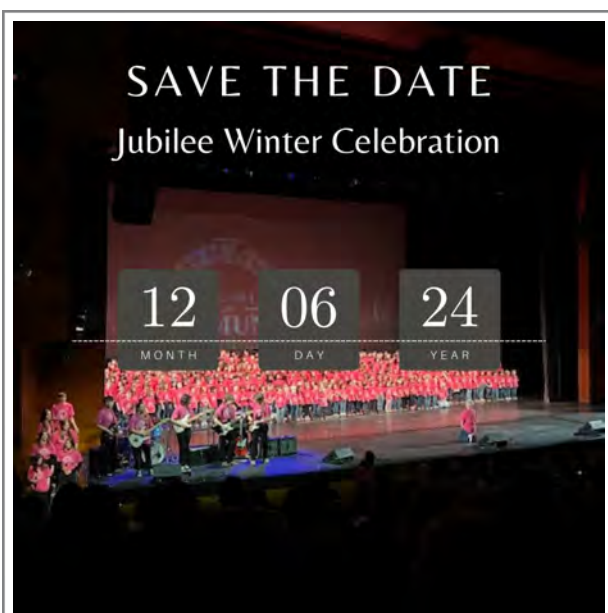
High school students at the Erickson Centre gathered in homeroom groupings and engaged in circle meeting conversations and activities honouring reconciliation. High school students will continue to explore what reconciliation means to them and how they can engage in acts of truth and reconciliation through their own artistic expression, through developing relationships with impactful community members, and through reflecting on how they can shape and lead their own communities as young leaders. CAA's commitment to fulfilling the 94 Calls to Action is a year-round responsibility, and marking this day is an important piece of that priority.

*Message from Administration Continued.*

We are excited to continue nurturing our partnership with Contemporary Calgary which provided unique and enriching opportunities for many of our students and staff last year. We are working alongside them as they develop their educational programming and all K to 12 students will visit the gallery at some point this year. The Year 6 to 9 students will be visiting in October and will see the Ghosts of Canoe Lake exhibit by Marcel Dzama. This exhibit explores themes of landscapes drawn from Canadian art history, as well as the blurred relationships between the real and the subconscious.

We will continue to share Developmental Assets with our community, students and staff. The Asset of the Month for October is Support. We will be focusing on this particular asset in school through conversations, activities, and strategic circle meeting topics. Please watch your email for more information.

Please note that there will be no classes on October 21, as staff will be participating in Professional Development activities. We will be using the morning to kick off planning for



the annual winter celebration at the Jubilee Auditorium on December 6 and to finalize plans for our Thrive Wellness Days at the Field Experience Centre. We are excited for this camp opportunity and look forward to sharing details with our community soon.

A reminder that schools will be closed for our October break from October 14 to 18, 2024.

We hope that you have a wonderful, colourful and thankful October!



## Kindergarten/Year 1 News

In Kindergarten and Year 1, we have been actively engaged in our first Learning Contract "Our First Rodeo," which focuses on valuing ourselves and others as unique individuals. We are exploring our community to discover how a sense of belonging shapes our identity. We are understanding ourselves as unique individuals through creating self-portraits and sharing our "All About Me" projects.

Additionally, we are learning not only how to write our names, but also the significance and meaning behind them. In true rodeo spirit, we have explored the outdoors through community nature walks and nature scavenger hunts, learning about plants native to Alberta and the environments that support them.

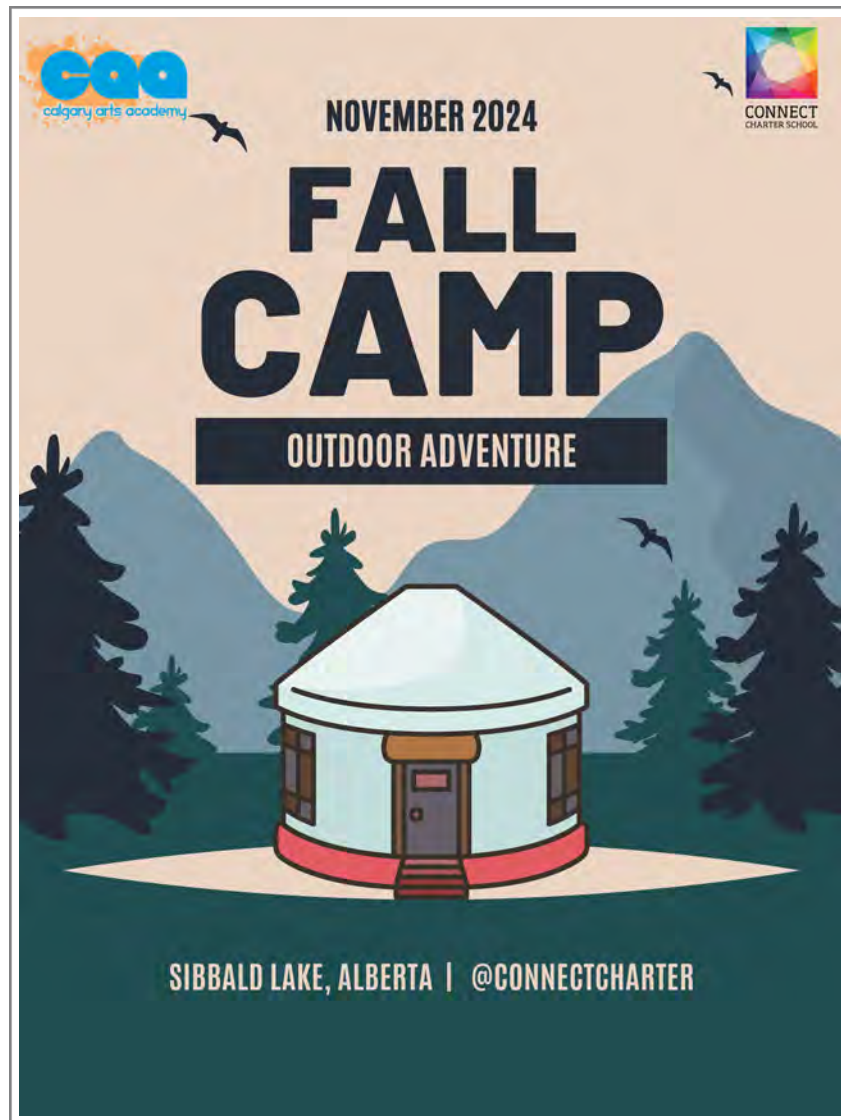
We are gaining a deeper understanding of our responsibility to the environment and Indigenous ways of knowing through participating in the Truth and Reconciliation ceremony and activities. Reading books celebrating the changes of seasons as we move into Fall, and participating in sit spot activities, further enhances this awareness.



## Knob Hill Halloween Dance

School Council is excited to host the Knob Hill Halloween Dance on Friday, October 25 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

We will need volunteers to help make this event a success! Please email [council@caaschool.com](mailto:council@caaschool.com) or visit our link tree if you are able to help!



We look forward to providing a fall camp experience at Camp Connect in Kananaskis as part of our mental wellness and arts programming. These trips provide students with opportunities to build positive social relationships, gain confidence and resilience, while engaging in arts and curricular connections. This November camp experience builds on the THRIVE programming offered to students in Kindergarten to Year 12 during the 2023/24 school year. Students in Kindergarten to Year 3 will participate in a day trip at camp. Students in Year 4 to 12 will participate in an overnight, two-day experience.

Watch your email for more information!

## Year 2/3 News

In Year 2/3 we have been busy exploring our "Tales from Around the World" Learning Contract. To prepare for our showcases, we engaged in a variety of learning experiences! We have explored Ukrainian, Peruvian, Indian, and Tunisian communities by learning about their celebrations, traditions, and stories. We "fractured" these tales to include new details we learned about each country. In Math, we brought these tales to life by using 2D and 3D shapes to create sets! We measured the sets using non-standard and standard measurements, and we created costumes to represent the characters in our stories. After learning about Ukraine, Peru, India, and Tunisia, we engaged with creating artwork from each country. In Literacy, we have been exploring connections in reading, the science of a sentence, and sequencing stories by creating stories based on fun, visual prompts. In Science and Art, we explored sound waves visually by observing paint dancing on a speaker! We are so excited to share our learning at the showcases on October 9 and 10!



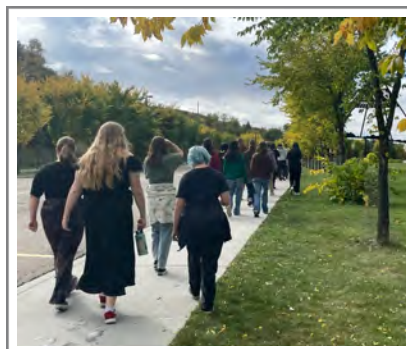
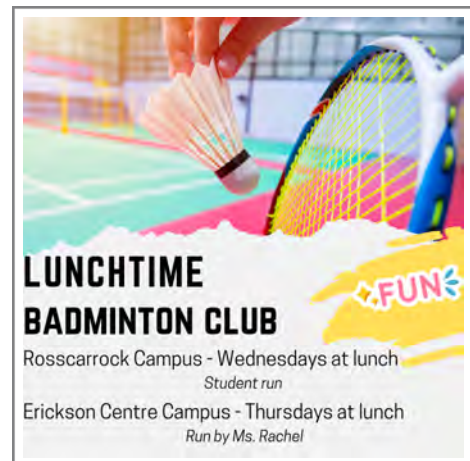


## Athletics Update

The start of the new school year has brought a lot of excitement to athletics at Calgary Arts Academy! The Cross-Country running season was a great success, with several students earning ribbons in their races. Meanwhile, the volleyball season will kick off with the first tournament held at the Volleymine on October 3. Both the Boys' Team, featuring many first year players, and the Girls' Team, aiming to defend their title as division champions, are displaying remarkable grit and resilience. We look forward to cheering on our teams in their tournaments throughout the month.

Students in Year 4 to 9 have been actively involved in soccer and football. After the October break, we will move indoors to begin our volleyball unit.

Beyond extracurricular athletics, students from all campuses participated in the Terry Fox Run on September 26 to honour the life and legacy Terry Fox and raise money for cancer research. Knob Hill students joined with Rossarrock students to participate in multi-aging activities where they learned more about Terry Fox and buddied up to run around the school field. At the Erickson Centre, students ran for Terry Fox at the Elbow River Camp. Students were engaged and enthusiastic, and many could personally connect to stories where cancer impacted their own lives and loved ones. They leaned into generosity and compassion. Donations are being accepted until October 14. For those who are able to contribute to our fundraising campaign, please visit <https://schools.terryfox.ca/71989>



## Year 4/5 News



In Social Studies, we are exploring the fascinating world of early explorers and the early development of Canada. In Science, we are investigating lift and buoyancy through hands-on experiments that bring these concepts to life. Additionally, our "Curiosity Carrots" project encouraged us to cultivate curiosity by asking questions and exploring our interests further. This initiative will culminate in a personal passion project, where we will be able to research and share what inspires us. We have been integrating design thinking through dance and movement, where we creatively express ideas and learn to problem-solve in innovative ways.

## Artist Update

In Year 6/7 Visual Arts with Ms. Christy, we have been exploring the theme of identity through engaging and creative projects. We began by studying Canadian artist Deb Weiers, using mixed media techniques to create expressive portraits that incorporate figurative poetry. This work will lead into the creation of our own wire self-portrait sculptures, allowing us to express our identities in three-dimensional form using continuous and contour lines.

Meanwhile, in the intermediate options class, the rich tradition of Indigenous beadwork is being explored. We are busy





### Artist Update Continued.



designing our own patterns and are currently working on looms to bring our creations to life. Following this, we will design Spirit panels that reflect our personal interpretations of human rights. Through the design process, we will meaningfully engage with and reflect on these important themes.

Both of these projects offer the opportunity for self-expression and cultural appreciation, helping us develop a multifaceted understanding of identity through diverse artistic practices.

### CAA Adult Choir

**Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy music, laughter and having fun?  
Come and join our Calgary Arts Academy Adult Choir! We are a  
non-auditioned ensemble that sings a wide variety of music.**



**<https://www.caaschool.com/caa-adult-choir>**

## Rosscarrock Halloween Dance



## School Photo Retakes

School photo retakes is Wednesday, October 23, 2024 for all Kindergarten to Year 12 students.

To order school photos, go to [lifetouch.ca](https://lifetouch.ca)

Order photos using the Portrait ID and Access Code or your student's ASN.



## Year 6/7 News

Over the past month, we have been immersed in a wide range of creative and academic activities. Kicking off the year, we created personalized Circle of Courage vinyl records, followed by self-portraits inspired by Canadian artist Deb Weir. We delved into contour line art, all under the guidance of Ms. Christy. To further support and enhance learning at home, we are excited to start working on our weekly math and reading logs.

Beyond the artistic realm, we were proud to participate in the Terry Fox Run, mentoring our younger peers, and fostering community connections while raising awareness for cancer research.

An impactful assembly recognizing Truth & Reconciliation on September 27, featured traditional dance and storytelling, led by a CAA student and their family.

We were excited to visit the new exhibition, Ghosts of Canoe Lake, by Marcel Dzama, at Contemporary Calgary. After touring the exhibit, we had the opportunity to participate in a hands-on sculpture activity inspired by the artworks.



## Year 8/9 News

In Year 8/9, we started the exciting exploration of storied metamorphosis and are fine tuning our skills through creating work that likens the creations of Winnie Truong.

Through our stop motion video project, we have been exploring the art of videography. We are developing our creativity in unique ways using simple materials such as pen, paper, and iPads.

In Year 8 Science, we are exploring the fascinating world of cells and systems and in Year 9 Science we have been diving into the world of biological diversity. In Year 8 Social Studies we are immersed in learning about the rich culture and history of Japan, while in Year 9, we are delving into the intricacies of the Canadian political system.



### Year 8/9 News Continued.

The concepts of art, story, and the hidden world of science all combine beautifully to encompass our overall theme of *Storied Metamorphosis*, and we cannot wait for the culmination that showcases the stories of a world unseen!



### High School News



September was a month full of community events. We were invited to participate in the United Way Basic Needs Round-Up on September 17. Our dancers performed on stage, while our visual artists facilitated an interactive workshop involving oil paints. On September 26, we enjoyed a beautiful day by walking and running in Terry Fox's honour to raise money for cancer research. On September 27 we gathered in our homeroom groups to reflect and participate in acts of Reconciliation through various projects and activities to honour the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

### High School News Continued.

In Language Arts classes, we demonstrated the spirit of belonging by inviting our peers and staff to watch our performance of the French Revolution. We had the opportunity to re-write and perform musicals that aligned with the events of the French Revolution. There was singing, music, theatre tech, and a lot of laughter!



## High School Student Showcase

Show your school what you have been working on! It could be music, dance, visual art, writing or anything else! Hosted by Student Council

**Friday, October 11, 2024**

Interested in joining Student Council? We meet Wednesdays at Lunch in Pod 2.

Take on a leadership role in planning:

Spirit Weeks

School Dances

Movie Nights

Community building activities

Bake sales and fundraising for a cause

Volunteering at our other campuses

Tours for high school info nights

And more!

## Calendar

|  <b>October 2024</b> |  |  |   |  |  |           |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|-----------|
| Sunday  | Monday                                       | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|   |  | Day 5<br><b>1</b>  | Day 1<br>Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)<br><b>2</b>   | Day 2<br>Yr 6 Contemporary<br>Calgary Field Trip<br><b>3</b>                                 | Day 3<br><b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b>  | Day 4<br>HS Goat Yoga<br><b>7</b>            | Day 5<br>School Council - AGM<br><b>8</b>                  | Day 1<br>Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)<br>Yr 2/3 Showcase @ 6:30 p.m.<br>Yr 8 Contemporary<br>Calgary Field Trip<br><b>9</b> | Day 2<br>Yr 2/3 Showcase @ 6:30 p.m.<br>Yr 7 Contemporary<br>Calgary Field Trip<br><b>10</b> | Day 3<br>HS Student Council<br>Showcase & Pizza Lunch<br><b>11</b> | <b>12</b> |
| <b>13</b>   | Thanksgiving Day -<br>No School<br><b>14</b> | Fall Break - No School<br><b>15</b>                        | Fall Break - No School<br><b>16</b>   | Fall Break - No School<br><b>17</b>  | Fall Break - No School<br><b>18</b>                                | <b>19</b> |
| <b>20</b>   | PD Day - No Classes<br><b>21</b>             | Day 4<br>CAAS Board Meeting<br><b>22</b>                   | Day 5<br>School Photo Retakes<br>Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)<br>Yr 11 Field Trip to Military<br>Museum<br><b>23</b>        | Day 1<br>Yr 9 Contemporary<br>Calgary Field Trip<br><b>24</b>                                | Day 2<br>KH Halloween Dance<br>4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.<br><b>25</b> | <b>26</b> |
| <b>27</b>   | Day 3<br><b>28</b>                           | Day 4<br>Girls' Volleyball Team<br>Tournament<br><b>29</b> | Day 5<br>Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)<br>Boys' Volleyball Team<br>Tournament<br>RC Halloween Dance 4-7p.m.<br><b>30</b>     | Day 1<br><b>31</b>   | Day 2<br><b>01-Nov</b>   |           |

## Links

[Calendar](#)

[Family Zone](#)

[Record Your Volunteer Hours](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA Adult Choir](#)

