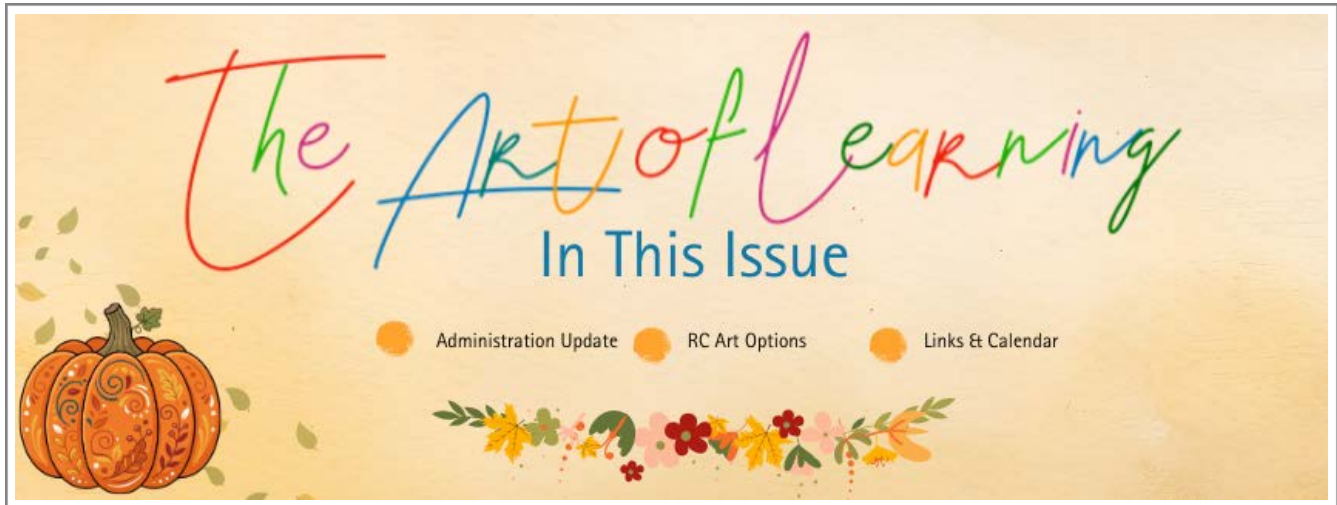




## Message from Administration

As the autumn colours begin to emerge, our campuses continue to be filled with joyful learning and connection. September was truly a wonderful start to the school year, with students immersed in their first learning contract, exploring artistic experiences, and building meaningful relationships within our school community. Together, students and staff have been building a strong foundation for learning that will support growth, achievement and success throughout the year.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our School Councils and parent volunteers for hosting another fantastic Pancake Breakfast. A special shout out goes to the Knob Hill School Council for their leadership and organization of the event. Even the rainy weather could not dampen the spirit of the morning. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for families, students, and staff to connect and strengthen the sense of belonging that makes our community so special.

In October, our K to 9 teams will be completing their first learning contracts of the school year. Families can expect feedback regarding student learning and growth throughout this contract in the coming weeks.

We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to all the families who joined us for our Meet the Team evenings, as well as our first round of Learner Profile Conferences on September 17 and 18. These opportunities to connect, share insights, and collaboratively set goals for student learning are an important part of building successful relationships between home and school. We deeply value working together with families to support each child's growth and development throughout the year.



Calgary Arts Academy hosted our annual Terry Fox Run to honour the life and legacy of Canadian hero Terry Fox, while raising funds for cancer research. On September 21, High school students took on the Terry Fox Run, Amazing Race style!

On September 24, Knob Hill students joined their peers at the Rosscarrock Campus, participating in multi-aging activities. Together, they learned more about Terry Fox and buddied up to run laps around the Rosscarrock school field in honour of his legacy.

Our community is very generous. In total, we raised \$2,226.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research, exceeding our goal this year by over \$400!

We are so proud of everyone and feel very grateful!

### *Message from Administration continued.*

September provided several important opportunities for learning, reflection, and generosity in service of others. Among these were our annual Terry Fox Run and activities recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Schools were closed on September 30, as we observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Throughout the week of September 28, students across all campuses participated in assemblies, learning activities, classroom discussions, and circle meetings focused on truth, reconciliation, and Indigenous perspectives.

We were honoured to welcome guests Julius Hirsch, a Calgary Arts Academy alumnus, Blackfoot dancer, and historian, along with Tyson Lee Storm, a Blackfoot musician and justice worker.



Julius and a group of Year 8/9 students raised a niitoyis (tipi) and all students and staff participated in a round dance at the end of the day.

Through artistic expression and collaborative learning, students explored the importance of reconciliation and our collective responsibility to continue this work. At Calgary Arts Academy, our commitment to honouring and advancing the Calls to Action extends far beyond a single day and remains an important focus throughout the school year.



### *Message from Administration continued.*

Please note that there will be no classes during fall break from October 9 to 18, 2026. There are also no classes on October 23, as staff will be participating in the bi-annual Charter School Conference as part of their ongoing professional learning.

On September 23, Knob Hill celebrated our first Rose Ceremony of the school year. During this special tradition, Year 3 students welcomed their kindergarten buddies to the CAA community, by sharing a red rose and offering a pearl of wisdom. We were delighted to see so many parents join us for this meaningful event.

Students in Years 1-3 have been participating in provincial numeracy and literacy assessments. Families will receive information about their child's results from their homeroom teacher prior to November parent conferences.

We are also excited to share that our Book Fair was a tremendous success. Thanks to the support of families, sales exceeded \$5,500, generating more than \$1,200 for library resources and literacy initiatives. A special thank you to Ms. Lisa for coordinating this event and helping bring even more books and learning resources to our students.

Teaching teams have resumed sharing snapshots of classroom learning through private CAA Instagram accounts. Families can access account information through their teachers' weekly communications and enjoy regular glimpses into the learning, creativity, and growth taking place in classrooms throughout the year.

As school routines become more established, we would like to thank families for their ongoing support in helping keep arrival and dismissal times safe and efficient. A reminder that the staff parking lot is not available for student drop-off or pick-up after 8:00 a.m. and the adjacent areas to the parking lot are designated bus zones between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

### *Message from Administration continued.*

At Rosscarrock, several lunchtime clubs are underway including Perler bead club, Choir club, Student Council and Volleyball club, with Debate club set to begin in October. Students have also participated in the first Fine Arts and Math Multi-aging (FAMMA) session of the year, combining drama and mathematics in a collaborative learning experience. In athletics, our cross-country team represented the school with enthusiasm and determination at their races, while volleyball teams have begun preparing for the season ahead. Go, Pumas!

We are excited to cheer on our Girls' Volleyball Team as they participate in the Calgary Alternative High School Sports League. We encourage students and families to come out and support our athletes at both home and away games. Please refer to the weekly *What's Happening* newsletter for game dates, times, and locations. A special thank you to Ms. Sarah Humphrey for sharing her time, energy and expertise as coach.

Families are also invited to follow the Erickson Centre on Instagram at @caaschool10\_12, where we showcase the learning, creativity and community that make our high school unique. From student artwork and special projects to everyday moments of Artfully Joyful learning, there is always something to celebrate.

Student technology has now been distributed to all learners. As a reminder, Year 10 students are required to store their devices at the Erickson Centre overnight, while Year 11 and 12 students may take their computers home. Thank you for supporting students in the responsible use and care of their technology.

As we continue embracing this year's theme of Artful Joy, we remain inspired by the creativity, resilience, and kindness we see throughout our community each day. Joy grows when we learn together and support one another through both challenges and celebrations. Thank you for your continued partnership as we work to provide meaningful and engaging learning experiences for all students.

The Calgary Arts Academy Administration Team

Sarah Birch (*Principal, Knob Hill*)

Kimberly Hoey (*Principal, Rosscarrock*)

Juleta Severson-Baker (*Assistant Principal, Rosscarrock*)

Amanda Bonnell (*Assistant Principal, Erickson Centre*)

## Kindergarten/Year 1 News

We have been working so hard on our first Learning Contract, *Joy Rocks!* Over the past few weeks, we have been discovering what brings us joy and how we can create and share joy together. Through our Arts Immersion experiences, we have been exploring belonging, connection, collaboration, and generosity while building relationships and becoming a strong classroom community.

With our Dance Artist, Ms. Jen, we have been moving, connecting, and collaborating through joyful movement experiences. With our Visual Artist, Ms. Naomi, we have been expressing our ideas through colourful Joy Creatures and Joy Rocks, representing the people, places, and experiences that bring us happiness.

September also gave us many opportunities to connect beyond our classrooms. We participated in the Terry Fox Run at the Rosscarrock Campus, helping to raise funds while learning about Terry's commitment to helping others. We also honoured the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation through learning and reflection. In Kindergarten, we celebrated an extra-special milestone during the annual Rose Ceremony, where we were warmly welcomed into our school community by our Year 3 buddies.



We are so proud of the kindness, enthusiasm, and sense of community already shown this year. We cannot wait to continue learning, growing and spreading joy throughout our school community!

## 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.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Elementary School Campus Knob Hill.



Visit our website at [www.caaschool.com/caa-adult-choir](http://www.caaschool.com/caa-adult-choir) for more information.

## Year 2/3 News

September flew by as we stepped into the roles of explorers, scientists, artists, and performers.

This month, we came together as a community for two meaningful events. We ran our hearts out during the Terry Fox Run at the Rosscarrock Campus, and we recognized Orange Shirt Day as we reflected on Indigenous history, reconciliation, and the important message that Every Child Matters.



We began exploring Alberta's six UNESCO World Heritage Sites, learning about the people, plants, animals, and landscapes that make our province unique. We learned about the history of the Confluence, marvelled at the Aurora Borealis, and searched for 2D and 3D shapes in the world around us.

We have been incredibly fortunate to work alongside our talented artists Ms. Naomi, Ms. Jen, and Mr. Ed! Together, we have been busy creating, rehearsing, and preparing for our upcoming Aliens in Alberta Showcase. Through our research, creativity and hard work, we are

building an exciting performance and cannot wait to share everything we have learned with you!

## Year 4/5 News

September was a busy and exciting month in Year 4/5. We spent time getting to know one another, building strong classroom communities, and settling into our routines and expectations. We also unleashed our creativity through a variety of art and design challenges.

One of our favourite projects was creating marble runs using only masking tape and paper on up-ended tables, combining both math and science curriculum. It took lots of teamwork, creativity and problem-solving to design runs that would keep our marbles moving from start to finish.



We are also looking forward to our upcoming Fun House at Rosscarrock School, an interactive exhibit that classes will walk through and experience. As part of this interdisciplinary project, Year 5 students are designing original gliders to explore experimental flight, while Year 4 students are creating parachutes to investigate gravity and how to slow the fall of an object. This is just the tip of the iceberg! We will also be creating space inspired paintings and Social Studies propaganda posters.

The Fun House is a playful and imaginative journey of self-discovery, creativity, and expression. It is a place where perspectives can shift, things may not quite be what they seem and where we are encouraged to see ourselves and the world around us in new and unexpected ways. Through artistic exploration, creative challenges, collaboration, and skill development, we are discovering that learning can be both meaningful and a lot of fun!

## Year 6/7 News

This September, we have been busy exploring, creating and discovering new connections in our learning!

In Science, we took our learning outdoors and turned the schoolyard into a living laboratory. As Year 6 students, we investigated ecosystems by sharpening our observation skills and learning how small details can reveal important relationships between living and non-living things. We explored how factors such as water, sunlight, and soil support life in different habitats and considered how changes in one part of an ecosystem can affect the whole system.



In Year 7, we examined the relationships between organisms, their environments and human activity. Through detailed observations, food chains and food webs, we traced the flow of energy through ecosystems and explored how changes to populations or human actions can create ripple effects throughout nature.

In Year 6 Social Studies, we have been learning about democracy and the many ways citizens can participate in decision making. In Year 7, we have been exploring the rich history, culture and contributions of the Mi'kmaq as part of our study of the diverse Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

During contract artist time, we have begun assembling our own instruments and field journals while strengthening our procedural writing skills. As we build, we are carefully documenting each step, recording observations and reflecting on our learning, helping us develop both our communication and scientific thinking skills.

We are proud of the creativity, curiosity and critical thinking we have demonstrated so far and look forward to sharing more of our learning adventures in the months ahead!



## Year 6 to 9 Options

### Year 6 to 9 Hip Hop - Mr. King

In Mr. King's Hip Hop option, students have kicked off the term by learning the foundations of shuffle dancing. Through engaging choreography and skill-building activities, they are developing rhythm, balance, coordination, and footwork. As students practice a variety of shuffle dance techniques, they are building confidence, precisions and muscle memory while expressing themselves through movement.

### Year 6 to 9 Music - Mr. Thorson

Students have begun the term by establishing strong rehearsal routines, setting ensemble expectations, and developing both individual and group goals. As part of this process, students are helping shape their learning by identifying songs and performance opportunities they would like to work toward throughout the term.

We are also excited to announce CAA's return to the CBC Canadian Music Class Challenge! This nationwide initiative provides students with the opportunities to collaborate, create and celebrate music-making alongside classrooms across Canada.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks as we share our song selections, progress, and ways families can support their young musicians in this exciting experience!

### Year 8 to 9 Comic Creation - Ms. Lothbrook

Students are developing original characters with unique personalities, motivations, and relationships while exploring how strong character development helps create engaging stories. Through expressive illustrations, dynamic comic panels, and visual storytelling techniques, they are bringing their ideas to life in creative and meaningful ways.

As the term progresses, students will combine their skills in character design, illustration, sequencing, and storytelling to create their own original comics, complete with memorable characters and compelling narratives to create an unforgettable story!



## *Year 6 to 9 Options continued.*

### **Year 6 to 9 Mixed Media/Visual Arts - Ms. Christy**

In Visual Arts, students have begun exploring the art of lino cutting and printmaking. Students started by creating their own original designs before carefully transferring them onto lino blocks. They are now learning the lino-cutting process, working with patience, precision, and attention to detail as they carve their designs.

This is just the beginning of a larger printmaking project, where these individual designs will become part of a bigger picture. We are excited to move into the printing process and see students' designs come to life through ink, repetition, and experimentation!

### **Year 7 Musical Theatre - Mr. Massey**

Students are building a strong foundation in body awareness, breath connection, and healthy vocal production through a variety of technical exercises. They are putting these developing skills into practice through a group performance of "Seasons of Love" from the musical *Rent*.

The goal for the first term is to develop the vocal knowledge, technique, and confidence students need to take on solo and small-group performances in the second term.



## **Exclusive Alberta Ballet Discount for Our Community**

We are pleased to offer our CAA families and staff community 15% off tickets to any Alberta Ballet performance!

This exclusive discount is available to our community and is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy live dance and support the local arts community.

Use our exclusive link to access the 15% discount:

[Alberta Ballet Community Discount](#)

## Year 8/9 News

We had an exciting and creative start to the school year as we jumped into our first Learning Contract, *Made Up*. Through this theme, we are exploring the many pieces that shape people, ideas, systems, stories, and the world around us. Across all of our subjects, we have been looking closely at how individual parts come together to create something larger, and how understanding those parts can change the way we see the whole.

Working alongside Visual Artist, Ms. Christy, we are discovering how art can tell a story while also revealing something about the artist, their experiences, and identity.



We each selected a well-known artwork and transformed it into a larger-than-life pixelated cross-stitch design. As we enlarge our images, we are applying mathematical concepts including perfect squares, square roots, the Pythagorean Theorem, scale, and ratio. Our finished pieces will become part of a collaborative gallery installation that connects art, storytelling, mathematics, and traditional textile techniques.

Our classroom learning has connected to the Made Up theme from many different angles. In Year Science 8, we have been conducting hands-on investigations into matter, mixtures and adaptations through labs. In Year 8 Math, we are using the Pythagorean Theorem to create a Wheel of Theodorus that will become a mathematical work of art. In Year 9 Science, we explored camouflage and adaptation by investigating how and why butterflies blend into their environments before designing our own butterflies.

In Year 8 Social Studies and ELA, we have been examining worldview through comics and reading a variety of texts about identity and the experiences that shape us. In Year 9 Social Studies, we are studying the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In ELA, we have begun reading the graphic novel *Maus*. Through our studies, we are examining how history, family, experiences, and relationships shape both individuals and the stories we tell about them.

## Year 8/9 News continued.

Our learning about rights also connected to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Inspired by the Spirit Panel Project at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, we created individual tiles using imagery, colour, and symbolism to represent human rights that are important to us. Together, our tiles form a collaborative piece that reflects our shared responsibility to recognize, respect and uphold the rights of others.

We showed tremendous spirit during this year's Terry Fox Run. Together Year 8 and 9 students travelled an impressive 671 kilometres in support of this important cause.

It has been a busy and inspiring start to the year, and we are excited to continue bringing all of these individual pieces together as our Made Up learning contract unfolds.

## High School News

Our joyful year continued into September with Hotel Joie, providing students with many opportunities to connect, learning and build community.

Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a unique goat yoga experience that brought plenty of laughter and teamwork. During the Terry Fox Run, students navigated challenge stations throughout Enmax Park, learning about Terry's legacy, while working together to complete activities.

Math 30-3 students hosted a successful Probability Picnic, combining hands-on probability games with student led food sales.



## High School News continued.

Learning continued beyond the classroom walls. Year 10 students attended a performance of *The First Métis Man of Odesa*, a thought-provoking exploration of identity, cultures and relationships during the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. Students later reflected on key themes from the production through their writing.

Physics 30 students investigated momentum, collisions, and electrostatics through hands-on marble experiments and methods of charging objects. Biology 30 students analyzed simulated blood and urine samples to identify and explain potential endocrine disorders, while Biology 20 students created podcasts examining human impacts on the environment. In English Language Arts 10-2, students developed creative responses to the graphic novel *Borders*, demonstrating thoughtful engagement with the text and its themes.

## Links



[Calendar](#)

[Family Zone](#)

[Record Your Volunteer Hours](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA Adult Choir](#)



Picture Retake  
Day is Coming!

Wednesday, October 21, 2026  
Retake Day!



What to Expect:



Students are photographed on Picture Retake Day. Bring your original proof sheet, if you have it!



Retake images sent home 2 weeks after Picture Day.

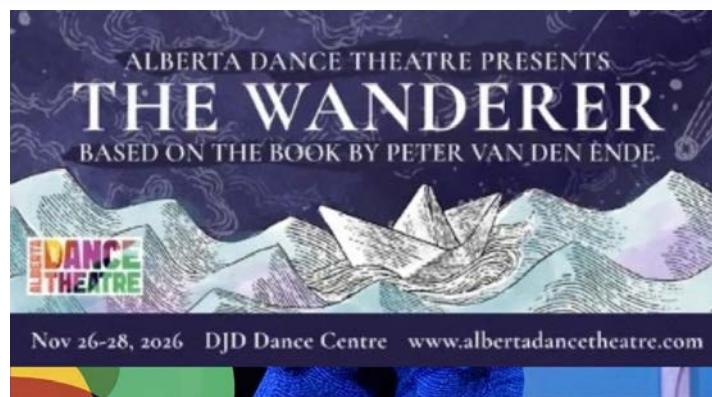


Review pictures & purchase on [mylifetouch.ca](https://mylifetouch.ca)

Questions? Contact our Help Center at [lifetouch.com/support-ca](https://lifetouch.com/support-ca). Select K-12 School Photography for assistance.  
F20RETFCAE © 2026 Lifetouch Canada LLC

## Calendar

|  <b>October 2026</b> |                                                                |                                                                                           |                                      |                                                            |                               |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Sunday                                                                                                | Monday                                                         | Tuesday                                                                                   | Wednesday                            | Thursday                                                   | Friday                        | Saturday |
|                                                                                                       |                                                                |                                                                                           |                                      | 1<br>Day 1<br>CHSSL Volleyball Game                        | 2<br>Day 2                    | 3        |
| 4<br>Day 3<br>CHSSL Volleyball Game<br>RC Final Cross Country Meet                                    | 5<br>Day 4<br>RC Volleyball<br>Tournament<br>Year 2/3 Showcase | 6<br>Day 5<br>Healthy Hunger<br>Year 2/3 Showcase<br>CHSSL Volleyball Game                | 7<br>Day 1                           | 8<br>Day 1                                                 | 9<br>PD Day<br>No Classes     | 10       |
| 11<br>Thanksgiving<br>No School                                                                       | 12<br>Fall Break<br>No School                                  | 13<br>Fall Break<br>No School                                                             | 14<br>Fall Break<br>No School        | 15<br>Fall Break<br>No School                              | 16<br>Fall Break<br>No School | 17       |
| 18<br>Day 2                                                                                           | 19<br>Day 3                                                    | 20<br>Day 4<br>Healthy Hunger<br>School Photo Retakes<br>HS Field Trip<br>Yr 9 Field Trip | 21<br>Day 5<br>CHSSL Volleyball Game | 22<br>PD Day<br>Charter School<br>Conference<br>No Classes | 23                            | 24       |
| 25<br>Day 1                                                                                           | 26<br>Day 2                                                    | 27<br>Day 3<br>Healthy Hunger<br>RC School Council Dance                                  | 28<br>Day 4                          | 29<br>Day 5                                                | 30                            | 31       |



## 5 Weeks, 4 Shows

### 1 Inspirational Pocket-Sized Season

Join us for an introductory ADT experience with a shortened rehearsal day and reduced show commitments.

Rehearsals Begin

**OCT 25**

GRADES 1-12

