

The Art of Learning

Message from Administration

March has been filled with opportunities for connection and celebration of learning within our community. On March 20 and 21, all three campuses hosted Student-Led and Parent Conferences, where students proudly shared their Arts Immersion classroom experiences. These conferences provided a wonderful platform for students to showcase their hard work, reflect on their progress, and engage in meaningful conversations about their learning journey. We are grateful for the enthusiastic participation of families and the support you continue to provide in fostering a collaborative and enriching educational environment.



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Message from Administration continued.

We are delighted to announce the successful completion of the Thrive Parent Learning Series. This initiative has been a wonderful journey of growth and learning for our community. We extend our deepest gratitude to CAA's School Council for their unwavering support, and to Connect Charter School for their generous partnership. Your contributions have been invaluable in making this series a resounding success. Thank you for fostering an environment of collaboration and enrichment for our parents/guardians and students alike.

We have been hosting school tours at all campuses to share our program and school with new, interested families. The guests always comment on how welcoming our students and staff are as they visit classrooms and see Arts Immersion in action. We remind current families to complete registration, as we are finalizing our enrolment for the 2025-2026 school year.

At Knob Hill, students joined the global community in celebrating World Water Day on March 22. This day serves as a crucial reminder of the need for sustainable management of meltwater and reduction of emissions to secure vital water resources for the future. Let's continue to raise awareness and take action to protect our planet's precious water sources. Students' learning culminated in a sharing assembly on March 24. Students shared visual art, poetry and songs about the importance of water for all humans and living creatures on Earth.



The annual Scholastic book fair tradition continued during Student Led Conferences! Thank you to the parent and staff volunteers who helped us reach our fundraising goal, supporting the libraries at all three campuses.

At Rosscarrock, our Year 4 to 7 students have started visits to the TransAlta studio space at the Erickson Centre high school campus, riding on our own CAA School Bus, "Gus the Bus". All students have been highly engaged in their fourth learning contract of the year, enjoying their current teaching team, artist rotations, and options program.

We welcomed opportunities to visit our Field Experience Centre at Camp connect for wellness day trips, and thank the facilitators who planned and hosted the students for various sessions to strengthen wellbeing.

Message from Administration continued.

At the Erickson Centre, we are thrilled to announce a historic milestone for our high school—the formation of our very first sports team, the CAA Pumas Badminton Team! Congratulations to the Pumas for their enthusiastic participation in the badminton tournaments at Jack James High School. Your dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship have set a wonderful example for future teams to follow. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and look forward to many more exciting sports events. Go Pumas! Thank you to Ms. Humphrey, Ms. Rachel and Mr. Lapointe for making our high school sports team dreams, a reality!



Looking ahead to April, the Year 6/7 Showcase, “Tune In” will be at the Rosscarrock Campus during the evenings on April 15 and 16. Students are hard at work exploring the evolution of music and music development throughout the years, and are building on the themes of influence, expression, identity and belonging. Student choice was offered through this experience, which has brought engagement and interest. From radio, to black and white television, social media to live music, this showcase brings a story of history and impact to life. Details have been shared via homeroom teachers, and all Year 6/7 student performers have a role in both evening performances.



Our Year 9 students have the opportunity to attend a 2 day Thrive Summit coming up in April at Connect Charter school, alongside peers from other schools. This summit involves many exciting speakers and an opportunity for them to select their own sessions on topics such as navigating change, transitioning to high school, self-awareness and advocacy.

Our next sharing assembly will be on April 11, and it will be hosted by the Year 4/5 team. We welcome you to join us!

Message from Administration continued.

Please join us at our upcoming High School Showcase featuring our drama, technical theatre, visual and media art students on April 16 and 17 at Vertigo Theatre. This will be a spectacular night of artistic expression and storytelling as our High School students showcase their creativity and curiosity!



The evenings will feature a captivating visual and digital art exhibit and our highly anticipated production of *Leaving Iowa*. This is a heartfelt and hilarious comedy about family, nostalgia, and the road trips that shape our lives. In *Leaving Iowa*, writer Dawn Browning sets out to fulfill her family's wish, only to find herself swept up in memories of her family's chaotic, laugh-out-loud road trips. As past and present collide, Dawn's journey becomes more than just a road trip, it's a touching reflection on family, time, and the moments that truly define us. This special evening is a celebration of our students' passion and hard work, and we are thrilled to host it at the iconic Vertigo Theatre!

A reminder that Calgary Arts Academy will be closed from April 18 to April 28 for April break.

As the administration team thinks back on all the wonderful events and activities that happened in March we feel real pride in our students and gratitude for our supportive community. Thank you for being a part of it. We look forward to a wonderful April together!

Kindergarten/Year 1 News

March was a vibrant month of growth and discovery in Kindergarten and Year 1. We embarked on our second Thrive Day at Camp Connect, where we focused on developing essential skills. Activities centred around mindfulness, effective communication, and collaborative teamwork, while also exploring how shifts in perspective and attitude can positively influence our interactions. A particular highlight was the “Spider’s Nest” challenge, which encouraged strategic thinking, the importance of asking for help and the power of teamwork.

Continuing our creative journey, we have been working on digital illustration with our Media Artist, Ms. Naomi. Utilizing Adobe Fresco, we are bring our imaginative fairytales characters to life, complementing the stories we are creating. To complete our stories, we have been exploring various fairy tales, focusing on descriptive language and narrative sequencing.

Of course, March would not be complete without our annual “Trap Lucky” day, celebrating St. Patrick’s Day. Year 1 students showed their ingenuity and teamwork as they designed a variety of traps, hoping to capture the elusive Lucky the Leprechaun. Despite our best efforts, Lucky’s cleverness prevailed and he escaped with our chocolate coins once again. Better luck to us next year!



Year 2/3 News

March was action-packed, filled with learning and excitement. Our second Thrive Day at Camp Connect, had us learning about emotional regulation, playing in the snow and navigating obstacle courses.

Year 2/3 News continued.

In celebration of World Water Week, we learned about the importance of conserving water. We explored practical ways to save water, both at school and home and are excited to make a difference in the world! During Student-Led Conferences, we were excited to guide our families through our learning journey, showing off our accomplishments.

We were lucky enough to have a parent volunteer come in and share his fascinating job working with the Alberta Fossil Family. He brought in a collection of stunning Ammolite fossils and we each received a little piece. We were so excited to have our own special fossil keepsake and it sparked amazing conversations about paleontology.



Rosscarrock Options Update

In Visual Arts with Ms. Christy, students are exploring printmaking through a progressive process, starting with tetra pack imprints, moving to eraser-carved stamps, and culminating in lino cutting. Their final compositions will be thoughtfully arranged and accompanied by an artist statement.

In Music with Mr. Thorson, Year 6/7 students are refining songs for their upcoming showcase, "Tune In", while Year 8/9 students are expanding their song library to reflect their learning on global connections and themes from their current book study, *Refugee*.

In Drama with Ms. Shannon, students have selected a person of significance and are crafting a monologue or scene to bring their story to life.

In the Dance Studio with Mr E, Years 7 and 9 are using the playground as inspiration for original choreography. Year 8 is mastering the basics of line dancing before creating their own routines, and Year 6 is preparing a performance piece for their upcoming showcase.

So much creativity is flowing through the hallways!

Year 4/5 News

In Year 4/5, we are fully immersed in an exciting alien adventure. In Science, we have wrapped up our unit on astronomical phenomena and are now diving into the study of climate and weather. Through the eyes of our alien explorers we have created, we are keeping observation logs and engaging in hands-on activities to further our understanding of weather.

In Literacy, our focus is on fiction writing. Students have begun crafting their own Diary of a Wimpy Kid style stories, written from the perspective of their alien navigating and solving problems on Earth. In Drama, we are learning to embody emotions, characters and experiences which will culminate in us "becoming" their aliens for an exciting final experience!



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.

Visit our website at www.caaschool.com/caa-adult-choir for more information.

Year 6/7 News

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming showcase, "Tune In," where we will present the culmination of our collaborative efforts in stage show production. This project has allowed us to delve into the multifaceted process of creating a performance, encompassing scriptwriting, set design, prop construction, and rigorous rehearsals. Curriculum connections are woven into our performances, demonstrating our deep understanding of various subjects through creative expression.

In Year 6 Social Studies, we have solidified our understanding of Ancient Athenian democracy, sharing our knowledge by creating engaging tableaux. In Year 7, we have conducted in-depth research into wars around the world that impacted the formation of Canada. Our Science curriculum has taken us on a journey of discovery about Earth and our surrounding universe. In Year 6 we explored the vastness of the solar system, constructing sculptural models of diverse planetary bodies. In Year 7 we investigated the Earth's geological history, focusing on the rock cycle and benefiting from guest speakers who highlighted Alberta's rich fossil heritage.



Mathematics has been brought to life through our exploration of Cartesian planes. We collaborated with our FAMMA buddy groups, applying our understanding of shapes, transformations, and rotations fostering inter-grade learning and creativity.

In Year 7 English Language Arts, we recently completed our novel study of "Walking in Two Worlds," and are now developing final projects that demonstrate our understanding of the book's themes and why its important for books to address difficult topics.

In Year 6 we have been refining our writing skills, engaging in creative writing prompts inspired by visual and auditory stimuli. We have also analyzed the structure and purpose of news articles, enhancing our ability to communicate effectively.

Year 8/9 News

In March, we explored a blend of arts, literature and global awareness. We attended a captivating performance by Calgary's String Theory Music Ensemble at the Erickson Centre campus, where Baroque music was brought to life in an innovative, interdisciplinary format. Additionally, we explored the life and contributions of Johannes Kepler, the polymath who revolutionized astronomy and inspired change. Building on our experiences, we embarked on independent artistic responses that reflected our understanding of Baroque aesthetics and interdisciplinary connections. These responses spanned multiple artistic disciplines, from visual art, creative writing, dance, theatre, music composition,



film, and fibre arts, encouraging us to adopt a polymath perspective. By integrating elements of STEM, historical research, and artistic practice, we deepened our appreciation of the era's influence on contemporary thought.

In our fourth Learning Contract, "Beyond Books & Borders", we are collaborating with Visual Artist, Ms. Christy, exploring experimental design through fabric dyeing and making global connections through visual art and literacy. In Language Arts, our studies have focused on Alan Gratz's novel, *Refugee*, gaining insight into the struggles and resilience of displaced individuals across history, sparking discussions on empathy, understanding, and social justice.

Athletics Update

Students have been busy in badminton, both in Physical Education classes, and extra-curricular school sports. Students showcased their hand-eye coordination and communication skills, all while exemplifying wonderful sportsmanship. Recently, students have started the Scooter Hockey unit. This is a sport inspired by Sledge Hockey, which allows students to explore new methods of moving, and puts emphasis on how despite injuries or other limitations, some sports are still accessible.

Athletics Update continued.

From April 7 to 17, students will be participating in PE outside, so please ensure your child comes prepared for the unpredictable Calgary weather.

Our Year 7 to 9 badminton team has a month filled with tournaments, where they will get to compete against 15 other schools across the Calgary Alternative Athletics Association. We wish them luck in their upcoming competitions!

Soccer teams tryouts will be held in April for Year 6 to 9 students. Please stay tuned for more information.

High School News

This has been a dynamic and inspiring month filled with innovation, artistry, and authentic learning experiences across our school community!

In English Language Arts 20-2, we engaged in a unique interdisciplinary project titled the Musical Locker Bento Box Experience. Rooted in the idea that music opens a window into the human experience, students began by selecting song lyrics to analyze through a poetic and literary lens. We explored figurative language, tone, theme, and symbolism before curating “bento box” style lockers filled with carefully chosen objects. Each installation served as a visual and tactile representation of the song’s literary elements, encouraging us to make deep, meaningful connections between music, language, and personal interpretation.

2025 Graduation



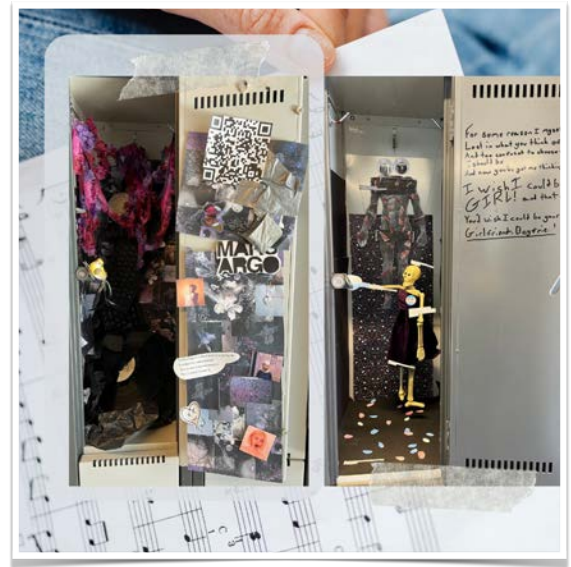
More information will be sent to families in the coming weeks!

Year 12 Grad Banquet - June 4

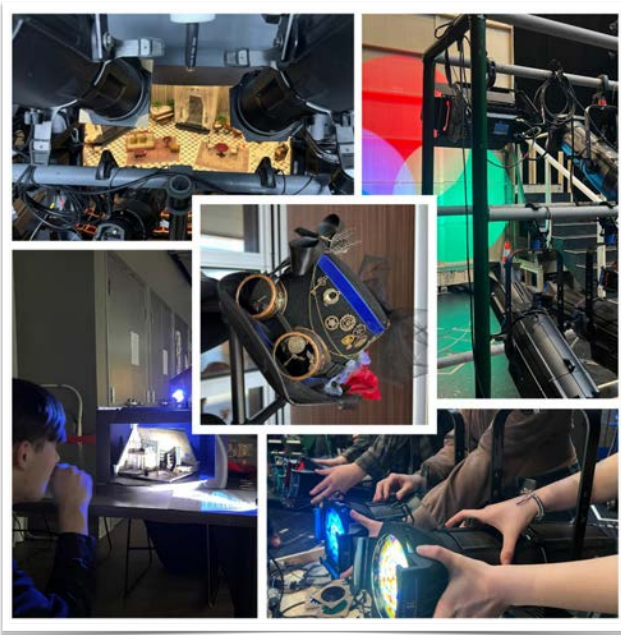
Year 9 Grad Banquet - June 5

High School News Continued.

In our first-ever Technical Theatre 15 class, we have been busy bringing stories to life through the backstage magic of theatre. Costume design took centre stage early in the month as we met with professional designer Rhonda Perry, who shared insights into how costumes convey mood, character, and context. Inspired by steampunk aesthetics—a blend of Victorian fashion and industrial innovation—we went on to design and construct our own one-of-a-kind hats. Using techniques like distressing, layering, and upcycling found materials, each piece reflected both creativity and craftsmanship, complete with gears, goggles, and metallic accents.



Bento Box Lockers



Lighting design was another exciting area of exploration. We participated in hands-on workshops with award-winning designer Narda McCarroll, experimenting with flashlights, gels, gobos, and miniature sets (maquettes) to better understand how light influences atmosphere on stage. A field trip to Theatre Calgary offered us the rare opportunity to work with Cathy Crumb, head of lighting, where we practiced focusing stage lights for dramatic effect and learned firsthand about the intricacies of lighting design. A behind-the-scenes tour of the Max Bell Theatre took us 70 feet above the stage into the fly system—an unforgettable glimpse into the technical

side of theatre production!

As we look ahead we are excited to apply our new skills for the upcoming High School showcase drama production of *Leaving Iowa* at the Vertigo Theatre, where we will play a key role in shaping the mood and magic of the show from behind the scenes.



Links

[Calendar](#)

[Family Zone](#)

[Record Your Volunteer Hours](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA Adult Choir](#)



April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Day 3	Day 4 Healthy Hunger KH & RC	Day 5	Day 1 HS Badminton Tournament	
6	Day 2 Year 4/5 to TransAlta	Day 3 Yr 7-9 Badminton Singles Tournament School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. Zoom	Day 4 Healthy Hunger KH & RC	Day 5 Yr 7-9 Badminton Doubles Tournament	Day 1 Year 4/5 Sharing Assembly	
13	Day 2 Year 4/5 to TransAlta Rosalind Carson HS	Day 3 Yr 9 Thrive Summit Yr 6/7 Showcase CAAS Board Meeting	Day 4 Healthy Hunger KH & RC Yr 6/7 Showcase HS Showcase @ Vertigo Yr 9 Thrive Summit Rosalind Carson KH	Day 5 HS Showcase @ Vertigo	Good Friday - No Classes	
20	Spring Break - No Classes	Spring Break - No Classes	Spring Break - No Classes	Spring Break - No Classes	Spring Break - No Classes	
27	PD Day - No Classes	Day 1	Day 2 Yr 7-9 Badminton Finals			