

The Art of Learning



Principal's Message

We are sure enjoying the longer daylight that March brings!

This is a busy time of year with our Kindergarten to Year 9 students Term 2 report cards coming home on March 18th. You are encouraged to take a look at your child's FreshGrade account to give some context to the report card.

We are excited to share that we will be hosting our Student-Led Conferences in-person! We are beyond thrilled to be able to welcome our families back into the school! It's been two years and we've missed you!

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Student-Led Conferences are on March 25, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Knob Hill, and 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Education Centre, and March 27 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at both campuses. Information about how to sign-up will be sent home by your child's learning facilitator.

This conference is a great opportunity for your child to share what they have been up to at school. I strongly encourage all families to participate in this process as it benefits every child to have their families attend.

I would like to take a moment to commend our parent community for committing to the vision and mission of Calgary Arts Academy throughout the pandemic. We are passionate and committed to providing academic excellence through our enriched Arts Immersion programming. When we work together, we are a strong community of adults supporting our youngest members of society.

Physical Education Update

Badminton season is in full swing! After a brief table tennis unit, students have been engaging in badminton since mid-February and we will continue the unit as the calendar rolls over to March. Once the badminton unit is complete, CAA students will play a fan-favourite, belly baseball!

In addition to badminton happening in PE class, students in Years 7 to 9 have been working hard to make the CAA badminton team. Tryouts have been successful so far and we are excited to have them continue in March.



For any interested CAA students in Year 6 to Year 11, Ms. Christiansen and Mr. Lapointe are coordinating an enrichment opportunity where students throughout the school will be able to compete with and against their peers in an after-school badminton program! Details will be sent out to families later this month.

Reminder:

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open in Family Zone.

Knob Hill News

We hope that everyone enjoyed a safe and joyful February break. It is great to have students back in the building! Walking through the halls, there is a creative buzz in the classrooms as students begin new learning contracts and reconnect with each other. As the province moves to relax some of the Covid-19 guidelines for schools, we are also looking forward to being able to do more collaboration with our peers and teachers as well as have more options for sharing our learning with our families and community. Volunteers are once again accepted in our building, provided they have a current Police Information Check on file and are pre-booked with a teacher. Please note that the [Covid Screening Checklist](#) is still in place and should be used daily for all students and visitors to the building.



Love & Kindness Spirit Week

In February we hosted a school spirit week to celebrate belonging, inclusivity, and diversity. We began the week with Valentine’s Day, followed by Family Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day, the 100th Day of School, and ended with Pink Shirt Day! Students learned about each other, practiced gratitude and celebrated love.



Of particular note was our Random Act of Kindness project: Each class decorated a portion of a 65 foot banner that was delivered to our neighbours at Richmond Road Diagnostic and Treatment Centre to show appreciation for them being our neighbour and for taking care of our community. They were so touched by the banner that they decided to hang it inside their main entrance, and photos of it were shared by email to over 140, 000 healthcare workers across the province by the president of AHS, Dr. Verna Yiu.

Links

[CAA 2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA 2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

[CAA Adult Choir](#)

[COVID 19 Daily Checklist - Adult & Under 18](#)

Knob Hill News Continued

Jump Rope for Heart

Our students skipped, jumped and hopped throughout the month of February. We had set a goal of reaching 50, 000 hops altogether as a school, and managed to beat our goal by a landslide! By the end of February, we hopped over 135, 000 times. Great job Knob Hill!



PE Activities

We are very excited to welcome Taelyr Patton of the Airdrie Sky High Twirlers organization into our school to teach our students all about the art and sport of baton! Each class will have three lessons with Taelyr during our regularly scheduled PE blocks at the Knob Hill campus. These lessons will take place between March 1 and March 8. We are sure that the students will have a lot of fun!

Alien Inline, which was previously booked for the month of January, has been rescheduled for June of this year. Stay tuned for more information later in the spring.



Kindergarten/Year 1 News

The K/1 Team is having fun and playing games. We have explored our community and emotions through map making. We have played traditional board games to practice taking turns, building our resiliency and confidence. We read some choose-your-own-adventure books as well as worked with Ms. Birch to begin exploring the Forest of Learning books. Mr. E taught us the bunny hop and the hand jive. Mr. Steven helped us create our own colourful compositions. We have celebrated the 100th day of school! And are excited to start creating our own board games.



Year 2/3 News

As we return from February break, the Year 2/3 team is jumping right back into our explorations of all things music, dance and visual art through the ages. We began learning about ways of life *way back when*, in the 1920s, 30s and 40s. We learned about the influential artist, Pablo Picasso, and cubist style of abstract art. We also learned all about jazz music instrumentation and experience the joy of swing dance.

Year 2/3 News Continued

As Black History Month is a time for deep reflection and celebration, we learned that Jazz music and dance is born of the rhythms and movements brought to America with enslaved Africans. At the same time we explored what our community was like at that time.

Before February break we took a pause on our Culture Capsule contract and celebrated Spirit Week! It was a week full of different activities and celebrations: 100th day of school, random acts of kindness day, Pink Shirt Day and Family Day.



We moved along our timeline to explore what life and art was like in the 50s and 60s.

We learned about Andy Warhol, rock music and the sock hop social dances that shaped communities. We discussed questions such as, how does social dance teach us about the past? What does dance, music, communities and people from the past teach us about ourselves? We are continuing on to explore the 70s and 80s and then the 90s and 2000s.

This is all in preparation for our Year 2/3 showcase coming up at the end of April. Stay tuned for more exciting information on how we are going to share all of our learning with our community.



We have a request! Does any generous Calgary Arts Academy family have an old speaker that they are willing to donate to our Hearing and Sound science unit? We are looking for a speaker that we can take apart, put back together and use for a whole bunch of experiments using paint and ooblek and gooey things. If you have an old speaker that you are willing to donate, please contact Mr. Matt (mpahl@caaschool.com).



Year 4/5 News

We have survived the Wasteland! We presented our art, projects and dances for at our showcase at Knob Hill. We are now moving into a regrowth phase culminating in a Wonderland theme showcase.

Year 4/5 News Continued

We will be exploring the growth of plants for the coming spring and are preparing for an interesting showcase performance and festival.

Year 6/7/8 News

In the Top Secret learning contract, the Year 6/7/8 agents have solved the mystery of who kidnapped their beloved friends, led by intel from the directors of MAGENTA! Then the agents became the directors and led their peers through their own spy craft mysteries.



Our fish from the FinS program have hatched! Our lovely little Alevins have developed their fins and began to grow into fry before our very own eyes. We are excited to be able to take part in this program and look forward to nurturing and growing our little rainbow trout unit we can participate in the Bow Habitat's release into the river journey in spring.

In Year 6 we welcome Mr. Myatovic as our LA and Social Studies teacher, and we are happy to welcome back our student teacher, Mr. Acton, in Year 6 Math and Science. In Year 6 LA, we are diving into creative narrative writing. In Social Studies, we will continue to develop a deeper understanding of our Canadian Government by looking into the provincial government system. In Science, we are finishing our unit on evidence and investigation and moving on to air and aerodynamics. In Math, we are learning about number sense through prime and composite numbers, multiples, factors and the order of operations. In Year 7, Science is beginning to wrap up our unit on structures and forces while working with salt dough to understand forces this week before reattempting the spaghetti towers with the new knowledge we have gained.



Shortly after, we will be moving on to learn about Plants for Food and Fibre. In LA we are continuing with our novel study Skellig, and focusing on group work, collaborative acting

Year 6/7/8 News continued

and charades to embody characters, and amazing student led structured reading groups. In Year 8 Science, we have just started the fresh and salt water systems unit. We will be involved in a simulation where we will be auctioning off land to “stakeholder groups” and creating a pitch to develop our purchased land. In LA, we are continuing with our novel study *A Monster Calls*, and focusing on group work, collaborative acting and charades to embody characters, and amazing student led structured reading groups. For Year 7 Social Studies, we are continuing our learning journey focused on the settlement of early Canada. In Year 8, we are learning about Ancient Aztec culture, specifically through the fine art of human sacrifice! Just kidding! We will learn and appreciate all aspects of the culture.



Year 9/10/11 News

In Year 9, we have completed our latest learning contract where we created podcasts based off of our interests.

We are launching into our next performance contract, as we get a chance to fully organize another performance that we will present to the community. In Social Studies, we are starting a new project, based off of the “One Red Paperclip” challenge, to understand the value of goods and see how far we can trade from a paperclip. In Language Arts, we continue to work on our novel study of “*The Princess Bride*”. In Science, we are applying our lab safety as we get more hands on lab experience during the chemical change unit.



Year 10 and 11 students have started Semester 2 and are enjoying our new classes this term. In Year 10 Language Arts, we are continuing our “survivor” style game. As the term progresses, more challenges are being thrown our way and we are having to apply our critical thinking to bring our team to success.

In Year 10 Social, we are looking more in depth at influential Black Canadians, while also planning on creating our own global news video. In Year 11 Language Arts, we are finishing our children’s books that we are planning on sharing with the Knob Hill campus at a later date.



March 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
|  | | Day 6 | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01-Apr | 2 |

Leadership in the Arts

These photos are from the December Leadership in the Arts panel, focusing on local sound and music artists. In April, high school students will have the opportunity to attend the third Leadership in the Arts panel, focusing on dance and theatre arts.

