

# The Art of Learning

**Jubilee  
Save the date!  
Thursday, December 16  
at 7:00 pm**



**Mitten Tree  
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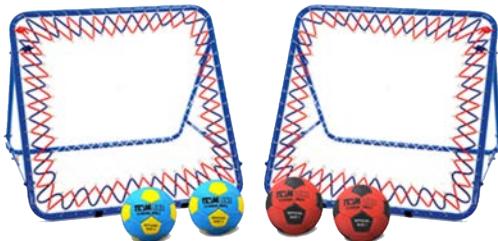
**December  
Calendar  
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## From the Principal

This is our second year of holding a virtual Winter Celebration that in pre-COVID times was held at the Jubilee Auditorium. When it comes to Arts Immersion and performances, our dedicated and talented staff members have collaborated to share technical knowledge, inspiration, creativity and a “yes and..” attitude. While, COVID has clearly changed how we are doing things, it has not changed our purpose of celebrating student learning with our community through performance. The winter performance has been an enduring tradition for the Calgary Arts Academy community to come together to celebrate our children.

It is reassuring to see and hear the sounds of students engaged in the process of performance. For our students, the arts provide social, emotional learning by developing skills and competencies such as self-



## **Education Centre Physical Education and Athletics**

In Physical Education, students have spent the month of November playing Tchoukball (a handball-style game) and working on their Floor Hockey skills. Floor hockey will continue into December before we do a week of fun activities prior to the winter break.

In athletics, the boys' and girls' basketball teams have been selected. Coached by Ms. Christiansen and Mr. Lapointe, practices have officially begun in preparation of the first tournament of the year on December 10. The boys' team is hosting their division at CAA, and the girls' team will be on the road.



Congratulations to all who who made the teams!

awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills.

We know that the arts foster empathy and they also help students identify and process emotions. In times like these, we are reminded that the power of the arts can strengthen community ties as well as strengthen student well-being.

This year, it is our sincere hope that you will join us in the rich, creative learning that students are experiencing at Calgary Arts Academy. Enjoy the show!

## **Knob Hill News**

### **Parking**



We have received complaints from our neighbours at the Richmond Diagnostic Centre. The unsafe driving that we have observed at drop-off and pick-up times at KH is spilling over into their parking lots, entrances, and exits. It has been reported that parents have been parking in the fire lanes in their parking lot as well which is not allowed. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (north of our building) has also expressed concern about their lot being used for drop-off, pick-up, and parking. Please help us to keep our relationships positive with our neighbours by adhering to the signage, and parking only in designated areas.

### **Jubilee**

As always, students continue to exercise their creativity through the arts at CAA. Students have been painting, building sets, writing scripts, and practicing performances toward our pre-recorded, hosted live reinvention of Jubilee!

The anticipation is building with students creating and rehearsing on stage in their performance t-shirts. We look forward to celebrating their accomplishments with our community on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021!



## Remembrance Day

Our students observed Remembrance Day on November 10<sup>th</sup> through a ceremony streamed to classes. Our Year 4/5 students shared powerful performances through signing a song about peace, sharing a slide show and poetry from their read-aloud of Sadako and The Thousand Paper Cranes. All K-5 classes contributed by creating wreaths to commemorate Remembrance Day.

Although we missed gathering for an in-person assembly, the virtual ceremony was touching and helped us remember how important peace is in our lives.

## Mitten Tree

One of our favourite traditions at CAA is the mitten tree. Students are asked to bring in NEW hats or mittens to decorate the tree. On the 17th of December, the winter gear will be donated to *Inn from the Cold*.

This is a great opportunity for students and families to help those less fortunate and learn about the spirit of giving. International Mitten Tree Day is celebrated on December 6th each year, all around the world. While the origins of this holiday are unknown, it is believed that it is in response to the book "The Mitten Tree," by Candace Christiansen.

In this story, a grandma knits mittens for children and hangs them on an evergreen tree near a bus stop so that those children waiting for the bus who don't have mittens can use them to play in the snow. International Mitten Tree Day is a great day for people to practice generosity and celebrate the gift of warmth.

We appreciate your support in carrying on this heart-warming act of kindness.



## Kindergarten/Year 1 News

We are “growing” while experiencing the seasons in Kindergarten and Year 1.

Kindergarten and Year 1 students have been learning all about the changing of the seasons, measurement and time and all about what plants and trees need to survive. We have explored seasons and the different characteristics of each.



With the help of Mr. E and Mr. Steven we artfully created a Jubilee showcase of “the journey of a seed throughout the seasons” and an original song all about “growing up”. We cannot wait to share what we have been up to and what our awesome tree representations in different seasons look like!

Up next, students will dive into learning about “our roots” and discover the passage of time in our past and present while discovering our heritage and where we come from.

We are always cultivating excellence in Kindergarten and Year 1.



## Year 2/3 News

The Year 2/3 team is working hard on our second contract “I.D.us” (Ideas)! We have started exploring three significant areas of the brain that contribute to our personalities, choices and emotions - the prefrontal cortex, the amygdala, and the hippocampus. Through this contract, we are developing social and emotional skills by understanding the cognitive and creative parts of the brain through mindfulness! Some big questions we are using to guide us are: What makes our imaginations soar? What inspires us to create? How do our memories impact the choices we make? Why do our bodies and minds react in certain ways? Why do certain sounds, smells, and colours spark such specific emotions within us?

## LINKS

[CAA 21-22 School Calendar](#)

[CAA Website](#)

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

[COVID-19 Daily Checklist - Adult](#)

[CAA Foundation Website](#)

[CAA Adult Choir Website](#)

For Remembrance Day, students made beautiful wreaths to display in the hallway and we had a virtual ceremony. We have also been practicing the art of performance for Jubilee through movement and music. Stay tuned for our final product puppet show from contract 1 that includes all four classes!

### **Year 4/5 News**

In Year 4/5 we are finishing up our studies with the "Night at the Museum" contract and have spent our time with Jubilee preparation and filming. We are so excited to share with you our Story of Canada that we have been working hard to put together. Our classes have been busy working on our second, third and fourth artifacts, folding cranes, building popsicle stick puppets and preparing to write our graphic novels. Ms. Birch has helped us to create independent origami folders for our small Arts Immersion project that will take place for the next three weeks. "Winter 'Wonder' Land" will give us the opportunity to explore our fascination with origami and work to be masters at it. In Art, Ms. T is working on our storytelling skills and creating our own illustration style with graphic novels. In Math, we are finishing up our addition and subtraction unit and are feeling very excited to move on to multiplication and all the fun we can have with art and math.



**A huge Thank You to School Council to providing a delicious lunch for staff on our PD Day!**

### **Year 6/7/8 News**

In Year 6 Social Studies and LA, we continue to explore Ancient Greece. In Math, we are learning about graphs and how to read data. In Science, we are learning about 'the final frontier' of space and planets! Miss C's student teacher, Mr. Acton, is teaching this unit. It's one step for pre-service teachers and one giant leap of learning!

In Year 7/8 Language Arts, we are working hard at being authors of our own books. We will work towards publishing them after the winter break. In Science, we completed our food chain project. In Social, we have been learning about imperialism and in Year 8 Math, we will start a geometry and measurement series.



**We See Red:** Students brought in household objects that represent activities of everyday life and we painted them in monotone red. The items were then assembled in a display to offer a place to pause and reflect on the rippling effects of war.

We are in full Jubilee creative collaboration and look forward to sharing our pieces at the virtual Jubilee performance!

## Year 9/10/11 News

In Year 9, we have been engrossed in building narrative for our Jubilee presentation. We have been busy building every aspect of our performance, from writing the story, to creating the music swell. In Social, we are concluding our study of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by researching historical implementations of the War Measures Act. In Science and Language Arts, we completed writing a star story where students designed a model star sail.



In Language Arts 10, we are developing our poetry portfolio through exploring different forms of poems. In Social Studies 10, we have completed our second unit of Industrial Revolution and historical imperialism.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Day 6	1 Day 1	2 Day 2	3 4
5 Day 3	6 Day 4	7 Day 5	8 Day 6	9 Day 1	10	11
12 Day 2	13 Day 4	14 Day 4	15 Day 5 Jubilee Watch Party 7:00 pm	16 Day 6 Last Day of Classes	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Kindergarten Registration Deadline School resumes January 4, 2022	31	

**December 2021**

WINTER BREAK

In Science 10, we are learning about different types of compounds. Through laboratory work, we have investigated the properties of ionic and covalent compounds, acids and bases.

In Social 20, we developed documents about war crimes in history. Chem 20 students are in the midst of exploring solution chemistry. We have learned to describe how ionic compounds dissolve in water, to describe the concentration of solutions in various ways, to perform calculations related to concentration of solutions, and to differentiate between saturated, unsaturated and supersaturated solutions. In Bio 20, we have looked at the relationships of abiotic and biotic factors within ecosystems. We have been investigating questions such as: How can we measure population density? What limits the growth of a population? What predicts biodiversity in different ecosystems?

## Calling all Loonies and Toonies!

November 29 to December 13, 2021



In the spirit of generosity, Calgary Arts Academy is having a Loonie and Toonie Drive! We encourage all students to bring in a loonie or toonie to assist Calgary Arts Academy families this holiday season. All money should be dropped off in the office. Gift cards will be purchased with the proceeds and will be distributed before Christmas.

*From time to time, we all need a helping hand. Should you or someone you know need a helping hand this holiday season, please contact Michelle Stonehouse at [mstonehouse@caaschool.com](mailto:mstonehouse@caaschool.com). All communications are strictly confidential.*