

The Art of Learning

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WELCOME



BACK TO CAA



Message from Administration

The administration team has been very happy about the first few weeks of school! At all campuses, teachers developed exciting and creative plans to ensure that all our pillars would be intentionally explored, celebrated, and reinforced in the first days of learning with students. Throughout all K to 12 classes, community-building and welcoming activities were rolled out, creating a strong culture of belonging across all three campuses. This positive culture is evident when you walk into any classroom.





School Council

We want to thank our amazing School Council and the volunteers who organized and hosted the annual CAA Pancake Breakfast on August 30! This tradition brings our community together and celebrates the start of another school year. Held at the Knob Hill Elementary School field, the event was a great success, with delicious food, lively entertainment, and a joyful atmosphere. We are grateful for the strong connections and ongoing support our parents provide to the school community.

View all current volunteer opportunities and fundraisers on their link tree:
<https://linktr.ee/caaschoolcouncil>

Record your volunteer hours:
<https://www.caaschool.com/volunteers>

Questions? Contact
council@caaschool.com

Message from Administration Continued.

With our school theme this year of *Cultivating Curiosity*, staff have been inspiring students to learn about themselves and to use art to explore curiosity by asking questions, listening, and offering feedback. In the first eight days of school, students have had the opportunity to get to know their teachers and peers, explore their voices and make choices about creating a democratic learning environment. The campuses have been filled with music, movement, visual art, and a variety of design challenges.



At the Knob Hill Campus, Kindergarten to Year 3 students have been working with all teachers, artists and specialists to learn their new routines, while creating both personal and collaborative art. The K/1 students choreographed a dance to welcome guests to the pancake breakfast, while the Year 2/3 students performed dramatizations of the Seven Sacred Teachings.

Message from Administration Continued.

At Rosscarrock, students have been collaborating in multi-age groups with artists and teachers to create performances and artwork for the Pancake Breakfast celebration. Year 4/5 students created and shared buttons, Year 6/7 students designed and applied temporary tattoos and Year 8/9 students made friendship bracelets for all the students.

At the high school campus, Year 10 to 12 students explored the pillars of CAA and built a sense of community during "The Curious Circus", a day-long mystery where they were challenged to solve the disappearance of Ms. Baker. Now, students are deeply engaged in their first units of study, completing tasks such as chemistry labs, social studies projects, academic advising and more.

Each campus hosted a Meet the Team evening and we were delighted to see so many parents, guardians, students and siblings in attendance. These evenings provide a valuable opportunity to meet your child's instructional team, review routines, expectations, school processes and address any questions you may have. Teachers appreciate the chance to connect with parents and guardians and to share the exciting plans for the year ahead. We encourage you to stay connected and parents are welcome to email, volunteer or schedule meetings with their child's homeroom teacher at any time during the school year.

As we head into September, Kindergarten to Year 9 students will begin their first Arts Immersion Learning Contracts and we will also introduce our At-Home Math and Literacy Contracts. We are committed to helping families support their child's growth and success as a learner and our at-home contracts and extension projects are intended to deepen the important connections between learning at school and at home. Please note that Parent Conferences on September 19 and 20 will provide an excellent opportunity for all K to 12 families to connect with teachers about their child's academic and social goals and to review the developing individual learner profile.



This year, in alignment with the goals of our Charter, all five of our K to 9 artists will be working with all K to 9 students for Arts Immersion instruction. We are thrilled for the artist team to embrace this

Message from Administration Continued.

rotational model, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to experience a diverse range of art forms. Artists will rotate through teaching teams, with each team engaging in five Learning Contracts. Our K to 9 artist team includes Jessica Bordley, Christy Ford, Ed Mitchell, Sarah Murdoch, and Shannon Murphy.

Our first showcase is fast approaching. In early October, the Year 2/3 team, supported by Artist-in-Residence, Shannon Murphy and Showcase liaison, Susanna Walker, will take families on a magical journey through theatre and global cultural storytelling. In coordination with the artist rotation, showcase dates for K to 9 students have been set and staggered throughout the school year. For showcase dates, please refer to the [School Calendar](#) on our website.

As an administration team, we are excited for another year of rich and creative Arts Immersion teaching and learning. We look forward to being curious, to pursue our passions, to ask meaningful questions, and to deepen our understanding. By embracing the spirit of curiosity, we aim to cultivate a happier and more engaged community.

Sarah Birch (*Principal, Knob Hill*)

Kimberly Hoey (*Principal, Rosscarrock*)

Alyson Moore (*Assistant Principal, Rosscarrock*)

Amanda Bonnell (*Assistant Principal, Erickson Centre*)

Kindergarten/Year 1 News

We had a fantastic start to Kindergarten and Year 1! In the first eight days of school, we focused on building a sense of trust, fun, and belonging within our classrooms. We explored the Circle of Courage through engaging activities centred on Belonging, Generosity, Independence, and Mastery.



Through stories like "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?", "What if Everybody Did That?", and "Beautiful Oops," we explored our unique identities and areas where we can grow, both as a class and as individuals. Our days have been filled with games, stories, movement, and beautiful art. We collaborated on a class portrait after reading "Our Class is a Family", made friendship bracelets to foster a spirit of generosity, and performed a colourful ribbon dance to welcome our school community to the annual Pancake Breakfast. Mindfulness practices have helped us stay calm and focused, and our problem solving model helps us learn how to navigate conflicts. This year promises to be full of creativity, community, and curiosity!

Year 2/3 News

Welcome back to an exciting new school year! We kicked things off with a fun pancake breakfast and an amazing display of our Seven Sacred Teachings through animal tableaux. It was so much fun reconnecting with friends from all campuses and diving into creative art projects during the first few days. We are also thrilled to welcome Ms. Shannon, who will be bringing her drama expertise to our classrooms, as well as our new teachers, Ms. Bayne and Ms. Carmen, who have already made a big impact on our team.

The Meet the Team Night was a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. With so much enthusiasm and energy, we cannot wait to see all the exciting things that this school year will bring!



Terry Fox Run

The year, Calgary Arts Academy is proudly taking part in the annual Terry Fox School Run on September 26, to continue Terry's dream of a world without cancer.

Our goal as a community is to raise \$3,000. You can make a [donation online](#) or at any of our campus offices. Together, we can fight to end cancer!

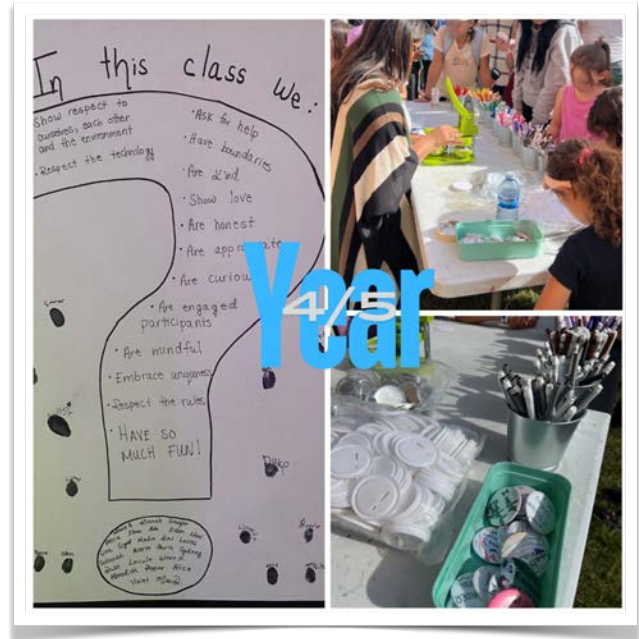


**THE TERRY FOX
FOUNDATION**

Year 4/5 News

Welcome back to another exciting year at CAA in Year 4/5! We have been having a great time getting to know each other while exploring CAA's pillars through activities like dancing, acting, drawing, writing, reading and painting. One of our highlights has been sharing our Curiosity Buttons at the Pancake Breakfast to foster a sense of belonging and generosity within our community.

In September we are excited to kick off our first Learning Contract of the year: Major & Minor Mistakes! With Mr. E joining us as our Dance artist, we will be creating our own movements and dances while learning the importance of resiliency and embracing mistakes. We cannot wait to see where our curiosity takes us!



Picture Day is Coming!



Tuesday, September 17, 2024






What to expect:



Students are photographed on Picture Day



Proofs are sent home with your student



Order packages and more on mylifetouch.ca

Year 6/7 News

In Year 6/7 we had an exciting start, filled with curiosity and creativity. From the New Student Orientation to the our very first Macro, we have been busy exploring, creating and getting curious!

One highlight was designing unique temporary tattoos, which we shared with the community at the Pancake Breakfast. Through brainstorming sessions, we explored themes of curiosity and belonging, creating designs that reflected our individuality while fostering a sense of community. These brainstorming and design sessions were a way to express ourselves artistically and connect with others in meaningful ways.

We have also been exploring different ways to embody our own Circle of Courage. Taking the lead from our talented multi-media artist, Mrs. Christy, we created personalized album covers as the first step of a larger project. Our first Learning Contract, Identity Gallery, focuses on identity, political views and economics in Social Studies. In Science, we will learn about the scientific method, energy and structures. Additionally, Math and Language Arts will emphasize number sense and writing structure to further support our learning.



We are looking forward to seeing where the first learning contract takes us!

CAA Adult Choir

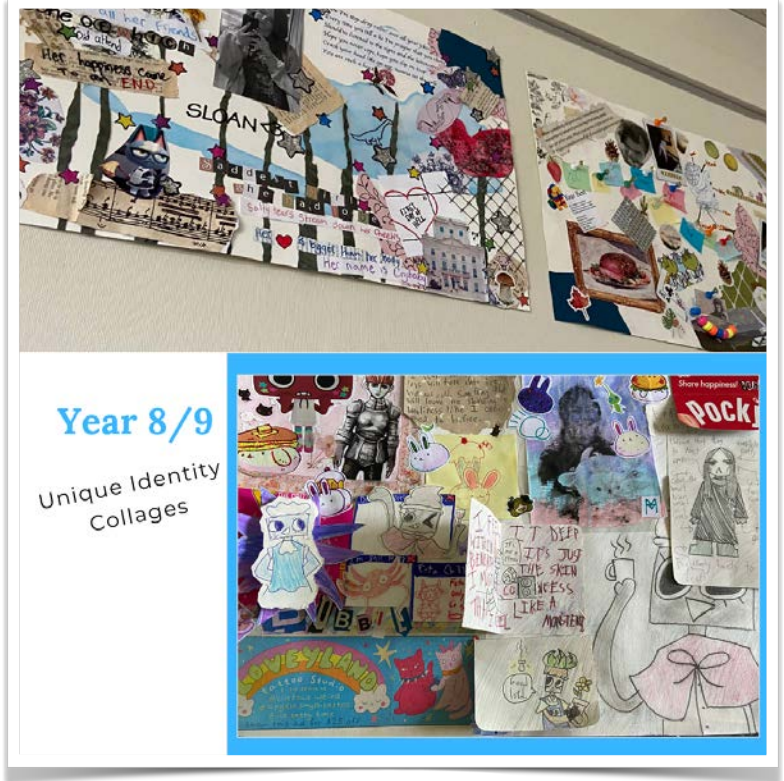


Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy music, laughter and having fun? Come and join our Calgary Arts Academy Adult Choir! We are a non-auditioned ensemble that sings a wide variety of music.

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

Year 8/9 News

In our first eight days of school, we have been forming new friendships and strengthening existing ones. Through the art of scrap booking, we have been creating collages about our unique identities and how we want to cultivate curiosity in Year 8 and 9. At the Pancake Breakfast, we handed out handmade friendship bracelets to Knob Hill students to create connections and show belonging. As we begin our first Learning Contract "Storied Metamorphosis" we are thrilled to immerse ourselves in the art of cut paper collage and stop motion inspired by the visual artist Winnie Truong.



High School News



We were immersed in CAA's pillars through our captivating "Curious Circus" activity, marking an exciting start to the school year. This interactive murder mystery had us exploring the core values of our school in a circus brought to life!

With "locked lips," we learned our new locker combinations entirely through mime, enhancing non-verbal communication skills. Mindfulness was brought to life by an absent-minded tea leaf reader, encouraging us to stay present and focused.

High School News Continued.

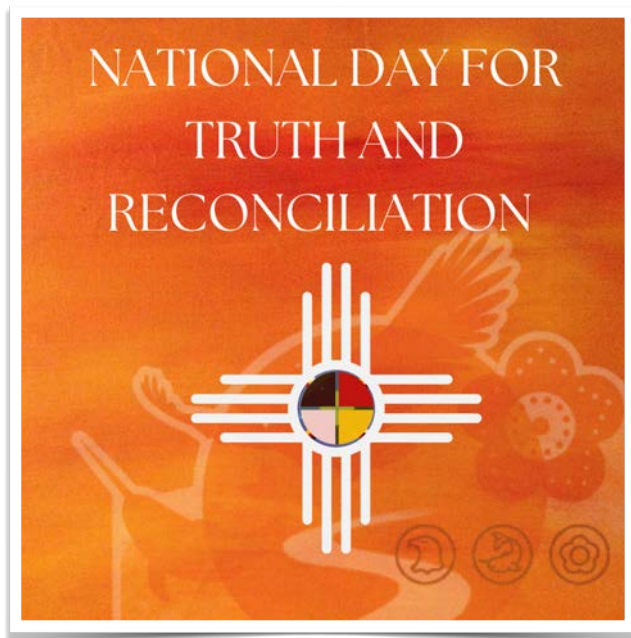
Community expectations were explored through deep discussions with our lion tamer, while the “supply jugglers” had us earning our school essentials by balancing various items with precision. We also had the opportunity to meet with our new ringmaster, Ms. Amanda, who added her own unique touch to the circus while guiding us through these engaging activities.

We showcased our creativity by working in groups to craft artistic accusations, pointing fingers at who might have committed the circus “crime.” From dramatic reenactments and intricately drawn wanted posters, to a life-sized fortune teller embedded with conspiracy theories, our passion for Arts Immersion was evident!

Now that our regular class schedule is in full swing, we look forward to building on this creative momentum throughout the year!



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



In recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, Calgary Arts Academy will hold campus-wide assemblies on September 27. As school will not be in session September 30, we will gather as a community to reflect and honour the importance of truth and reconciliation.

United Way Basic Needs Round-Up

CAA High School students will have the exciting opportunity to participate in United Way's Kick-Off Event on Tuesday, September 17, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Stampede Youth Campus Plaza. Visual Art students will lead a community art project at the CAA booth, featuring Japanese Suminagashi marbling, while Dance students will surprise attendees with a pop-up performance.

All high school students can visit community booths, enjoy the speeches and food. Our CAA community is encouraged to contribute to United Way's Basic Needs Round-Up by donating items such as grocery and food gift cards (with the value indicated), Calgary Transit tickets, personal hygiene products (e.g., shampoo, deodorant, sunscreen, menstrual supplies, toothbrushes, and toothpaste), baby supplies (e.g., diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, and onesies), prepaid SIM cards, passes to family-friendly activities (e.g., Calgary Zoo, TELUS Spark, Heritage Park), and new socks, underwear, mittens, and toques. Donations can be dropped off at our Erickson Centre High School Campus until September 17, 2024.



 September 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labour Day No Classes	3 PD Day No Classes	4 Day 3 Year 7-9 Girls' Volleyball Tryouts 3:15 p.m.	5 Day 4 Year 7-9 Girls' Volleyball Tryouts 3:15 p.m.	6 Day 5	7
8 Day 1	9	10 Day 2 School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.	11 Day 3 Healthy Hunger (KH & RC) Cross-Country Meet 3:45 p.m.	12 Day 4 Theatre Calgary Field Trip (EC) Boys' Volleyball practice	13 Day 5	14
15 Day 1 Girls' Volleyball Practice begins	16 Day 2 School Photos (All Campuses) United Way Campaign Kick- off	17 Day 3 Healthy Hunger (KH & RC) Cross-Country Meet	18 Day 4 Parent Conferences 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. KH & RC 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. EC	19	20 Parent Conferences 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. No Classes	21
22 Day 5	23 Day 1	24 Day 2 Final Cross Country Meet Healthy Hunger (KH & RC)	25 Day 3 Terry Fox Run (KH & RC)	26 Day 4 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Assemblies	27	28
29 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation No Classes	30					