

The Art of Learning

The Art of Growing: Cultivating Excellence



Orange Shirt Day

September 30, 2021



Orange Shirt Day

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Terry Fox School Run

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From the Principal

We have had such a beautiful fall and it's hard to believe we are already in October.

We have seen a smooth start up to the year even though we are in our 4th wave of Covid-19 and are following protocols that will help keep our students, families, and staff safe.

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EC Phys Ed News

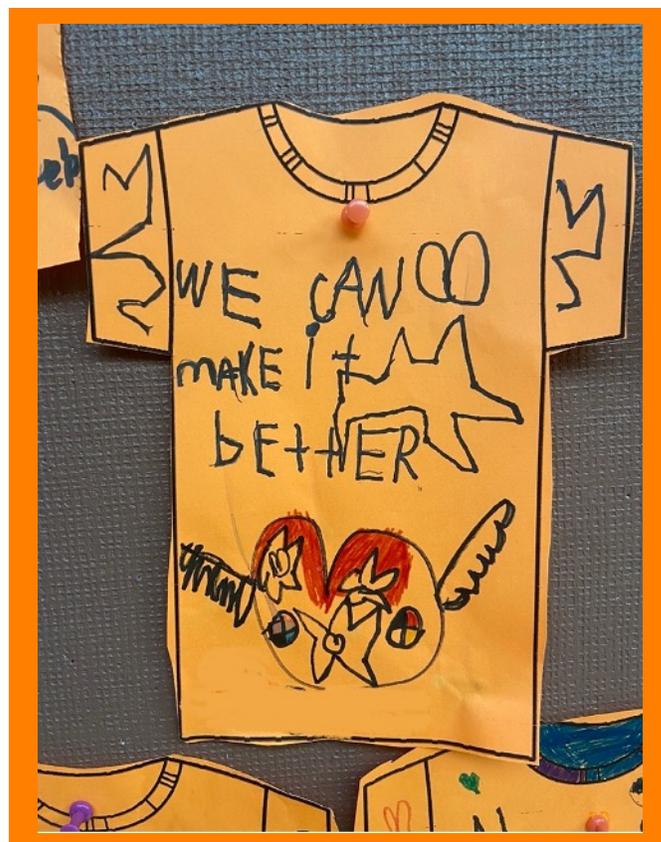
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From the Principal

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At both campuses it has been great to see the community building and the strong relationships developing both with students and adults. Our first School Council meeting demonstrated the commitment and passion of our parents that will ensure the best community possible for our children, making the school experience like no other. We know that when students see the home/school connection firsthand, their experience at school becomes relevant and their academic performance is improved.

We have created together a solid foundation that will set the stage for a successful year ahead. I'm excited about what will come next!



Knob Hill News

Even though this has been yet another unusual fall for all of us, staff and students at the Knob Hill Campus continue to enjoy community spirit and fun times. The warm weather we experienced this September allowed us to spend lots of time outside, noticing the changes that

come with fall, and participating in daily physical activity. In September we also solidified our classroom routines as well as established our strong culture of Belonging, which we will continue to build on year-long! The Covid safety protocols that have been put in place, such as masking, cohorting, assigned seating, and frequent sanitizing of hands and



Nature sketches
at camp with
Year 8 students



surfaces, have been mastered by our students and have helped them to be able to safely participate in fun and creative arts-based learning. We thank everyone for their support in practicing and reinforcing these measures at home as well. It certainly takes a village to care for our youngest learners, and we are so grateful for all of the love and support in ours! We hope you all enjoy a lovely October break this month.



Orange Shirt Day

We recognized our newest federal holiday, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, by closing our doors on September 30th. We are grateful to have a day to honour the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. On September 29th, students and staff at Knob Hill wore orange shirts to raise awareness of the very tragic legacy of residential schools, and to honour the thousands of Survivors. We participated in many activities throughout the week to help expand our understanding of the residential school system and the ongoing impacts from it, and culminated our learning in a collaborative art display. While it is important to have a national day of recognition, our teachers and artists are also committed to year-long practices of reconciliation. Discussions and lessons are tailored at each grade level to share the truth in age and developmentally appropriate ways, and we encourage families to continue these conversations at home as well.



Terry Fox School Run

This year, Knob Hill students spent a full 6-day cycle learning about Terry Fox and running to raise money and celebrate his legacy. Students ran laps of the field and gymnasium in their PE classes and kept track of the total laps ran with their class each day. Inspired by Terry, many students tried to beat their personal best records each day and encouraged each other to do the same. At the end of the 6 days, Knob Hill students had run approximately 1,444 kilometres. When added to the distance run by Education Centre students on their Terry Fox day, we ran over 2,064 kilometres! We also more than doubled our fundraising goal this year by raising over \$2,400 for cancer research!

Well done, students!



Links:

- [CAA Information for Parents](#)
- [Daily COVID-19 Checklist - Under 18](#)
- [Daily COVID-19 Checklist - Adult](#)
- [CAA 21-22 School Calendar](#)

Kindergarten / Year 1 News

The Kindergarten and Year 1 team have been busy diving into our “Under Construction” contract. These past few weeks have involved exploring literacy through Lively Letters, numeracy through representing and practicing numbers, and contract work all about constructing our identity. We have spent time learning all about warm and cool colours and colour mixing, as well as our community, community helpers, and urban and rural settings. In Phys Ed, we have been learning about Terry Fox and participating in running laps, with the collective goal of “trying like Terry.”

Highlights from the past few weeks include; Ted Harrison landscape paintings showcasing warm and cool colours, colourful lego block shaped window clings, increasing our reading and writing stamina in Daily 5, creative and fun games and activities with the artists, and embodying the Circle of Courage pillar in different ways. We look forward to continuing to ‘construct’ our identity and community as we move forward to complete our contract!

Year 2/3 News

Since August and through September, Year 2/3 classes have successfully collaborated to establish effective classroom routines and expectations for the school year. By providing several opportunities to strengthen our interpersonal relationships, we’ve worked to foster a strong sense of Belonging in our rooms. Focused on mindful, self-regulatory awareness, we are now working to become a community of independent, creative, and expressive risk-takers who support one another. The enthusiastic participation we witnessed for both our Terry Fox Run Week, as well as our Orange Shirt Day activities truly exemplified the numerous caring and empathetic students we have here at CAA.



So far this year, we have also conducted numerous diagnostic and sample types of assessments in Literacy and Mathematics. From there, our approach is differentiated to meet the needs of every student, working with existing positives and strengths. Along with parental involvement, we have been able to lay the ground work for effective goal-setting in regards to student personal growth and achievement this year.

We are beginning our year-long Balanced Literacy program with The Daily Five and Lively Letters educational resources. So far, we have been routinizing and building stamina with certain types of independent activities. Our Jump Math program has begun in very much the same way.

Very recently, we've started our first learning contract, which will continue for the duration of this autumn term. We will explore the beautiful geography of Canada and its dynamic communities through the art of puppetry, inspired by The Muppets! We will explore the physical geography of Canada and learn about three of its dynamic communities (prairie, Inuit, Acadian). Through our investigations of these communities and as we learn about the people in these communities, we will develop our own puppet characters to be the tour guides for our Muppets Take Canada variety show. We will also explore procedural writing, non fiction and informational texts. This reading and writing will help to create puppet shows that illustrate daily life in these three communities. It should be fun!



Year 4/5 News

In the land of 4/5, we are exploring our "Night at the Museum" contract and learning as much as we can about Alberta's history and the people who lived here before it was inducted into what we know as Canada. In addition, we are starting to experiment with the effects of light and the creation of shadow. Coming up next, we will be launching into the creation of artifacts to include in our museums as well as exploring elements of movement and how we can incorporate that for our Jubilee performance. Shout out to Ms. Birch for bringing in a few hundred appropriate books to the Knob Hill library for us to indulge in! This has really helped us build strong Daily 5 literacy habits and we hope to continue building great reading habits.

Truth and Reconciliation Garland

Knob Hill students learned about Residential schools and what reconciliation means. Here are some of the student messages:



"I hope you know you are equal to everyone else"

"We love you"

"We remember"

"What happened was wrong"

"We hope the best for the rest of your life"

"This will never happen again"

"Respect"

Knob Hill Arts Room News

The Art of Growth

In the spirit of generosity and the school year theme, all students from Kindergarten to Year 5 have created a beautiful leaf on a vine to beautify our school community.



Knob Hill Arts Room News

Year 6/7/8 News

We are excited to announce our first learning contract: The Maze of the Mind. Through this contract, we will be achieving curriculum outcomes by tuning into our five senses, our feelings and our learned experiences. We have been working towards a conceptual art presentation that focuses on sensory input, cognitive thought and self discovery. Through the contract, we have started Jump Math and experimenting in Science classes. In Language Arts and Social Studies, we are learning to connect our personal experiences to our reading and writing.

At the end of September, we had the opportunity to experience a full day of art and creativity at Connect Charter School's camp at Sibbald Lake. We were given the opportunity to participate in arts and nature centred workshops led by our team of artists. We explored the arts in a beautiful outdoor setting while strengthening relationships within our

learning communities.

Going forward, we will be experiencing all sorts of fun projects and assessments. Some major highlights include various Year 6 curriculum units such as Language Arts poetry, money-sense world building in Math, and discovering nature through seasonal art in Science. Meanwhile, all Year 6/7/8 teams are working on our reading skills by competing for reading prizes and trying our hand at debate. In Social Studies, Year 8 students will be investigating the rebirth of the Renaissance period and Year 7 students will venture into the cultures of east coast Indigenous peoples during pre-colonization times. In Science, Year 7 students are continuing our heat and temperature video projects as Year 8 students study the mix and flow of matter while learning to document official laboratory reports. It is a full month of new and exciting concepts!

Year 9/10/11 News

In Year 9, we are coming to the conclusion of our first learning contract. Over the past few weeks we explored endangered and at-risk species, with the goal of creating and passing a government bill that would lead to the species' overall protection in Canada. The best part: this is all being shared through stop-motion! We have been working tirelessly building sets, writing scripts, researching necessary details about our species that will strengthen our bill, and so much more. We're excited to see the final products when they are completed following the October break.

Also in Year 9, we have completed two units in math class on Powers and Exponents and will take a few days to look at the real world usages of these mathematical functions. Year 20-1 and 20-2 students have looked at the importance of triangles and parabolas, learning how we use

those two important shapes in the real world through bridges, objects in motions, and construction. Year 20-3 students have finished looking at slopes, learning how to measure slopes given numerical values while getting to measure the slopes of architecture around the school.

In Year 9 Science, we continue to explore the root drivers of biodiversity throughout the global ecosystem. Evolution, natural selection and Mendelian genetics are all on the table! In Year 10, we are wrapping our deep dive into cellular structures and processes, particularly as they relate to plant physiology, before moving onto our chemistry unit. Meanwhile, the Biology 20 students are looking at how energy flow plays a significant role in the shaping of ecosystems. We will begin designing and constructing our own self-contained ecosystem through the building of ecocolumns. Last, but not least, the Chemistry 20 students continue to explore molecular bonding and how electrical charges and geometry play a role in chemical reactions.

Year 9 students are finishing up our first unit of the Government of Canada, and will be moving onto understanding the Justice system in Social Studies. We have been working on designing a government for a Mars colony and will be developing a justice system in the following few weeks. Year 10 students have started a second unit, and are working on a poster for the class focusing on a case study of cultural contact of our choosing. Social 20 students completed our first unit with presentations about Quebecois Collective Consciousness.

As we continue to explore the Year 9 Language Arts curriculum, we are wrapping up our Persuasive Essay unit by applying our skills to in-class debates. We will begin our short story unit after the break. Year 10 students are

completing our Identity in Short Story and Poetry unit. While exploring what identity means from various lenses, We have been expressing our thoughts and ideas on this theme by creating our own poetry, flash fiction and artwork.

Education Centre Phys Ed News

As our first full month of classes wrap up, we look forward to what's in store for October.

CAA students from all grades took part in some ultimate football and ultimate frisbee during PE classes this month. We also partook in the annual Terry Fox Run, where we shattered our fundraising goal of \$1,000, with our running total currently over \$2,400! Students at the Education Centre combined to run over 620 kilometres during the one-day event, averaging 3.21 km per student during their 30 minutes of running. Students can look forward to playing volleyball for the next few weeks.

In athletics, the CAA Pumas volleyball teams are proving to be in mid-season form. The first volleyball tournaments were on September 23, where the boys' and girls' teams each took third place in their respective tournaments. The next tournament is scheduled for October 7, where the boys will be hosting the tournament, and the girls will be on the road for the first time this year.

As for Cross Country running, we have completed the season with plenty of success. Our first two meets saw CAA athletes get a combined eight top-3 finishes, including three first-place races! The finals, held at Westmount Charter School, resulted in several students earning top-10 ribbons and top-3 medals!

Education Centre

News from the Artists

Students in Drama with Ms. Shannon have been exploring ensemble building through movement activities and improvisation. Through partner and group mirroring, we took on different styles of movement and learned about how these techniques work separately and together.

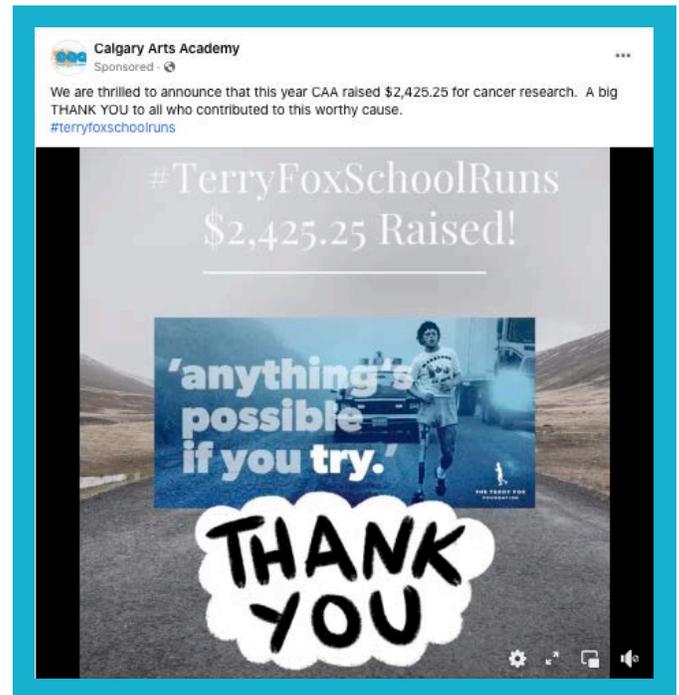
Students in Visual Art with Ms. Sarah are exploring colour and collage by mixing paint and creating our own collage paper. We are learning about the origin of photo montage in the Dada movement and creating self-portraits, Dadaist collages and cityscapes using our painted paper and magazines.

Students in Music with Ms. Susanna have been exploring voice ranges as well as participating in active listening exercises. Throughout this process, we have been learning to analyze different elements of a variety of musical pieces, as well as creating our own musical story/soundscape using instruments in small groups.

Students in Dance with Ms. Kyrsten are curious about rhythm and groove through the impressions and characteristics of funk, r&b, and soul music. We are learning to demonstrate courage, style, and personal expression in warmup activities and while performing a short choreographed sequence.

Students in Media Arts with Mr. Hudson are learning the foundations of the entertainment industry development pipeline: generating ideas, planning out reference material, and then using our designs to guide our final projects. Each year group will be focusing on different areas of design, including environment creation, hard surface modelling, and creature design.

Students in Music with Mr. Thorson are gearing up to rehearse, record, and present our annual performance for the CBC Canadian Music Class Challenge. Over the next few weeks, we will be using voices, instruments, and our very best 80s stage moves to create another memorable performance. Rumour has it the students at the Knob Hill Campus will also be making an appearance...Stay tuned!



October 2021

At a Glance

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Staff PD No classes	2
3	4 Day 3	5 Day 4	6 Day 5	7 Day 6	8 Day 1	9
10	11 Stat Holiday No classes	12 Break No classes	13 Break No classes	14 Break No classes	15 Break No classes	16
17	18 Day 2	19 Day 3	20 Day 4	21 Day 5	22 Charter School Conference No classes	23
24/ 31 	25 Day 6	26 Day 1	27 Day 2	28 Day 3	29 Day 4	30